In cooperation with

Coventry University, UK
Kocaeli University, Turkey
Loyola College Chennai, India
Loyola University Chicago, USA
St. Petersburg University, Russia
Universidad de Alicante, Spain
University of Bucharest, Romania
University of Milano Bicocca, Italy

Program of the seminar
(v6 update 19.05.13)

Social Work in a globalizing world:
voices and experiences from three continents.
Arcavacata Campus - University of Calabria - Arcavacata di Rende (CS), Italy.
May 26 - 31, 2013

Seminar Description

The first two editions of the Italo-American seminar took place at the headquarters of Loyola Chicago University in Rome where social work teachers and students from Loyola and four Italian universities (Calabria, Milano Bicocca, Parma, Trieste) gathered to study and discuss about migration (2009) and aging society (2010). Then University of Calabria welcomed Italian and American students interested in studying social work with families and children (2011) and social work fighting against poverty (2012).

This 2013 seminar is focused on Social Work in the international arena comparing different national realities, with specific reference to the efforts made by social workers to work on/with clients/users, organizations and communities. This exploration is grounded in the understanding of the major features related with Social Work in eight countries located in three different continents: India, Italy, Russia, Romania, Spain, UK, USA and Turkey.

The International definition of Social Work adopted by the IFSW General Meeting in Montréal, Canada, July 2000 states: "the social work profession promotes social change, problem solving in human relationships and the empowerment and liberation of people to enhance well-being. Utilising theories of human behaviour and social systems, social work intervenes at the points where people interact with their environments. Principles of human rights and social justice are fundamental to social work".

Keeping in mind this definition, differences and similarities will be explored and discussed for a better understanding of the mission and methodologies of Social Work.

At the 2013 edition of the seminar 35 students are expected and they are coming from Chicago Loyola University – USA (8), St. Petersburg State University – Russia (4), Università di Milano – Bicocca – Italy (8), Università della Calabria – Italy (12) and Coventry University – UK (3).

Seminar Objectives

Upon successful completion of this seminar, the student will be able to demonstrate the following:

Knowledge
1. Understand some of the basic theoretical frameworks and values that define Social Work worldwide.
2. Understand some of the major problems Social Work is dealing with.
3. Learn how social policies are defined and implemented in different countries and how this facilitates or obstacles the action of Social Work.
4. Understand Social Work as a world-wide reality and what can be learned from other countries in terms of methods and techniques.
5. Learn how Social Work is committed in helping vulnerable populations and how these are defined in different countries.

Values
1. Develop an appreciation of how social work addresses social problems.
2. Develop an appreciation of how diversity and mutual learning at both the micro and macro levels can help in implementing better Social Work interventions.
3. Strengthen one’s value commitment to social and economic justice as the core social work value.
Skills
1. Ability to recognize the effects of major social problems on both a micro and macro level in different national contests.
2. Ability to evaluate the effectiveness of enhancing well-being individually and at a group level.
3. Ability to learn and compare at a cross-cultural level the effectiveness of Social Work programs.

Seminar Location
University of Calabria (or Unical), situated in Southern Italy, is a public institution established in 1972. Located at the center of the Mediterranean Sea where Europe meets Africa and the Middle East, the University of Calabria is a medium-sized university with about 36,000 students enrolled, with more than 800 academic and 800 administrative staff. The university consists of 14 Departments, offering 80 Degree Courses. Social Work education is provided at a bachelor and master level within the Department of Political and Social Sciences within the Department of Political and Social Sciences. More information in English about University of Calabria can be found at: www.unical.it/portale/international.

The activities of the seminar will take place in the meeting room at the ground floor of University of Calabria, Department of Political and Social Sciences (Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche e Sociali) Ponte Bucci – Cubo 0B, Arcavacata di Rende (CS).

Seminar Assignments
The various lectures presented in the seminar provide an introduction to Social Work at an International level. For your group project, you are asked to consider a central question related to the seminar issue that presents an ethical dilemma, as well as concrete social, material, and policy challenges. As a group, you are to reflect on the question and consider it from the perspective of your professional social work values and your understanding of social welfare. Four groups will be formed and each of them will be comprised of Italian students and of U.S. students. On the final day of the seminar, each group will be given 25 minutes to present their ideas, followed by 10 minutes of question and discussion. Each group will be asked to prepare a 4-page (double spaced, 12 point font, 1” margins) summary of their ideas for distribution to the participants on the final day of the seminar. The questions to be considered will be communicated during the seminar.

Course Materials and Readings
Lectures, lecture notes, suggested readings and web-based resources will be posted on Alessandro Sicora’s electronic blackboard. Go to <http://www.unical.it/portale/strutture/facolta/scipol/stud/bacheca/>, click on “S”, then on “Sicora Alessandro”, “Materiale didattico” and on “Social Work in a globalizing world (University of Calabria, May 26 - 31 2013)”. A Facebook group has been created to allow the exchange of information between the participants of the seminar. Its title is: “2013 Social Work Seminar (University of Calabria)”.

Residenza Socrates (Centro residenziale)
Canteen & Bar
Bus stop (“Pensiline”)
Seminar room
On the map below you can see the path from the Castiglione Cosentino railway station to the University of Calabria. Once you arrive at the McDonald, walk under the motorway bridge and turn immediately right. At the end of the road continues along a narrow stretch of 10 meters. Then you arrive in a big road, turn right and continue till you arrive at the university.

For a wider map of the area, including Castiglione Cosentino railway station (in via [= street] Alessandro Volta) and hotels (Majorana, Fattoria Stocchi, etc.) go to: http://goo.gl/maps/Td4l8

Please, note that both the station (20-30 minutes) are at a walking distance from the University of Calabria.

### Seminar Agenda

**Sunday May 26th**

I. **Orientation (20:00 PM - 21:00 PM) (Entrance hall, Residenza Socrates)**

**Monday May 27th**

I. **First Session (9:30 AM - 1:00 PM)**
   1. *Introduction of participants and overview of seminar format and content*
      Director Pietro Fantozzi, Gianpiero Barbuto and Alessandro Sicora, University of Calabria, Italy
   2. *What is International Social Work?*
      Annamaria Campanini, University of Milano Bicocca, Italy
      - Break (15 min)
      - Questions and discussion
   3. *Social work in Romania*
      Florin Lazar, University of Bucharest, Romania
      - Discussion and questions

II. **Lunch Recess (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)**

III. **Second Session (2:30 PM - 4:30 PM)**
   4. *Social Work Education and Practice in Italy Emerging Issues Challenges and Concerns*
      Alessandro Sicora, University of Calabria, Italy
      - Discussion and questions
Tuesday May 28th

I. First Session (9:30 AM - 1:00 PM)
   1. Social work in Russia
      Irina Pervova, St. Petersburg State University, Russia
      - Discussion and questions
      - Break (15 min)
   2. Social work in India
      Francis Adaikalam Vedamuthu e Louis Arockiaraj Arulsamy, Loyola College Chennai, India
      - Discussion and questions

II. Lunch Recess (1:00 PM - 2:15 PM)

III. Second Session (3:00 PM-5:00 PM) – meeting point at “pensilene” at 2.15 pm to take the bus to Cosenza

Field visit: Associazione “San Pancrazio”, Via Lungo Busento Oberdan, Contrada Macchia della Tavola, Cosenza – Isabella de Rose (Street unit – “Coop. “Strade di casa”) e Giovanni Fantozzi (group home and supportive apartment program – Coop. “Strade di casa”)

Followed by a visit to the historic center of Cosenza (approximately 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM)

Wednesday May 29th

I. First Session (9:30 AM - 1:00 PM)
   1. Social work in the USA
      John Orwat, Loyola University Chicago, USA
      - Discussion and Questions
      - Break (15 min)
   2. Social work and disability in the USA: an historical overview
      Marty C. Martinson, University of Kentucky, USA
      - Discussion and Questions

II. Lunch Recess (13:00 PM - 2:30 PM)

III. Second Session (2:30 PM – 7:00 PM) –
   3. Social Work in Turkey
      Burcu Yakut Cakar, Kocaeli University, Turkey
      - Discussion and Questions

Field visit (leaving the seminar venue at 4:30 PM):
Field visit: Centro Diurno Minori [Day Centre for Minors] “Maria Teresa di Calcutta”, Località Quattromiglia – via Todaro, Rende (CS)

Thursday May 30th

I. First Session (9:30 AM- 1:00 PM)
   1. Social Work and neoliberalism in UK
      Gary Spolander e Linda Martin, Coventry University, UK
      - Discussion and Questions
      - Break (15 min)
   2. Social Work in Spain
      Maria Asuncion Martinez Roman, University of Alicante, Spain
      - Discussion and Questions

II. Lunch Recess (1:00 PM - 2:30 PM)

III. Second Session (2:30 PM - 5:00 PM)

- Formation of student work groups
- Student group work to finalize group project and prepare presentation

Friday May 31th

I. First Session (9:30 AM- 13:00 PM)
Presentation and discussion of student group projects.
   1. Group 1 and 2 (60 min: two 25-minute student group presentations followed by 15 minutes of question and discussion)
   2. Group 3 and 4 (60 min: two 25-minute student group presentations followed by 15 minutes of question and discussion)

3. Break (15 min)
4. General discussion and final evaluation