



Rector's Cabinet International Centre

## Social Work and Social Ecology: Community Responses to Climate Change

Short-term Mobility Program



## Syllabus

Course title:	Generativity (online course)
Course date:	April 15, Thursday, 14:00-15:30
Lecturer:	Dr. Márta B. Erdős
Course Aims:	Generativity can briefly be described as a personal legacy that is meant to serve the interests of future generations. Positive contributions to the next generation are manifest through parenting, teaching, mentoring, leadership, creativity, and care in order to leave one's constructive legacy of the self for the future. By mutuality of benefit, generativity may serve as a bridge among the generations, strengthening social solidarity and relational responsibility. The globalised world has imposed many new challenges on identity formation; and on generativity as a main evolutionary, "life-affirming psychological force" (McAdams, 2018:251). Key elements of today's crisis discourses are related to unsustainability: to environmental problems with a strong focus on climate change and issues of responsible consumption; to population growth and migration; ageing societies; and even to the impact of substantial changes in communication patterns on identity formation.
Learning	Students will be familiarized with the theory of generativity and its relevance in
<b>Outcomes:</b>	the area of social ecology.
Knowledge	
Learning	Students will be able to interpret
Outcomes:	o a variety of social phenomena in the context a generativity;
Skills	<ul> <li>relate social and ecological crises to problems in generative behaviour</li> <li>understand that generativity is a key to sustainability</li> <li>by these understandings, transform "generativity frustration" into resources for community development</li> </ul>





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## **Readings:**

- Alisat, S., Norris, J. E., Pratt, M. W., Matsuba, M. K., McAdams, D. P. (2014). Caring for the earth: Generativity as a mediator for the prediction of environmental narratives from identity among activists and nonactivists. Identity: An International Journal of Theory and Research, 14, 177–194.
- Matsuba, M.K.; Pratt, M.W.; Norris, J.E.; Mohle, E.; Alisat, S.; McAdams, D.P. (2012) Environmentalism as a context for expressing identity and generativity: Patterns among activists and uninvolved youth and midlife adults. J. Pers. 80, 1091–1115
- McAdams (2006) The Redemptive Self: Generativity and the Stories Americans Live By. Research in Human Development 3 (2,3) 81-100.