



# Mental Health in Complex Emergencies Course

August 29 - December 15, 2022 | Online

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Mental Health in Complex Emergencies course is designed for professionals in mental health and social work, staff in humanitarian health and protection programs and volunteers who wish to establish programs for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) in humanitarian emergencies such as conflict, post conflict, and disaster settings, and with refugees or internally displaced populations.

This course will provide practical orientation and training on a range of topics such as conducting rapid assessments, designing and setting up MHPSS programs, coordinating them and the basics of monitoring and evaluation. Significant attention will be dedicated to therapeutic approaches to mental health conditions in adults and children in humanitarian contexts. Other topics include the issues of cultural validity and cultural change, conflict resolution and negotiation. Potential field workers will be introduced to essentials such as personal security, logistics, taking care of oneself and how to cope with the stresses of humanitarian work, and other practical aspects of humanitarian work in the field.

The course will also explore the evolving nature of humanitarian emergencies and the challenges they raise, including the growing numbers of forcibly displaced people, the problems created by (chronic) conflict, and the climate and ecological emergencies. This course will focus on recent and emerging crises such as the conflict in Ukraine and the complex emergency in Afghanistan.

An important feature of the course is that it provides a space for learning from seasoned lecturers/practitioners and from other students, many of whom bring unique experiences and insights from all corners of the world.

After the course, students will have an increased understanding of mental health and psychosocial needs and interventions in complex emergencies. They will also have an overview of important guidance documents, key issues, and debates within the field. They will have been introduced to the key capacities required for establishing MHPSS activities in the field and had a chance to critically reflect on their own role as a humanitarian actor.



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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, and the International Medical Corps.*

## COURSE FEES & REGISTRATION

This semester-long course can be taken for 3 academic credits or for a Certificate of Completion from Fordham University at a reduced cost

Cost with 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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