



LOCUS - Labs of Contextualized Social Work

WHAT IS LOCUS?

- ❑ LOCUS is an **European project** involving five universities and five Third Sector entities from five different cities: Amsterdam, Antwerp, Tallinn, Oslo, and Madrid.
- ❑ In Madrid, the participants are the Complutense University (Faculty of Social Work) and Provivienda.
- ❑ LOCUS aims to ensure that students directly engage with and gain firsthand knowledge of the social reality they will work in after completing their studies.

WHAT DOES LOCUS WANT TO ACHIEVE?

- ❑ For students to engage with and directly understand the social reality they will work in after completing their degree.
- ❑ **How?** By being present in the reality of a municipality or neighborhood, researching its community, its strengths, and the challenges and issues it faces.
- ❑ **With whom?** Supervised by faculty from the Faculty of Social Work and in direct contact with social workers operating in a neighborhood (the social workers from Provivienda).
- ❑ **Where?** In Vallecas and Coslada (neighborhoods)

WHAT DO THE STUDENTS COMMIT TO?

- ☐ To develop their learning in contact with reality.
- ☐ To attend meetings with the project teaching staff and the social workers involved in the neighborhoods (2-3 meetings per semester).
- ☐ To visit the neighborhoods and gather information: through direct observation, talking to neighbors, talking to community leaders...
- ☐ To create and publicly present a final product at the end of the course during an event (Community Meeting)

WHAT DOES LOCUS OFFER TO STUDENTS?

- ☐ Training in contact with social reality: how to understand the reality in order to work within it.
- ☐ Tutoring and support from Complutense professors throughout the entire process.
- ☐ Training and support in fieldwork: contact with social workers in the neighborhoods.

WHAT ELSE ?

- ☐ Sharing their experiences in the project with students from four different universities.
- ☐ Opportunity to participate in an International Intensive Program with students from the five universities. One IP will be held in Madrid and the other in Tallinn [small group].
- ☐ 3 OPTIONAL ECTS.

ORGANIZATION

- ❑ **6 Training Sessions**
- ❑ **TEAMS:** work platform, space for knowledge sharing, team e-mails, documents, articles and papers, related literature
- ❑ **Evaluation system:**
 - **Group** actions: infographics, poster, photovoice, videos
 - **Individual** actions: Field Journal (digital)
- ❑ **Work Groups:** creation of 7 groups of 5 members (aprox.), with 1 representative/group. Heterogeneity (different courses and profiles)

COMPLUTENSE TEAM

☐ DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY:

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☐ DEPARTAMENTO OF SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL SERVICES:

Ana Corchado Castillo

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