



# HoGent

English-taught semester programme  
for **Social Work** students

at the faculty of Education, Health and Social Work

2017-2018



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We are proud to welcome you as international students of our English-taught semester programme for **Social Work**.

This programme is offered in 1 semester modules and aims at offering higher education from an international, intercultural, interdisciplinary and innovative point of view. Participation in this curriculum will turn out to be an exciting learning experience and a challenge for further professional and personal development. The programme covers subjects such as International social work; Sustainable Global Justice; Global Awareness and Engagement; Global Understanding; Social Work In Intercultural Context; Implementing a Prevention Training Curriculum in Europe.

Ghent is a beautiful medieval city at the banks of the river. But Ghent is also a very modern city with many cultural and free events. Ghent is the most important student city of Flanders (Belgium). More than 60 000 students are studying in Ghent.

Ghent is situated 50 km from Brussels, Bruges and Antwerp; and 70 km from the North Sea with lovely beaches. Cities such as London, Paris and Amsterdam are easily within reach.

### Important semester dates:

Start of the programme: 13 February 2018

Welcome days for incoming exchange students: 8 + 9 February 2018

Start of exams: 28 May 2018

Publication of results: 22 June 2018

Feedback on exams: 25 June 2018

End of semester: 29 June 2018

If you have doubts or questions on your course selection or practical matters (application, documents,...) please do not hesitate to contact our Incoming Student Team ([incoming@hogent.be](mailto:incoming@hogent.be)).



## Overview Courses in the Social Work Programme

The Social Work programme offers courses for a total of 30 credits.

COURSE NAME	ECTS	SEMESTER 1 / 2	TEACHING METHOD
International Social Work	10	2	Lectures, workshops, study visits
Sustainable Global Justice	5	2	Plenary
Global Awareness and Engagement	5	2	Plenary, study visits
Global Understanding	3	2	Workshops, Lectures,...
Social Work In Intercultural Context	4	2	Lectures, workshop
European universal prevention curriculum	3	2	Alternative teaching method

**Note:**

By clicking on the name of a course you will be directed to the course content as described on our website's ECTS cards.

### [INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL WORK](#)

- Description of social work in Flanders.
- Relate social work in Flanders to the international definition of social work.
- The relation between social work, human rights and diversity in Flanders as well as in other parts of the world.
- Preparation of field visits from acquired internship expertise for incoming foreign students.
- Presentations about the history and development in social work to foreign students
- Presentations of good practises to foreign students
- Possibility of multi-day foreign study trips with lectures, fieldvisits, presentations, dialogues and cooperation with foreign students
- Attending the lectures of guest lecturers from foreign countries.

## **SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL JUSTICE**

Social justice as a universal concept (theoretical concepts and examples from practice)  
Ecological justice as a universal concept (theoretical concepts and examples from practice)  
The social cost of neo-liberal globalisation.

## **GLOBAL AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT**

The course 'global awareness and engagement' consists of the following contents:

1. International identity of social work
2. Social work in an international perspective: global awareness and globalization
3. International topics on social work: contemporary challenges and social work practice
4. International organizations, networks and federations
5. International exchange of knowledge, practices and experiences in social work
6. Using 21st century skills to understand and address global issues

The course consists of a study trip to explore the Belgian context of social work from a global social work perspective and to compare it with another European country.  
A substantive part is determined by the organizations visited during the study.



## **GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING**

Our world is a globalized and globalizing world. This does not only mean that we have access to an increasing amount of information of the world and that it is much easier to travel nowadays. Globalization also implies that, more than ever, people from other parts of the world come to our country, not only as tourists but also to try and build a new life. A globalized society is composed of a diverse set of cultures. A global understanding of this diversity, or even superdiversity, is thus necessary.

This course, aptly entitled 'Global Understanding', wishes to contribute to the development and establishment of a platform for learning about other cultures for students without the need to travel to a distant country. Modern electronic and digital means, such as videoconferencing, skype, facetime, etc., allow homebased learning of other cultures.

After a thorough introduction to the subject of Global Understanding, Flemish students will participate in a discussion with Erasmus students who have also joined the course on global understanding. In a second phase, the group will join a discussion on selected subjects with students from university colleges and universities from different parts of the world.

Important questions and topics include:

- How can we get ourselves familiar with other cultures?
- What are the stepping stones in order to create more tolerance in society? How can we deal with stereotypes and prejudice? How does a democratic society relate to global understanding?

## **SOCIAL WORK IN INTERCULTURAL CONTEXT**

The classes correspond with the chapters of Edwin Hoffman's book "Interculturele gespreksvoering" and his TOPOI model. TOPOI is the abbreviation of language, structure, persons, organization and effort. These are the five areas in which cultural differences and misunderstandings can take place. The TOPOI model includes a practical analysis and intervention framework to detect and deal with these cultural differences and misunderstandings in an intercultural contact. Besides, there will be room for dialogue and exchange with Flemish social work students.

## **EUROPEAN UNIVERSAL PREVENTION CURRICULUM**

Important decisions on whether and how to prevent drug abuse, criminal behavior and violence are too often made based on shallow grounds. Social workers and health promoters need to have a grasp on the science base of prevention. They need the capacity to translate it to the floor of practice addressing not only youth in schools, but also adults in the workplace or people in the community. Peer van der Kreeft leads a European network of researchers and practitioners establishing a standardized training model on prevention. The robust training is delivered to the students in an interactive way.

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[www.hogent.be](http://www.hogent.be)