



Mental Health in Complex Emergencies Course

August 30 - December 15, 2023 | Online

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Mental Health in Complex Emergencies (MHCE) course is designed for professionals in mental health and social work, staff in humanitarian health and protection programs and volunteers who wish to learn how to establish, enhance, or integrate mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) into humanitarian programmes. As they come together, each student and lecturer contributes their own unique experiences and insights in building a dynamic learning space.

The introductory course covers prevention, preparedness and response strategies that can be used with communities affected by diverse humanitarian emergencies, including conflict, post conflict, and disaster settings, and with refugees or internally displaced populations.

Students opt to receive either a **Certificate of Completion** or **academic credit**. In addition, they will have:

- an increased understanding of mental health and psychosocial needs and interventions in complex emergencies.
- an understanding of important guidance documents, key issues, and debates within the field.
- an introduction to the key capacities required for establishing MHPSS activities in the field
- critically reflected on their own role as a humanitarian actor.

The course provides practical orientation and training on the technical processes of assessment, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. Significant attention will be given to understanding mental health problems and conditions and therapeutic approaches to address them in adults and children in humanitarian contexts. Other topics will include cultural validity and cultural change, conflict resolution and negotiation, and the practical aspects of security, well-being, and daily life in the field.

The course reflects on the evolving nature of humanitarian emergencies, including the growing numbers of forcibly displaced people, the problems created by (chronic) conflict, and the climate and ecological emergencies. A focus on protracted crises is complimented by attention to the conflicts in Ukraine and Sudan, the complex emergencies in Iraq, Syria, and Afghanistan and the earthquake in Turkey & Syria.



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COURSE DIRECTORS

Marcio Gagliato, PhD.

Humanitarian Response, Mental Health, Protection & Psychosocial Support Specialist.
Director (Operations), Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Network – MHPSS.net

Larry Hollingworth CBE

Humanitarian Programs Director, Center for International Humanitarian Cooperation (CIHC)
Visiting Professor, Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs (IIHA), Fordham University

Lynne Jones OBE, FRCPsych. PhD.

Honorary Associate Professor, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Honorary Consultant at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust and Cornwall Partnership NHS
Foundation Trust

Willem van de Put

Co-founder of MHCE, founder and director of Culture for Change (C4C)
Research fellow at Fordham University
Scientific expert at the Institute of Tropical Medicine Antwerp

Peter Ventevogel, MD, PhD.

Senior Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Officer, Division of Resilience & Solutions, United Nations
High Commissioner for Refugees

Claire Whitney, MIA, LICSW

Senior Global Mental Health & Psychosocial Support Advisor
Technical Unit, International Medical Corps

This course is organized by the Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs of Fordham University, in collaboration with the Center for International Humanitarian Cooperation (CIHC), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Culture4Change, MHCE.net and the International Medical Corps.

COURSE FEES & REGISTRATION

Cost for academic credit: [View GSAS Tuition and Fees](#)

Cost for Certificate of Completion: \$915

Online Course Registration + Inquiries

Visit: [IIHA Online Courses Webpage](#)

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