

## **Teaching Foundations of Regulatory Biology in a Master's Program for Complementary Health Sciences. Evaluation research using categorization**

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### **Objektive**

To classify which aspects of the module *Foundations of Regulatory Biology* in a Master's Program for Complementary Health Sciences influenced the students' view of their own professional work most.

### **Introduction**

Integrating *Foundations of Regulatory Biology* into the traditional competency field of professionals in complementary medicine and healing arts was defined as an essential goal of a Master's Program funded by the European Commission. The *inter-uni.net for integrated health sciences* ([www.inter-uni.net](http://www.inter-uni.net)) developed a teaching and learning module geared to this aim which included 3 months distance learning and 2 on-site workshops. The 10 main focuses of this model are depicted below (cf. Results). After being offered for several years, the weightings of the focuses on the benefit of the module were evaluated.

### **Methods**

The question (cf. Objective) was posed to 34 students who had completed the module. Members of helping professions with a "complementary" focus and usually long years of professional experience supplied a handwritten response to the question (one page). The ratio female to male was 2:1. The responses were analyzed using simple categorization.

### **Result**

50% of the respondents cited the model depicting *the biophysical coherence of living organisms in connection with aspects of chaos control* as playing an important role for their own work, while 44% cited *the similarity principle in the context of illness and healing*, 41% aspects of *network-oriented thinking in regard to diagnosis and therapy*, 32% the *psycho-neuro-endocrino-immunological model*, 26% engagement with *criteria for evaluating sustainability of healing processes*, 24% *cybernetic-system-oriented models of understanding*, and 15% the critical scrutiny of *polypragmasia and improper manifold therapies*. The focus on *networked quality assurance of one's own practice* was named by 11%. It is interesting that the focus on *reflex zones and focal processes* was only mentioned by one person (0.3%); the special *quantum theory orientated focus* was not mentioned.

### **Conclusion**

In a Master's Program for Complementary Health Sciences, *Foundations of Regulatory Biology* appears to be a suitable means for optimizing one's own professional work in complementary medicine and complementary healing arts by providing participants with means of understanding processes involved in "holistic" treatment. Such conceptual frames of reference derive from the natural sciences, physiology, medicine and the humanities.