

# Interdisciplinary Programme on Palliative and end-of-life Care (IPPE)

## Position of the course

With this module, we want to deliver an international and interdisciplinary intensive programme focussing on Palliative and end-of-life Care. It focuses on End-of-life issues and wants to meet the physical, psychological, social, spiritual, and practical needs of clients and caregivers.

The opportunity of benefiting from the expertise of seven European countries and institutions (Gent-Belgium, Athens-Greece, Vilnius-Lithuania, Oslo-Norway, Tallin-Estonia, Setubal-Portugal, Prague-Czech Republic) gives an unique chance to broaden up the professional perspective on this topic and will be an eye-opener in the work with other cultures. The delivery of the module has been set up with the help of palliative organisations in Flanders.

## Rationale of the course

In order to approve the competences of the care-givers and providers of health care services, this module focus on an interdisciplinary and holistic approach. It is more and more clear that 'cure' and 'care' do not exclude one another, but are complementary. Medicine and nursing are complementary. The challenge faced by health care is breaking through boundaries between various disciplines and foster an interdisciplinary approach.

The module is organised as a meeting platform for all professionals and students of the different health care departments and medical faculties. It reflects our aim to offer higher education from an international, intercultural, interdisciplinary and innovative point of view.

## Aims

### 1. Extending an exchange of expertise

The programme aims on the professional and personal development of students within health care and rehabilitation in order to give more comfort to people in their last phase of their lives.

### 2. The course focuses on a holistic approach

The students learn supporting the person requiring care in choices on health, autonomy and quality of life and the consequences; guiding the person requiring care and referring them if needed from a client centred approach.

### 3. Interdisciplinary work

The course focuses on interdisciplinary work. One of the main assumptions in this project is the use of an interdisciplinary approach that reflects on a co-operation between the different professions in health care. In this way the module is not only focussing on the exchange of information, but also on the teamwork in mixed interdisciplinary teams.

### 4. International dimension

The students will explore end-of-life issues from an international and interdisciplinary perspective from a basis of knowledge of their own country. During the programme the students will analyse, compare public health systems on the issue of end-of-life care and contrast the origins, policies and delivery of care in partner countries.

### 5. Intercultural dimension

The students will foster a mutual respect of the views of others, through the questioning of stereotypes on professions and cultures, and make sound judgements based on reliable information.

## Contents

Specific themes will be: Communication with Palliative clients, family and environment; pain and symptom control in palliative stage; complementary care as a support in 'end of life' stage; spiritual and existential pain; ethical issues related to terminal care; medical Decisions related to 'End of Life'; bereavement and mourning from intercultural point of view.

The international module is validated with **3 ECTS-credits**. The workload of the two week programme is estimated at 90 hours. The working language is English.

## Participants

The course is open for participants of the partner institutions and students of the Association Ghent (medical studies, allied health, social work, nursing).

The programme allows participants of the **clinical practice**.

The courses focus particular on basic competences in the area of palliative and end-of-life care.

It does intend to replace an advanced course in Palliative and end-of-life care in Belgium but wants to give a broader perspective on the international and interdisciplinary work.

There are different workshops and lectures related to professional approaches and interdisciplinary exchange. Complementary care, hot topics in ethical issues, (medical decisions on end of life (MDEL), euthanasia, patients rights.. ) are discussed from intercultural perspectives,

International and intercultural exchange is part of every discussion with teachers and students from Greece, Lithuania, Estonia, Czech Republic, Norway and Belgium.

### **Electronic Learning Platform**

All teaching material will be available on an electronic learning platform. Students enrolled in the course get a log-in and password in order to get access to the information.

### **Assessment:**

Assessment methods will facilitate the integration of theory and practice. Therefore, we expect the students to actively participate in all contact education and to prepare a group assignments on a specific topics addressed during the lectures.

Students will be encouraged to disseminate their knowledge by presenting a **collaborative assignment** at the end of the course on this particular issue.

### **Validation and ECTS-accreditation**

- The international module is validated with **3 ECTS-credits**. The workload of the two weeks intensive programme is estimated on 90 hours.
- All participants receive a **'transcript of record'** by the end of the course. The certificate gives the ECTS-credits, the ECTS-grades and a ECTS-description of the module. Students can transfer the credits to their curriculum or can add this to their portfolio.
- The **accreditation** of the Course is based on the principles of the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which has become the standard in European student exchange. It allows the home institution to incorporate the credits and grades of the students in their curriculum.
- The working language will be English.

If you have any questions, please contact Filip Dejonckheere or Christine De Bosschere. The course manual and the programme of 2007-2008 is available on request.

The manual January 2009 will be available one-line from 1th of November 2008.

### **Time and venue**

18 January till 30 January 2009

The course consists of a part in Gent and a residential part in Dworp.

Part 1: 18 January till 23 January 2009

Gent, Campus Health Care Professions, Sint Lievenspoortstraat 143, Gent

The international participants are staying in the youth hostel 'Die Draecke' in Gent. Additional accommodation can be arranged if needed. Local students stay 'at home'.

Part 2: (Residential part) 23 January – 30 January 2009

Destelheide, Destelheidestraat, Dworp (Brussels)

We stay with all participants and the international team of teachers and guest lectures on a campus for training in the outskirts of Brussels

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

### **Price**

- International participants en not IP-students: 300 Euro
- Partners of the Intensive programme (IP): 150 Euro

### **Contacts:**

**University College Arteveldehogeschool, Department of Nursing,**

Co-ordination international modules health care professions and IPPE: Filip Dejonckheere  
[filip.dejonckheere@arteveldehs.be](mailto:filip.dejonckheere@arteveldehs.be)

Co-ordination intensive programme IPPE: Christine De Bosschere  
[Christine.debosschere@arteveldehs.be](mailto:Christine.debosschere@arteveldehs.be)