

# HALD INTERNASJONALE SENTER

CURRICULUM

Hald International Center

Intercultural understanding and international work

Revised 2014

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## I The purpose of education

The purpose of Hald International Center is to educate people for attitude-forming and intercultural work, salaried or voluntary, within the church and organizations and in working life in general.

Hald International Center wishes to participate in shaping the students' attitudes and values when it comes to solidarity, justice, faith and intercultural fellowship, and to help them channeling their engagement in order to achieve a better world. This is done from a Christian basis.

## II One study – three programmes: the profile of the three programmes

The main part of the tuition is common to all students. At the same time the students are linked to one of three programmes with different profiles. This is particularly important regarding the internship where the students have their internship locality in relation to projects which are operated by one of the three organizations and their local partners.

### Act Now (Strømmestiftelsen)

Act Now has particular focus on development cooperation, where education and microfinance are important working strategies. Act Now wishes to create greater understanding and knowledge about poverty, its causes and how it can be fought. Together with Strømmestiftelsen's other work regarding development and information Act Now wishes to give meaning and content to the vision that Strømmestiftelsen has to eradicate poverty.

At the moment Act Now has internship localities in the following countries: Peru, Bolivia, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya and Norway.

### Focus (Laget – NKSS)

Focus has particular focus on international student work and leadership training. In connection with national student movements in different countries the students will participate in mission, diaconal projects and outreach among students. Through this Focus wants to develop leaders who take responsibility in society, church and mission, both locally, nationally and internationally.

At the moment Focus has internship localities in the following countries: Brazil, Kenya, Nepal, Madagascar, Ethiopia and Norway.

Connect (The Norwegian Missionary Society – NMS)

Connect has particular focus on mission and development cooperation. NMS works from three different program areas: evangelism and help to build congregations, diakonia and aid and leadership and organization. Through the exchange program Connect wants the students to experience mission- and development cooperation at close range. One important element is the contact between churches and organizations in different countries.

At the moment Connect has internship localities in the following countries: Brazil, Madagascar, Cameroon, Thailand, Laos, China and Norway.

III A simple sketch of the tuition program

The study at Hald International Center is composed of the following parts:

1. **Autumn course:** Preparation and introduction. 6-7 weeks starting in August.
2. **Internship period:**
  - a. Local introduction course
  - b. Language course
  - c. Refresher course
  - d. Local final course
  - e. Self-study
  - f. Internship w/guidance
3. **Spring course:** Debriefing, specialization in mission and service (Connect and Focus), summary, theme teaching and information work. 6 weeks for Act Now and 9 weeks for Connect and Focus.

*Distribution of school hours in relation to the various parts of the tuition program:*

	Connect/ Focus	Act Now
<b>1. Autumn course</b>	200 school hours	200 school hours
<b>2. Internship period</b>		
<b>a.</b> Local introduction	20 school hours	20 school hours
<b>b.</b> Language course	80 school hours	80 school hours
<b>c.</b> Refresher course	40 school hours	40 school hours
<b>d.</b> Local final course	12 school hours	12 school hours
<b>e.</b> Self-study	108 school hours	126 school hours
- 2 thesis	60 school hours	60 school hours
2 x 6 s.h. internship report	12 school hours	12 school hours
- reading w/reports	36 school hours	54 school hours

f. Guidance locally	12 school hours	12 school hours
Internship	24 s.h. x 17,5 weeks= 420 school hours	24 s.h. x 21,5 weeks = 516 school hours
<b>3. Spring course</b>	258 school hours	150 school hours

- It is estimated that the students are supposed to have a two weeks' vacation during the internship period. The vacation comes in addition to the internship period.

## IV Topics

Overarched learning outcomes descriptions:

After completing and passing the course the student has the following learning outcomes:

Knowledge:

- Knowledge about different cultures
- Knowledge about Christian faith
- Knowledge about «themselves and others» or «interaction between people»
- Knowledge about voluntary organizations' role in the society
- Knowledge about development cooperation

Skills:

- Reflect on their own culture
- Respect other cultures
- Work in an international context

Competence:

- Build relations across cultures
- International work experience

Five topics:

1. Culture and intercultural understanding
2. Aid and development cooperation
3. Bible, mission and diakonia
4. Leadership and personal growth
5. Information, communication and dissemination

## 1. Culture and intercultural understanding

In the subject «Culture and intercultural understanding» the students will be introduced to theory regarding culture and intercultural communication, and during their internship period they will do a more in-depth study of the country they are in. The relationship between culture and ethics will be treated more specifically. The way different religions relate to illness, death and accidents will be taken as an separate issue. Drawing lines between the students' intercultural experiences during the internship period and the multicultural society in Norway will be particularly emphasized during the spring course.

After completing and passing the course the student has the following learning outcomes:

### 1a) Knowledge:

- Knowledge about different definitions of culture
- Insight into the term «worldview»
- Knowledge about different reactions meeting a new culture
- Knowledge about and have an understanding of the multicultural society in Norway
- Basic knowledge about local language

### 1b) Skills:

- Reflect on to discuss own culture and values
- Observe and ask questions about a new culture
- Communicate with people from different cultures
- Work in an intercultural context

### 1c) Competence

- Facilitating for others who arrive a new culture
- Cooperate and communicate interculturallly
- Detect and manage a cultural misunderstanding

## 2. Aid and development cooperation

In the subject «Aid and development» all students will get a general introduction to North-South problems and the main lines in Norwegian aid politics then and now. The voluntary organizations' role in international aid work will be especially emphasized. Act Now has a particularly specialization in the subject aid and development cooperation. The tuition will therefore go further into issues and working methods when it comes to aid work.

After completing and passing the course the student has the following learning outcomes:

2a) Knowledge:

- Knowledge about development-history and development theories (AN)
- Knowledge about global politics and economy (AN)
- Knowledge about the owner organizations' vision and working strategies (AN/C)
- Insight into various development work based on experience from the internship period (health, education, microfinance, poverty alleviation)
- Knowledge about human rights
- Knowledge about climate challenges, resource allocations and consumption

2b) Skills:

- Analyze and understand global challenges (AN)
- Apply aid terminology to solve a task (AN)
- Recognize global trends in development issues (AN)
- Initiate measures which promote international understanding, poverty alleviation and resource allocations
- Use relevant professional reports

2c) Competence:

- Analyze their own homeland in a global perspective (AN)
- Work in a development project under supervision
- Taking personal responsibility for our common future

3. Bible, mission and diakonia

In the subject «Bible, mission and diakonia» it will be lectured about mission in the Bible. Students attending Connect and Focus will through tuition and internship have a particular specialization within church and mission. It will be focused on the relationship between mission, diakonia and aid in the organizations' work. Christian service will be addressed specifically.

After completing and passing the course the student has the following learning outcomes:

3a) Knowledge:

- Knowledge about central topics in the Bible (C/F)
- Knowledge about the owner organizations' history and methods (C/F)
- Knowledge about the main lines in mission- and church history (C/F)
- Knowledge about Christian faith in relation to other spirituality (C/F)
- Knowledge about ethical thinking in relation to different worldviews
- Knowledge about the relationship between aid, mission and diakonia

### 3b) Skills:

- Able to discuss contextualization in the Bible (C/F)
- Able to convey the core of Christian faith (C/F)
- Respect different expressions and denominations (C/F)
- Conscious about own spirituality and identity
- Reflect on etical and philosophical themes

### 3c) Competence:

- Using the Bible as a practical tool in their own lives (C/F)
- Cooperate and conduct a dialogue across religion and spirituality (C/F)
- Live responsible locally and globally

## 4. Leadership and personal growth

We will focus on leadership as an opportunity and ability to influence, where leadership not necessarily is linked to formal positions or roles. Leadership is a central theme within both mission- and aid work. Through tuition and internship students are provided skills in team collaboration and conflict resolution, and we want to equip and challenge young people to lead themselves and others.

After completing and passing the course the student has the following learning outcomes:

### 4a) Knowledge:

- Knowledge about different strategies in leadership
- Knowledge about central elements in team collaboration and conflict resolution

### 4b) Skills:

- Consider an organization's vision and leadership strategy
- Reflect on their own and others' behavior and personality type
- Reflect on and understand their own role in a team and in a conflict

### 4c) Competence

- Lead themselves and others
- Use own abilites for the benefit of a team



## 5. Information, communication and dissemination

The subject «Information, communication and dissemination» will give the students an introduction to theory and work tools linked to communication and dissemination. Ethical issues related to dissemination of information North-South will be particularly emphasized. An important part of the subject is practical organization work where students convey own experiences and information about the countries in which they have had their internship period. Evaluation work is an essential part of the study at Hald International Center because it is important to put the students' experiences in a larger context so that it will have consequences beyond their own lives.

After completing and passing the course the student has the following learning outcomes:

### 5a) Knowledge:

- Knowledge about the organizations' communication strategies
- Knowledge about the use of various information tools

### 5b) Skills:

- Convey a message oral and written
- Reflect on the organizations' dissemination of information
- Reflect on ethical issues in various medias

### 5c) Competence:

- Creating commitment by communicating a message
- Plan and implement awareness-raising activities

## V Methods

Teaching methods will be as follows:

- An international social-educational place of learning at Hald International Center
- Experiential activities (model learning)
- Process-oriented work
- International project work
- Tuition through lectures and group work
- Personal guidance and coaching
- Group mentoring and team guidance

## VI Internship period

### Preparations for internship period

In addition to the disciplines presented above, the students will be working with a number of practical preparations for their internship period, and it will be provided information about and training in:

- Physical and mental health during the internship period
- Crisis, preparedness and safety
- Visa, insurance, economy, participant agreement etc.

As stated in the model that was presented in number 3, both tuition and internship are elements in a comprehensive training course. There is a close correlation between tuition in autumn course, tuition during internship period and tuition in spring course. Throughout the school year the focus is on the students' learning outcomes – whether in theory or practice.

The following items will be included in the students' internship period:

a) Local introductory course (20 school hours)

At the start of the internship period the local collaborator will arrange an introductory course focusing on local conditions (local culture, religion, history, current conditions, customs, partner organization, etc.). In this course much of the theory that the students have learned during the autumn course at Hald is taken down to a local level.

b) Language course (80 school hours)

The students receive language courses for local models. For the language course it is calculated 4 school hours tuition each day, 5 days a week for a period of 4 weeks. Self-studies and homework come in addition. The local collaborator is responsible for facilitating the language course and conclude agreements with local language institutes/teachers for the purchase of services, while Hald International Center covers the costs of the language course.

80 school hours in a new language is not much, therefore the language course must be understood as an introduction where the focus is on simple conversation in order to help the students to function in daily life. Those students who have their internship period in a country where English is used as a local work language there will not be arranged any language course, but the internship period will be correspondingly longer.

c) Refresher course (40 school hours)

Halfway through the internship period it is arranged a course for the students in the area where they are deployed. This course gathers 4-10 participants who are located in each region. Some places there will be students from only one program, elsewhere, the group will consist of students from various programs. One or several teachers from HIS will be responsible for the tuition and completion of the course. The course continues on topics taught during the autumn course, but now based on the students' encounter with these topics in their internship period (intercultural communication, values and attitudes in the face of another culture, issues related to aid and missiology, team cooperation, information work, tooling and evaluation of personal experiences). Individual guidance conversations with the students are also carried out during the refresher course.

d) Local final course (12 school hours)

Before the students finish their internship period it is arranged a final course where the internship period is evaluated and summarized in cooperation with the local partner. It is important for the students, but also for the local collaborator so that experience can be mutual learning.

e) Self-study

A method course is arranged during the autumn course at Hald. This course provides the students an introduction to qualitative, participating method and how to write a thesis.

During the internship period the students should have 1 day a week for self-study (thesis, reading list and reports from the internship period). This is written in the partner agreement between local partner and Hald International Center.

*Reading list:*

Connect/Focus: Total 1700 pages

Act Now: Total 2000 pages

The students put together the curriculum based on the curriculum list (see Chapter III 1.7 and 1.8). The individual curriculum lists are handed in and approved by the teacher who is responsible for the program before departure. During the internship period the students submit 6 book reports as a response to the curriculum they have read (see Attachment 19-21).

*Thesis*

During their internship period all students should write two thesis of approximately 2500 words each. The first to be linked to country/culture/history (context) and the second one to aid, mission or church. The thesis can, if the student wants, be written together with another student, but then it should be twice as long.

*Reports*

The students make 2 periodic reports from the internship period during their stay abroad.

f) Internship period with the guidance of a local tutor

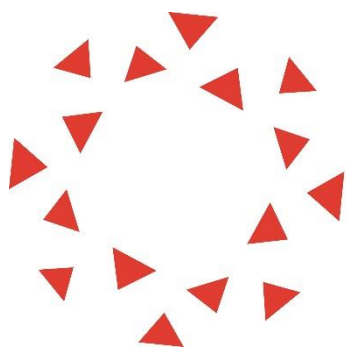
The students are assigned their internship localities based on a overall assessment of personal qualifications, team composition and desirable criteria from the internship localities. During the internship period the students get knowledge about, and the opportunity to participate in the aid-, mission and student work which the local partners are running. The students have, with few exceptions, the same internship locality during the entire stay abroad. Activities and tasks for the internship period are defined in consultation with the local collaborator, and are concretized in the partnership agreement.

During the internship period the students are followed up by local tutors. It is estimated that the students should have 1 hour together with the local tutor biweekly, as well as continuous monitoring of the internship locality.

## VII Curriculum

Distribution of page numbers

Fagområde	Act Now	Connect	Focus
1. Culture and intercultural understanding	400	300	300
2. Aid and development cooperation	500	100	100
3. Bible, mission and congregation	150	350	300
4. Leadership development and personal growth	250	250	300
5. Information, communication and dissemination	100	100	100
6. Country studies	400	400	400
7. Chosen curriculum from bibliography or other relevant literature in connection with the thesis	200	200	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1700</b>	<b>1700</b>



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