

Refugee children and families in Europe: social work and counselling

INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER SCHOOL

**25 June
- 6 July**

Brussels

Join us this summer for an international Summer School in the heart of Europe. Internationally acknowledged lecturers, experienced guest speakers, off-campus excursions to European institutions, (inter) national NGOs and facilities, and an interesting social programme make this Summer School informative AND fun. Classes take place at a small and pleasant campus in Schaarbeek in the North of Brussels. Public transport takes you in 15 minutes to the main attractions in Brussels.

Persecution, conflicts and human rights violations continue to force people to flee their homes and seek safety in Europe. Many families with children or unaccompanied minors risk their lives to find a new life in European countries. These families and children do not only need a safe haven, housing, access to schooling and health services, many of them also need assistance to overcome the separation of their family and the consequences of violence and abuse, which they experienced in their country of origin or during the journey. Parents and especially children show a remarkable resilience in coping with difficult situations and trauma. Social workers and counsellors have the important task to strengthen this resilience and to support the recovery of families and children after forced migration.

This two-week summer course introduces key issues in social work and counselling for refugee families and children to students and professionals. Participants will get a thorough theoretical basis in lectures and workshops offered by specialized psychologists and social scientists. Field visits of organisations working with refugee families and children will confront the participants with relevant methodologies and how to apply them in this context.

The summer school is composed of 4 modules. Students need to take all four modules to obtain ECTS-certificates and need to deliver a reflection paper two weeks after the summer course. Professionals can participate in specific modules and topics.



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Module 1: General introduction

- Lectures on trauma and transmigration in Europe, trauma and resilience of refugee communities, the position of human right sin social work.
- Visit to the European Commission.

Module 2: Reception initiatives: counselling and social work with children and families

- Lectures on counselling and social work with children and families in reception initiatives, trauma and resilience in refugee families.
- Visits to refugee centres in Belgium and NGO's

Module 3: Unaccompanied minors and separated children: counselling and social work

- Lecture on problems and resilience of unaccompanied minors and separated children, discussion forum with guardians, NGO's, ...
- Visits to Missing Children Europe and initiatives for unaccompanied minors in Belgium

Module 4: Integration of refugee families and children in society: counselling and social work in a long-term perspective

- Lectures on the integration of refugee children and families in society
- Visits to reception an integration agencies and projects for refugees in Belgium
- Workshops on methods of counselling and social work in the long term

Target group

Undergraduate students (2nd, 3rd and 4th grade) of social work, social sciences, applied psychology, anthropology, counselling, health sciences, education ... who want to develop a broader view on social work and counselling work with refugee families and children, both on a theoretical and methodological level. The number of participants for the complete programme will be limited to 40 students.

- Language: English
- ECTS: 3

Registration fee:

- €350, visits and lunches included.
- Students of Erasmus+-partners have special arrangements.

More information:

- www.hig.be/summerschool
- miet.timmers@odisee.be