

1ST INTERNATIONAL WINTER SCHOOL ON WORK AND ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY COORDINATED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF VALENCIA
(Bertinoro, Italy from 10th to 23rd of February 2008)

First winter school on work, organizational and personnel psychology was held in Bologna (Italy) from 10th to 23rd of February. It was organized by the Universities of Barcelona, Bologna, Coimbra, Paris V and coordinated by the University of Valencia. Participants were 42 postgraduate students from 14 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Costa Rica, Spain, France, Greece, Italy, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Uruguay).



Majority of the participants were Erasmus Mundus Master students of this discipline taking courses at five Universities of Consortium (www.uv.es/erasmuswop). Nevertheless, other postgraduate students from various countries as external students joined them at this winter school.

During fifteen days, these students followed an extensive programme of scientific and professional training focused on the design of new intervention strategies and development-oriented skills of Personnel Psychology. The programme was about an active training through case studies, teamwork, workshops and practical design of interventions. Particular attention was paid to a novel training, based on the approach that puts the emphasis on the professional development of competences relating to the design of interventions, tailored to the customer's needs. To this end, a rigorous methodology that was partly extracted from the design methodologies used in other scientific disciplines, was used.

Since last November, the participants had been working on this training activity on distance using the Virtual Classroom at our University. Training was provided by renowned professors and European professionals, such as Micahel Frese (U. Giesen), Robert Roe and Fred Zjilstra (U. Maastricht), David Guest (Kings College London), Dirk Steiner (U. Nice), Erik Andriessen (U. Delft) and Jac Zaal (Adm. Pub. Netherlands). The International School was coordinated by professor Jose M. Peiro, general coordinator of the Erasmus Mundus Master of work, organizational and personnel psychology and a professor of Social Psychology of Organizations at the University of Valencia.

The Erasmus Mundus Master in work, organizational, and personnel psychology is the only master incorporated into this higher quality education program, established by the European Union to attract and financially support students from around the world to study in Europe. The duration of the Programme is two full-time years (120 ECTS) and awards a double title, delivered by the Home and the Host Universities they study at over the master programme. It involves a minimum mobility of 40 credits at another university of the consortium. European students can take at least 15 credits at Portland State University (USA) also with the grant from the

European Union. Approximately 20 scholarships of about 42000 euros each year are awarded to non-European students and four scholarships to visiting professors, also outside Europe. The Masters offers a problem solving based learning and its design is inspired in the reference model of ENOP and the competency model of EUROPSY.