Social Work and Pedagogy in International Comparison
current discourses - challenges - perspectives for discipline and profession

Study Course in English
at the Catholic University of Applied Sciences of North Rhine-Westphalia in Paderborn

March 14 to June 10, 2016
further information
http://www.katho-nrw.de/paderborn/internationales/

applications until November 16, 2015
international.paderborn@katho-nrw.de
Paderborn is located in North Rhine-Westphalia in Germany.
Social Work and Pedagogy in International Comparison

We offer you the opportunity to take part in a study course in English for one semester – from March 14 till June 10, 2016 – gaining practical experiences in different fields of Social Work in Germany as well as attending academic courses relevant to the Social Work profession and pedagogy. The course takes place in the Department of Social Work in Paderborn as one of the locations of the Catholic University of Applied Sciences North Rhine-Westphalia.

Paderborn is a young city with 1200 years of history. It merges High-Tec with the Middle Ages. It is also a green city and offers a rich variety of tranquillity, recovery and sports activities. Above all Paderborn is a genuine student-city with many things to do for young people: in the city centre there are numerous bars and party locations where you can go out on weekends (http://www.paderborn.de/microsite/welcome/index.php).

The campus is located directly next to the city centre. It comprises a large, historical building surrounded by a huge park and garden. Just near the Paderwiesen - a recreational area in the city centre - the University campus is a favourite place for students to meet friends and relax.

During your study course you will be living in Paderborn. But moreover, as you are enrolled as a guest student at our university, you have the possibility to travel for free all around North Rhine-Westphalia which is an attractive German federal country because of lively and historical cities as Cologne, Düsseldorf, Aachen, Essen, Bonn or Münster, areas as the Ruhr region with interesting industrial heritage and high density of different cultures as well as landscape for sport activities and recreation.
You find more information: http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/Germany/nordrhein-westfalen.htm

Moreover North Rhine-Westphalia is close to the Dutch and Belgium border which offers possibilities for short weekend trips to places as Amsterdam or Bruxelles.

Incoming students will...

• study with fellow students from Germany as well as from all over Europe,
• meet lecturers with various professional backgrounds such as Social Work, Sociology, Psychology, Social Medicine, Education, Pedagogy and Social Policy,
• get in contact with social workers in various institutions and
• be supported in finding accommodation and services.
The course consists of

1. **five seminars and lectures, organized regular weekly and compact**  
   1.1 Welfare systems and Social Work in comparison (3 ECTs)  
   1.2 Human rights – a field for Politics and Social Work (3 ECTs)  
   1.3 Migration – sociological theories and concepts for Social Work (3 ECTs)  
   1.4 Child Protection and Early Childhood Education: selected aspects of historical development and current challenges (3 ECTs)  
   1.5 Well-being in adolescence – a topic for youth welfare?! (3 ECTs)  
   **15 ECTs**

2. **two compact seminars**  
   - general introductions and  
   - final presentations  
   **3 ECTs**

3. **empirical research**  
   methods and techniques for practical exploration (supported by lecturers and student tutors who will be taught in coaching and mentorship)  
   **3 ECTs**

4. **practical explorations with research-oriented questions**  
   **9 ECTs**

**total**  
**30 ECTs**
**Goals and aims:**

**Students...**

- get basic and deeper knowledge how to compare welfare systems in the frame of Social Policy and Social Work (see 1.1),
- get knowledge and competences in different areas of Social Work (see 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5),
- will combine theoretical knowledge with practical explorations within these areas and will practice special methods (see 4),
- will be coached by tutors generally and especially during the practice explorations and get adequate knowledge in empirical research, methods and techniques (see 3),
- will analyze living spaces and social circumstances of special target groups and
- should be able to present their results, compare them with their home countries and in connection therewith reflect different professional approaches based on theory and practice.
(Possible) timing and content structure of the course

Part A: start
March 14, 2016 (week 11)
compact seminar (all lecturers)

contents (see course descriptions)

general introduction
- Social Policy and Social Work in International Comparison
- Social Institutions and Welfare in Germany

introduction to special courses
- Human rights – a field for Politics and Social Work
- Migration – sociological theories and concepts for Social Work
- Child Protection and Early Childhood Education: selected aspects of historical development and current challenges
- Well-being in adolescence – a topic for youth welfare?!

introduction
- methods and techniques: how to develop questions for practice fields?
- special tasks and issues for reading and writing

field visit
practice institutions which are selected in correspondence to the courses (see 1.1 - 1.5)
- getting insight in their guiding principles, fields and structures
- developing questions and interviews

“What are our current discourses and challenges for Social Work and Pedagogy?”
Part B  courses and practical explorations
April to May, 2016 (week 14/15)
- regular and compact seminars and lectures at university (special time table will be developed)
- parallel: exploring social institutions and interviewing key informants and/or target groups
- all students should explore one institution in the fields mentioned above/supported by tutors

program, excursions, events: students for students

Part C  contents
June, 2016 presenting final results
- comparing with home countries
- discussing „best practices“

To be admitted to the program:
- The home university of a student should be an Erasmus+ partner university of the Catholic University of North Rhine-Westphalia (program is also open for Non-Erasmus+ partners).
- Students should have completed at least two years of Pedagogy or Social Work studies at their home university.
- Students should be nominated by their home university.
Course Descriptions

1.1 Welfare systems and Social Work in comparison
Prof. Dr. Monika Többe-Schukalla

Welfare stands for a variety of different systems and can be seen as the overarching and crucial topic for the way Social Policy strategies and Social Work is organized. This seminar focuses on the following issues. On the basis of a comprehensive overview about the German welfare system students will be provided with deeper knowledge on how to compare different welfare models on theoretical and practical levels. Various fields within Social Policy and Social Work sector as family policy, health care, educational system etc. will be explained in detail in order to find similarities and differences between countries and to discuss the meaning of a future European social model.

1.2 Human rights – a field for Politics and Social Work
Prof. Dr. Monika Többe-Schukalla
Magnus Frampton, M.A.(Cantab.), Dipl.-Sozialarbeiter/-Sozialpädagoge

Human rights are of utmost importance for Politics in its various dimensions. Social Work as a human rights profession is closely interrelated with these different political issues and areas. Both – Social Work and Politics – are based on international human rights declarations, conventions and their fundamental values which are respect for the equality, worth, social justice and dignity for all people. Within the course students will get deeper insight into human rights conventions, learn about human rights instruments and guiding rules in their special and distinct meaning for Politics and Social Work.
1.3 Migration – sociological theories and concepts for Social Work
Prof. Dr. Marc Breuer
Karl-Heinz Martinß, Dipl.-Sozialarbeiter/-Sozialpädagoge

Migration is a complex phenomenon and reality in all European societies. The seminar deals with question how this phenomenon is perceived and discussed in society. In connection therewith we will find out what sociological theories provide for understanding migration as a complex process in terms of national and personal identity. Based on this theoretical approach we will discuss and develop concepts of Social Work for a migration society.

1.4 Child Protection and Early Childhood Education: selected aspects of historical development and current challenges
Prof. Dr. Michael Böwer
Prof. Dr. Patrick Isele

Social professionals have been working in difficult life situations and cases of more than one hundred years – even getting more specialized and institutionalized in child care, Social Work with youth, Social Work in schools or in day care of kindergartens. But at any time there are mutual visions and connecting lines between Social Work, Social Pedagogy and Childhood Education. Since nearly a decade early Childhood Education as a new academic profession focused on child care and conditions of growing up between family, day care and preschool. Under todays requirements and under a systemic perspective of networking, cooperation and the common task for a successful life understanding and for connecting each point of view are more important than ever – for a better growing up and life situation of children and youth in our western society.
Starting from current challenges which arise in practice and previous findings this course sets a focus on elementary aspects of the historical development of care, child protection and education. This focus is based on recent studies, actual concepts and fundamental theses. The aim is a deeper reflection on key issues in child care and childhood in Germany which offers students ways for international comparisons.

1.5 Well-being in adolescence – a topic for youth welfare?!
Anna Lena Rademaker, Social Worker (M.A.)
N.N.

Well-being in adolescence is a multidimensional phenomena. Based on a biopsychosocial understanding of this special period of life the course will give insight in challenges for social welfare practice. Therefore the living environment and subjective constitution of youngsters will be focused in connection with the question of equal opportunities in adolescence. In addition, we will discuss international documents which deal with the improvement of participation and empowerment of young people individually as well as in their living environment. Besides these theoretical reflections students will be trained by role play how to apply special methods in youth welfare practice.
1.6 Empirical research: methods and techniques for practical exploration
Prof. Dr. Regina Buschmann-Maiworm

This course will provide students with an introduction to research methods used in Social Science. It deals with the question about which methods are appropriate for answering particular questions. It gives an introduction into developing questionnaires, interview guidelines and category systems for behavioural observation. It includes first insights into analyzing and interpreting data. Students will develop, conduct and analyze their own small research projects.

Lecturers

Prof. Dr. Michael Böwer
Prof. Dr. Marc Breuer
Prof. Dr. Regina Buschmann-Maiworm
Magnus Frampton, M.A.(Cantab.), Dipl.-Sozialarbeiter/-Sozialpädagoge
Rita Hansjürgens, Social Worker (M.A.)
Prof. Dr. Dr. Martin Hörning
Prof. Dr. Patrick Isele
Karl-Heinz Martinß, Dipl.-Sozialarbeiter/-Sozialpädagoge
Anna Lena Rademaker, Social Worker (M.A.)
Prof. Dr. Monika Többe-Schukalla
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Campus Paderborn

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