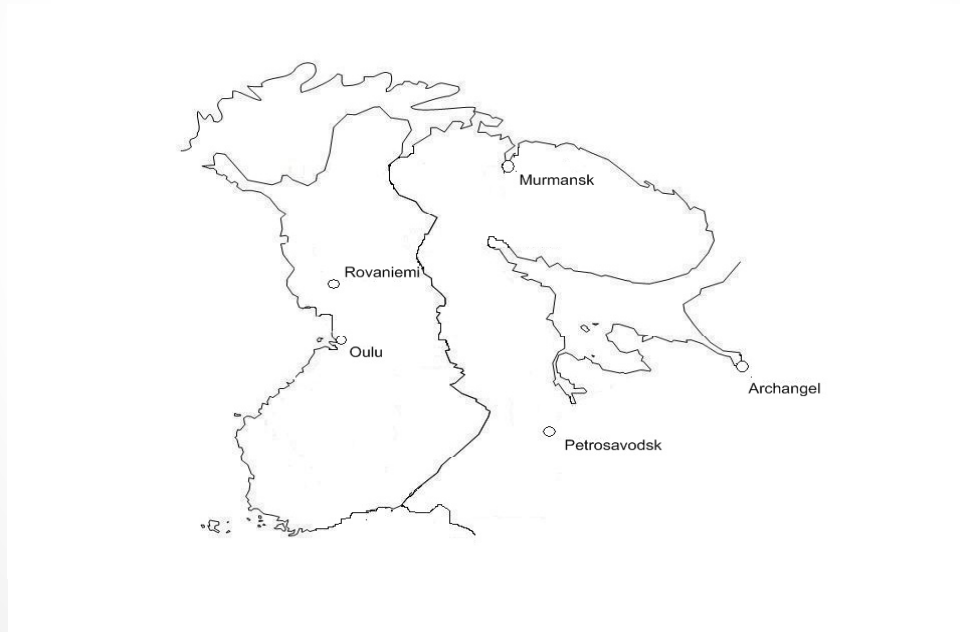


Master's degree programme (BCBU) in Comparative Social Work

Rectors meeting 12-13.3.2012
Tarja Orjasniemi & Lidia Kriulya



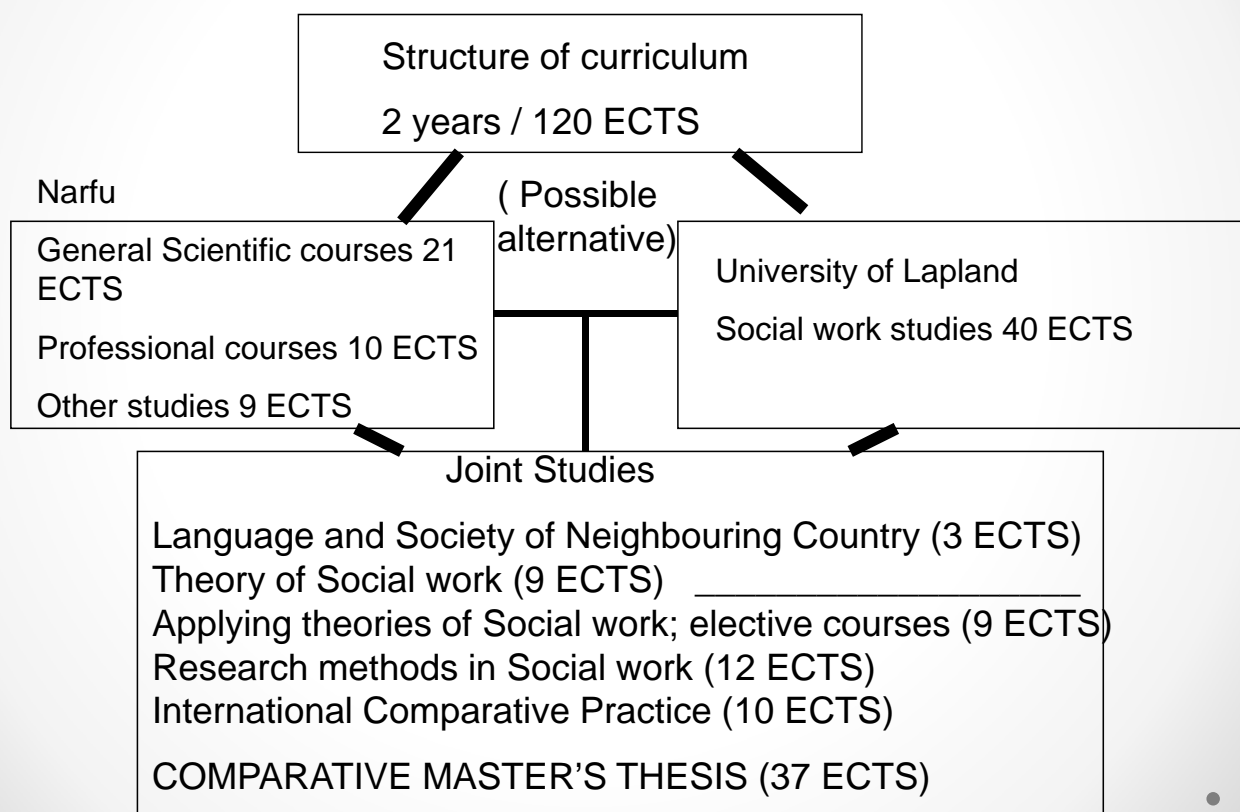
CSW-students at the University of Lapland 2012

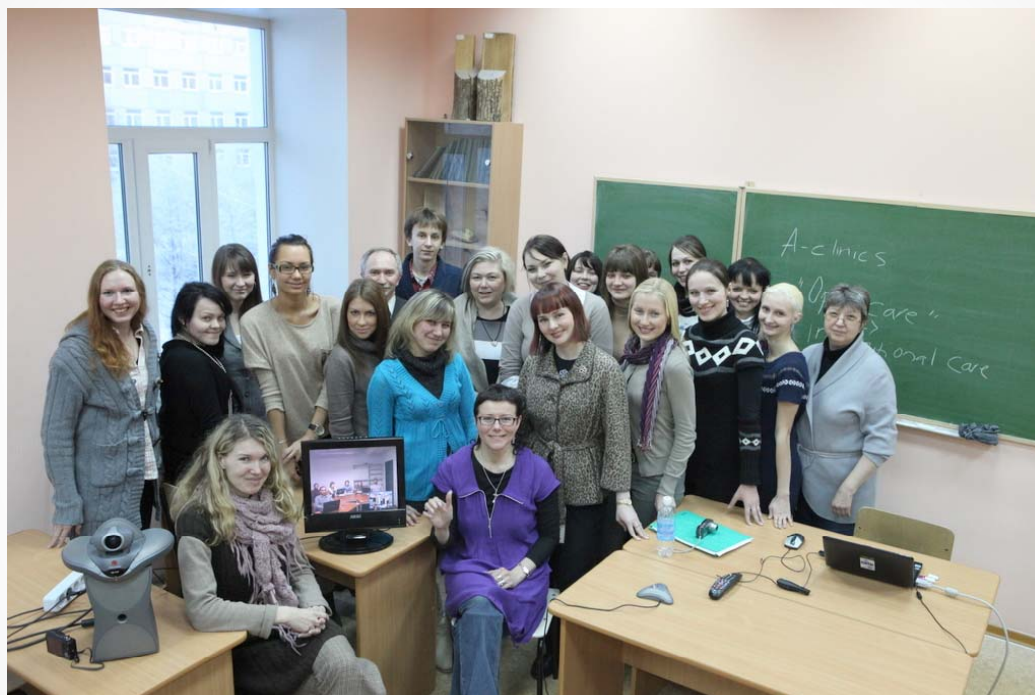


First programme 2009-2011



Implementation of CSW 2011-2013





NarFu	International Joint Studies	University of Lapland
40 ECTS	80 ECTS (43 + 37 ECTS)	40 ECTS
For students graduating from NarFU	For all CSW-students	For students graduating from UL
	CSWB1 Language Society of Neighbouring Country (3ECTS)	
	CSWB2 Theory of Social Work (9ECTS)	
	CSWB3 Applying Theories in the Practice of Social Work (9ECTS): (<i>Elective and Specialised Studies</i>) CSWB3-1 – CSWB3-7	
	CSWB4 Research Methods in Social Work (12ECTS)	
	CSWB5 International Comparative Practice (10 ECTS)	
	CSWB6 Comparative Master's Thesis (37 ECTS)	

II Programme 2011-13

- In UL: intake in 2011 10 students: 7 has started their studies, 2 of them in November
- Students are from Spain, Russia, Nepal, Iran, Pakistan and Bangladesh, there is no Finnish students
- Group is very active and motivated to study
- First programme started in 2009, now first students from UL from CSW

II Programme 2011-13

- In Narfu: Social work education is in the transitional state: we ask ourselves "What is social work", "What is the mission of social work", "What and how to teach social work"
- Planning the new content of the Master Program (40 ECTS). Planning to open different MPs in Russian
- Develop new courses
- Enlarge hours for the English language at Bachelor level
- Seek for political support at the local administrative level

Master's degree in CSW 2011-2013

- Requires revision and analysis of the content of the courses
- The main criteria for "approval" of the courses should be based on the values common for us, ex.
 1. Promote a northern voice that reflects a shared regional identity
 2. Promote understanding among different learning systems
 3. Promote cultural diversity and gender equality
 4. Empowerment of the residents by building human capital
 5. Creation of shared knowledge and provision for quality discussion

- **Holistic approach** in building up the curricular is **hard** to achieve at the moment, because of the different scientific paradigms and methodology in Social Work education and practice.
- Highly political character of social work and the stated above difficulties make it reasonable to choose **critical reflection** and **scientific sensitivity** as the major students' skills we will aim to develop

Evaluation of first CSW-programm 2009-2011

- According to the responsible teachers: Insufficient support from Pomor State University (teacher's workload and salary, expenses of practice fieldment, problems with high-speed internet, lack of distance courses)
- Unclear responsibility issues
- Unclear status of CSW? –
- In practice: Students have done more studies than 40 credits at PSU and they have written their thesis in Russian and in English
- Unknown of the BCBU in partner universities; lack of information
- Lack of collaboration at the universities and between universities
- => We need more more teachers who can give lectures in English, more students who can study in English, more distance courses, virtual campus, more collaboration conducting courses together,

Challenges in Collaboration (1)

- Shared understanding of Social Work
- Shared understanding of doing research (methods, qualitative/quantitative, rules of scientific writing)
- Finance and resources (universities, Kolarctic ENPI, extra funding for development work)
- Commitment (staff changes, English language requirements for teachers, no extra salary)
- Confidentiality ("from speeches to action")
- Full partners/Associate partners; position, responsibilities and benefits of collaboration

Challenges in Collaboration (2)

- Updating of the Agreement on the Collaboration for planning and implementation of Joint Master's programme in the field of Social work
- Associate partners=> Full partners (MSHU, PetrSU)
- BCBU+ -project and CSW: working on line (virtual courses) is a requirement for development of Joint studies => challenges for teachers

Next Steps and Challenges

- Start to plan together the new study guide (2013-2015)
- Using Optima as a tool (CSW and BCBU+ project)
- Virtual courses: AdobeConnectpro – link to give lectures to CSW partner universities

Proposals

- create conditions for improving MA teacher's work
- grants, fellowships to partner universities, language courses, research courses (qualitative methods)-
- BCBU+ -project; Summer school and Winter school are open to teachers too

- Spreading information in mass-media abroad, using website and social media

- Strengthening individual scientific resource of teachers and student
- Have to start to plan postgraduate studies and develop the collaboration in research of social work field

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