

Universitat de Lleida



Grup de recerca
**Anàlisi Social
i educativa**

Involving people affected by a mental disorder in the subject of Mental Health.

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Involving people affected by a mental disorder in the subject of Mental Health.

Theme chosen: Prospects, methodology, research and innovatory practice in social work education.

Introduction: This presentation aims to describe an innovatory teaching practice utilised during the last two academic courses in the subjects of "Social work in the area of mental health" and "Social and educational action in the area of mental health" in the degrees of Social Work and Social Education. The practice involves people diagnosed with a mental disorder in the teaching dynamics of the two subjects.



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References:

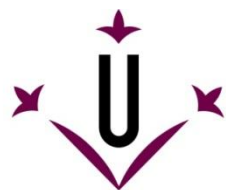
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The general objective is:

To provide social work and social education students with a broader understanding of mental health issues and the major mental disorders from the perspectives of those affected.



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The specific objectives are:

1. To ensure that students understand the ways in which people affected interpret and explain their mental disorders.
2. To allow students to understand the major effects of mental disorders in daily life.
3. To reflect on the different ways in which people affected integrate a diagnosis of mental disorder into their identity.



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*The practice is implemented through collaboration between
the Faculty of Education, Psychology and Social Work...*



Facultat d'Educació,
Psicologia i Treball Social

... and two Third Sector Organisations:



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Methodology:

- Each person describes his or her experience for 20/25 minutes approx.
- These accounts are based on their autobiographical stories (prepared in advance).
- After each presentation the floor is opened for questions and comments from the students.
- The main issues that arise during the seminar are noted for discussion during the course.



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Results & Discussion:

We aim to integrate academic knowledge and the experience and knowledge of the people affected. This enables us to:

Train Recovery Approach ¹	Train Constructive Social Work ²
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Promote the service users as “experts by experience” (p.6)▪ Recovery= Clinical R. + Personal R. (p.4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Include the service users on their own ‘stories’ (p.172)▪ Reconstruct narrative and its language to identify new possibilities (p.173)

¹ Slade, M. (2009). *100 ways to support recovery*. London, Rethink.

² Payne, M. (2005). *Modern Social Work Theory*. London, Palgrave Macmillan.