

Transformative Learning and the Development of Cultural Humility in Social Work Students

Authors : Ruilin Zhu, Katarzyna Olcoń, Rose M. Pulliam, Dorie J. Gilbert

Abstract : Cultural humility is increasingly important in social work literature, given its emphasis on mitigating power imbalances in helping relationships, particularly across cultural differences. Consequently, there is a need to understand whether and how cultural humility can be taught in social work education. Relying on ethnographic observations and reflective journals from a cultural immersion program, this study identified the learning process required to develop cultural humility: confusion and discomfort, re-moulding, and humility in action.

Keywords : social work education, cultural humility, transformative learning theory, study abroad, ethnographic observations

Conference Title : ICSW 2023 : International Conference on Social Work

Conference Location : Paris, France

Conference Dates : May 11-12, 2023