THE NORDIC BALTIC DOCTORAL NETWORK IN SOCIAL WORK (NBSW)
SUMMER SCHOOL 21 ST -24 TH AUGUST 2018 TALLINN, ESTONIA

MULTI-DISCIPLINARITY AND
MULTI-POSITIONING IN SOCIAL
WORK RESEARCH – BALANCING
CLOSENESS AND DISTANCE

to be hosted by the Tallinn University, School of Governance, Law and Society (Estonia) in cooperation with the Trondheim University (Norway)

The Nordic-Baltic Doctoral Network in Social Work (NBSW) is a joint network of the doctoral schools, universities and other institutions in social work in seven countries. The network provides research training for PhD students in social work in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

We invite PhD students to participate in the summer school of the Nordic-Baltic Doctoral Network in Social Work (NBSW). This summer school aims to bring together PhD candidates in social work from Nordic countries, Baltic countries and beyond for four days of intensive lectures and thorough discussions on multi-disciplinarity and multi-positioning in social work research – balancing closeness and distance. Submission of a paper (optionally short or long) connected with the theme of the summer school is a prerequisite for participation.

Social work is a discipline that inevitably has links with a number of other disciplines, e.g. law, political science and governance, psychology, sociology, public health. Several research problems cannot be solved within the boundaries of one discipline and hence need knowledge created by two or more other disciplines. How is it possible for researchers from various disciplines to develop shared conceptual framework and work together on a joint research problem without altering their disciplinary approaches? How to balance closeness and distance between disciplines? How can a social work researcher position himself/herself in the multi-disciplinary research? Which opportunities and challenges should be considered while being engaged in multi-disciplinary research? These are the main topics that will be addressed and discussed during the summer school.

In social work research also balancing closeness and distance between researcher and the study material is an important issue, especially when a practitioner is doing research and clients are involved as research subjects. This balancing depends on philosophical and methodological approach chosen and needs critical self-reflection. During the summer school special attention will be paid on how to manage professionally possible tensions that may arise from trying to keep balance between closeness and distance. Related ethical considerations will also be discussed.
Looking forward to meeting you!

TIME
Start Tuesday 21 August 2018 at 9:00
End Friday 24 August 2018 at 15:00

PLACE
Estonia, Tallinn University campus:
tlu.ee/en/university/campus
School of Governance, Law and Society (SOGOLAS):
tlu.ee/en/School-of-Governance-Law-and-Society

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ORGANISING COMMITTEE
Merike Sisask (Tallinn University), Riina Kiik (Trondheim University), Reeli Sirotkina (Tallinn University), Kersti Kriisk (Tallinn University)

PRELIMINARY PAPER INSTRUCTIONS
The summer school stands for the course which provides 4 ECTS credits with a short paper (1000-2000 words) submission and presentation and 7.5 ECTS credits with a long paper (6000-7000 words) submission and presentation. Papers and presentations must connect the participant’s doctoral research project with the theme of the summer school.

DEADLINES
January 25 1st announcement/invitation
February 25 2nd announcement/invitation, final programme, paper instructions
April 15 Application deadline
May 02 Decision about participation will be announced
May 10 Literature list for reading, practical information for participants
June 25 Paper submission deadline