# Criminal Justice

### A curriculum for probation work from a European perspective

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# Life long learning



Circumstances change

Criminal

Social Work

Justice



#### Probation work is a performance







## EU Probation Professionalization Challenges

- Council of Europe: Probation Rules with basic competencies for probation officers.
- Probation Services are still under development in a large number of European countries.
- European Probation Framework Decisions: Citizens in Europe must have the opportunity for (suspended) prison in the country of origin.
- $\rightarrow$  CJSW Project





## Starting point: great variation and pressures

- State of probation training in Europe <sup>1)</sup>
  - Social work
  - o **Prison**
  - De/centralized
  - Academic level
- European approach to probation training is both desirable and possible <sup>2</sup>)
  - Incorporation of both social work orientation and risk assessment culture
  - Modular framework
- External pressures: economical, political and governmental
- internal pressures: bureaucracy and implementation

1) Farrow, Kelly & Stout 2011 2) Stout and Durnescu 2011



## **Questions before developing**

- 1. Core purposes of probation in Europe?
  - EU Probation Rules
- 2. What do PO's need to learn in order to be qualified for meeting the demands of these purposes?
  - EU Probation Rules
- 3. What does this mean for views and actions regarding learning and development within their organization?
  - Institutional paradigm and support paradigm
- 4. What kind of learning strategies and learning contents are needed to achieve these goals?
  - CJSW Project





## Results

- The core purposes of probation are linked to probation competencies.
- The support paradigm leads to additional probation competencies
- A network-based, learning organization is important



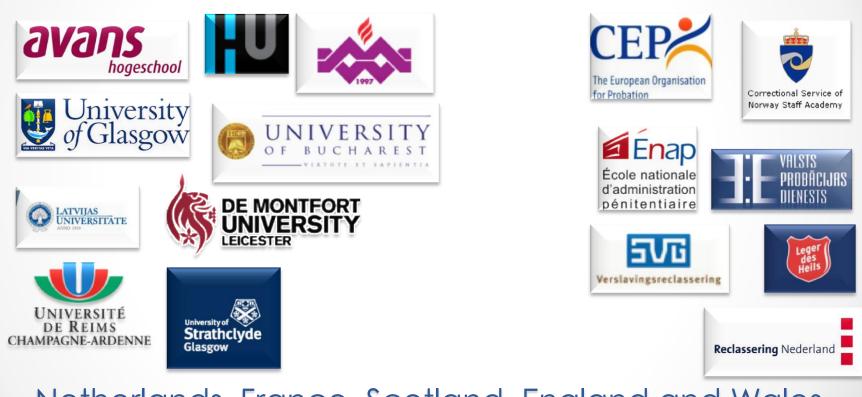








## **The CJSW Partners**



#### Netherlands, France, Scotland, England and Wales, Norway, Turkey, Rumania, Latvia





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## **Criminal Justice Social Work**

- Priority 4 of EACEA: support to the modernization agenda of higher education, including curriculum reform.
- 2011-2014
- 425K







# Deliverables

- 6 modules, in English and French, bachelor and master level
- Advance organizer for students
- European handbook "Criminal Justice Social Work" with special sections for new teachers and trainers
- Community of Practice: blended-learning environment for all materials, webinars, on-line case-discussions and on-line colleges.
- CJSW website
- Summer school





## Process

#### Contents & Form

- Discussions
- o Benchmark

#### Development 1

- Basic modules and Advanced Organizers
- Basic CoP

#### Testing

- Non-developers
- Local lessons

#### • Development 2

- Final modules and Advanced Organizers
- Final CoP
- International conference France
- Summer school





## 6 modules

| •   | Perspectives and legal context of probation | • 6               |  |  |
|---|---|-------------------|--|--|
| •   | Working alliance                            | • 6               |  |  |
| •   | Assessment                                  | • 6               |  |  |
| •   | Working within a (learning) organization    | • 3               |  |  |
| •   | Developing human capital                    | • 6               |  |  |
| •   | Social capital and social networks          | • 3               |  |  |
|   | 30  | ) ECTS            |  |  |
|   | <u>+</u> 10                                 | <u>+</u> 1000 hrs |  |  |
|   | <u>+</u> 175 hrs. teacher conto             | ict time          |  |  |
| <u>+</u> 825 hrs. selfstudy or independent-gr |   |                   |  |  |



Criminal Justice

Social Work

# Module structure

- Self-assessment
- $\rightarrow$  10 lessons, divided in 3 sections
  - 1. Knowledge section of 4 lessons: core ideas and concepts
  - 2. National section of 2 lessons: locally tailored
  - 3. Applied section of 4 lessons: skills and attitudes
- $\rightarrow$  final assignment
- many cross-references
- 4 case-studies





| Module 1, Descreatives 9, Legal Context (6, ests)                         |           |         |  |
|---|-----------|---------|--|
| Module 1: Perspectives & Legal Context (6 ects)                           |           |         |  |
| Developers: DMU + Reims-Champagne   |           |         |  |
|   | Contact   | Student |  |
|   | time      | study   |  |
|   | (minutes) | (hours) |  |
| Core ideas and concepts   |           |         |  |
| Self-assessment   |           | 10      |  |
| 1. The mission of probation work: why probation has developed as an       | 200       | 15      |  |
| alternative to custody across most European countries and what are its    |           |         |  |
| shared foundations  |           |         |  |
| 2. The purposes and goals of probation work in Europe                     | 200       | 15      |  |
| 3. How probation is embedded in national and international law; issues of | 200       | 15      |  |
| legitimacy  |           |         |  |
| 4. How probation works e.g. What Works, the desistance / good lives       | 200       | 15      |  |
| approach and basic elements of social work with offenders                 | 200       | 10      |  |
| National issues and questions   |           |         |  |
| 5. Probation work in In this section, students will look at the           | 250       | 25      |  |
| 6. Models and skills of policies and practices of probation in their      | 250       | 25      |  |
| practice in own country. This section must be                             | 2.50      | 20      |  |
| connected with the first part of the module                               |           |         |  |
| and lead into the third.  |           |         |  |
|   |           |         |  |
| Practice approaches   | 150       | 10      |  |
| 7. What is your role in the organisation                                  | 200       |         |  |
| 8. Key tasks and responsibilities of this role                            |           | 10      |  |
| 9. Accountability and discretion in policy and in practice                |           | 10      |  |
| 10. Self-awareness, emotional literacy, systematic reflection on personal | 150       | 10      |  |
| values and their implications for practice                                |           |         |  |
| Final evaluation / assignment   |           | 10      |  |
| (Totals)  | 2000      | 170     |  |
|   | (33 hrs.) | hours   |  |



- Kris is a 23 year old white man. He has a number of previous convictions, mainly for theft, and has most recently been in court for possession of cocaine.
- He has told the probation officer that it is his drug use that lies behind much of his offending. He says he has stolen to raise money to buy drugs. He uses many kinds of substances.
- He has no record of being involved in the supplying or selling of drugs, but he has mentioned that pressure is being put upon him by suppliers to whom he owes money. He won't go into detail about this.







- He was made redundant from his job as an engineer about 18 months ago. Although he has some skills, there are no jobs available in this sector where the industry is in decline.
- He lived in rented accommodation for a few years, but had to return to live with his parents when he lost his job and his income.
- His father is elderly and in poor health. His mother is struggling to keep things going and is very upset by Kris's behaviour. They all agree it would be better if he left home, but he cannot afford to do so.







- Kris feels very pessimistic about his future. He says he would like to work with young people as a youth worker, but he believes that his criminal convictions have now made this impossible.
- He knows that his drug use is causing problems and he fears it is getting out of control, but he says that drugs bring him some break from the hard realities of life and that all his mates are users as well.







# KRIS in module 1: perspectives & legal context

What can probation intervention contribute to Kris's position?

Rights, legal duties and authority?

Specific national context?

a**EVCEV**. Moral obliga

Influence of your own views, experiences values. Moral obligation?





#### KRIS in module 2: working alliance

How might the probation officer create an effective working alliance with Kris?

How are control and support to be balanced?

How would common goals and tasks be negotiated with Kris?

What skills might be required here? What might be the difficulties in sustaining his motivation?

Vans

How might you respond to resistance?





#### KRIS in module 3: assessment

How to identify risks needs, responsivity?

Strengths and limitations of an actuarial assessment?

Small amount of cocaine: how might you advise the prosecutor?

What kind of information should be put before the court in a pre-sentence report?

What kind of information should be put before the court in a pre-sentence report?

prosecutor?





#### KRIS in module 4: working in a (learning) organization

Support from colleagues and managers?

Drug agency: partnership, responsibility, values and power?

What if Kris misses appointments?

Discretion ?

Discretion ?

What if Kris misses appointments?





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#### KRIS in module 5: developing human capital

What does the evidence suggest about the best way of working with someone like Kris?

RNR? GLM and / or desistance paradigms?

Cognitive deficit ?

Prospects of success of complete abstinence, a more controlled use of drugs or minimising harm?

Prospects of success of complete abstinence, a more controlled use of drugs or minimising be-





#### KRIS in module 6: social capital & networks

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Kris's social capital?
- illicit networks
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What social resources might be available to support Kris in his efforts to desist?
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- family?
- groups?

```
If so, what issues arise for working together ?
```

```
Wider community?
```

Wider community?

EAG:

so, what issues arise for working together ?





# The CoP

- SURFnet
- One-stop sign-in
- Advanced Organizers Modules 1-6
  - Learning strategy
  - o Assignments
  - o **Tests**
  - Literature (open source)
- Big Blue Button
- Calendar





# Achievements & plans

- CoP & Modules
- New probation organizations show interest
- Project partners adopted (parts of ) the minor.
- Strong team of almost 30 European experts:
  - further development in the future
  - support group for new teachers and trainers
- Different countries & cultures working together:
  - higher quality and support of the end products
- 8/10 score Erasmus
- 2016:
  - modules for prison work and forensic psychiatry
  - international minor & summer school Avans
  - university certificate Reims-Champagne





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