## International and Cross-Cultural Social Work

**Course Description**

This course is related to understanding the diverse roles and activities that social workers play in different countries and cross-cultural contexts. International social work practice is a relatively new field. The focus of the course is on helping each student develop her/his conceptualization of international social work practice.

**Course Objectives**

The course will offer opportunity to students to acquire an analytic frame of reference for understanding and working in international and cross-cultural contexts. Students will be able to understand contemporary pressing global social problems including human trafficking, illegal drug sales and abuse, environmental disasters, health care emergencies and inequalities, inter-ethnic strife, immigrant and migration rights, and post-traumatic stress syndrome

**Learning Outcomes**

* The students will be introduced concepts related to international social work and its practices
* The students will learn social work skills for working in cross-cultural context.

**Teaching Method**

This course will be based on interactive discussions; student centered learning activities and research projects. The preferred teaching approach will be ‘active learning’ in which students solve problems, answer questions, formulate questions of their own, brainstorm, discuss, explain and debate. Co-operative learning will be encouraged through group discussions, assignments and projects. Periodical assessments and evaluation through class participation, quizzes, assigned tasks, research project, Mid Term and End Term examinations will be a part of this course.

**Course Content**

1. International and cross-cultural social work – definition, history and practices
2. Role of global social workers
3. Values and Ethics for International Social Work Practice
4. Knowledge and skills required for International Social Work Practice
5. International Social Welfare Organizations and their Functions
6. Social work in the developed world (USA, UK, Canada, Australia, other welfare states)
7. Social work in Asian countries (Malaysia, China, KSA, India, Bangladesh)
8. Guest speaker – e.g. International Red cross society

**Suggested Readings**

Sowers, Karen & Rowe, William. (2007). Social Work Practice & Social Justice: From Local to Global Perspectives. Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole

Lyons, K. H., Hokenstad, T. Pawar, M., Huegler, N. & Hall, N. (2012). The SAGE Handbook of International Social Work. London: Sage