The virtual and online approach of our IVAC Project also allows students who may not be able to travel abroad because of personal circumstance, a global view of social work. Students who can’t travel and study abroad during their time at university can now benefit from this new cooperation and gain first-hand experience of international social work from home.

THE IVAC Project Team
SOCIAL WORK IN A GLOBALISED WORLD

Fulda University of Applied Sciences – Prof. Dr. Sabine Pfeffer, Prof. Dr. Martina Ritter, Prof. Dr. Marei Pelzer, Prof. Dr. Bettina Stoll

Our current partners:
University of the Sunshine Coast (Australia) – Prof. Cindy Davis
University of Namibia (Namibia) – Prof. Rachel Freeman
University of North Florida (US) – Prof. Jennifer Spaulding-Givens
San Francisco State University (US) – Prof. Yeon-Shim Lee

If your university is interested in joining the initiative and for more information about Social Work in a Globalised World, please contact our IVAC Team in Fulda or visit our website.

✈ Email: ivac@sw.hs-fulda.de
✈ SOCIAL WORK IN A GLOBALISED WORLD
Background

“The current crisis has forced universities and research organisations to dynamically expand their capabilities in the fields of digital learning and working. Virtual exchange represents an interactive and cooperation-based bridge to the world and serves to systematically intensify international higher education efforts and shape them around new models of (blended) mobility.”

German Academic Exchange Service DAAD

About the projekt

Social Work in a Globalised World was initiated to build a strong international network of Social Work faculties and international-study-exchange through online study opportunities. With the support of DAAD’s International Virtual Academic Collaboration (IVAC), we are now proceeding to bring together students and faculty members from five locations on four continents (Australia, Germany, Namibia, two in the US). This collaboration is designed to strengthen global experiences of social work, to virtually connect players and to enable students to receive an international perspective of social work. Our project is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) with the support of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

The collaboration

The Social Work Department at the Fulda University of Applied Sciences together with partners at the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) in Australia, the University of Namibia (UNAM), the University of North Florida (UNF) and San Francisco State University (SFSU), are building a range of collaborative international and virtual study and exchange opportunities. We are working together in partnership on concepts for (online) teaching methods and a framework for remote teaching, as well as joint seminars with students from all five locations and several virtual exchange activities. As part of their global and virtual academic experience, students can participate in intercultural training workshops, in a digital students’ club and other virtual activities.

What is “Social Work in a Globalised World”?

Our goal is to establish online opportunities with a focus on important international topics in social work. IVAC provides an excellent chance to receive international and global academic experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. To conceptualise virtual study programmes, the five partner universities from Australia, Namibia, the US, and Germany are working together to evaluate a common ground and share their experience of virtual learning strategies and online teaching methods. “Social Work in a Globalised World” enables participating students and faculty members at all partner universities to develop intercultural and global skills.