

The Third York College Interdisciplinary Summer Semester Expedition in Eastern Europe

July 7 – August 21, 2017
in the
Republic of Moldova



York College of the
City University of New York
in collaboration with the
Free International University of
Moldova and
The Moldova State Medical and
Pharmaceutical University
“Nicolae Testemitanu”



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Earn NINE credits:
SCWK 480 and SCWK 492
FOUR weeks abroad.
Classroom and online instruction.
Urban and rural community work
practicum. Cultural activities.
Partial financing through
York and CUNY scholarships.





ASIA
EUROPEAN
RUSSIA

MOLDOVA

at the cross-roads
of the world

EUROPE

Atlantic
Ocean

North
Sea

English
Channel

Bay of
Biscay

Strait
of
Gibraltar

Morocco

Algeria

Libya

Egypt

Israel

Jordan

ASIA
MIDDLE
EAST

Saudi
Arabia

Turkey

Syria

Lebanon

Iraq

Mediterranean Sea

Black Sea

Baltic
Sea

23°5'N

TROPIC OF
CANCER

800 mi

800 km

Background

Moldova is a country rich in talent and history that is suffering under the dual burden of poverty and mass emigration. Local population, especially those that are more energetic and motivated, cannot find vocational opportunities for their knowledge, skills, and talents and emigrate. Those that remain have little investment in their communities as they struggle for everyday survival. This project connects the problems of poverty and talent drain by offering a local community consisting of three villages in the history-, culture- and archaeology-rich region of Old Orhei possibilities of creating an economically viable artisan industry.














The Systemic Wellness Region project: A comprehensive approach to community development

Developed by Project Casa Mare and the
PCM Academic Consortium in collaboration with
York College of the City of New York,
Free International University of Moldova, and the
National Association of Social Workers in Moldova



The Social Wellness Region Model

SWR



SWR is a comprehensive approach to systemic community development that is beneficent and sustainable. The Old Orhei SWR includes villages of Butuceni, Tribujeni, and Morovaia.

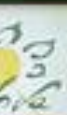
The Systemic Wellness Region (SWR) as a model of social entrepreneurship in action

The Social Wellness Region is a small rural community that is designated for holistic development, which includes the following outcomes:

- Social welfare
- Security
- Economic development based on creative economy
- Education and Vocational skills
- Health outcomes
- Environmental conditions
- Artistic, cultural and spiritual expression

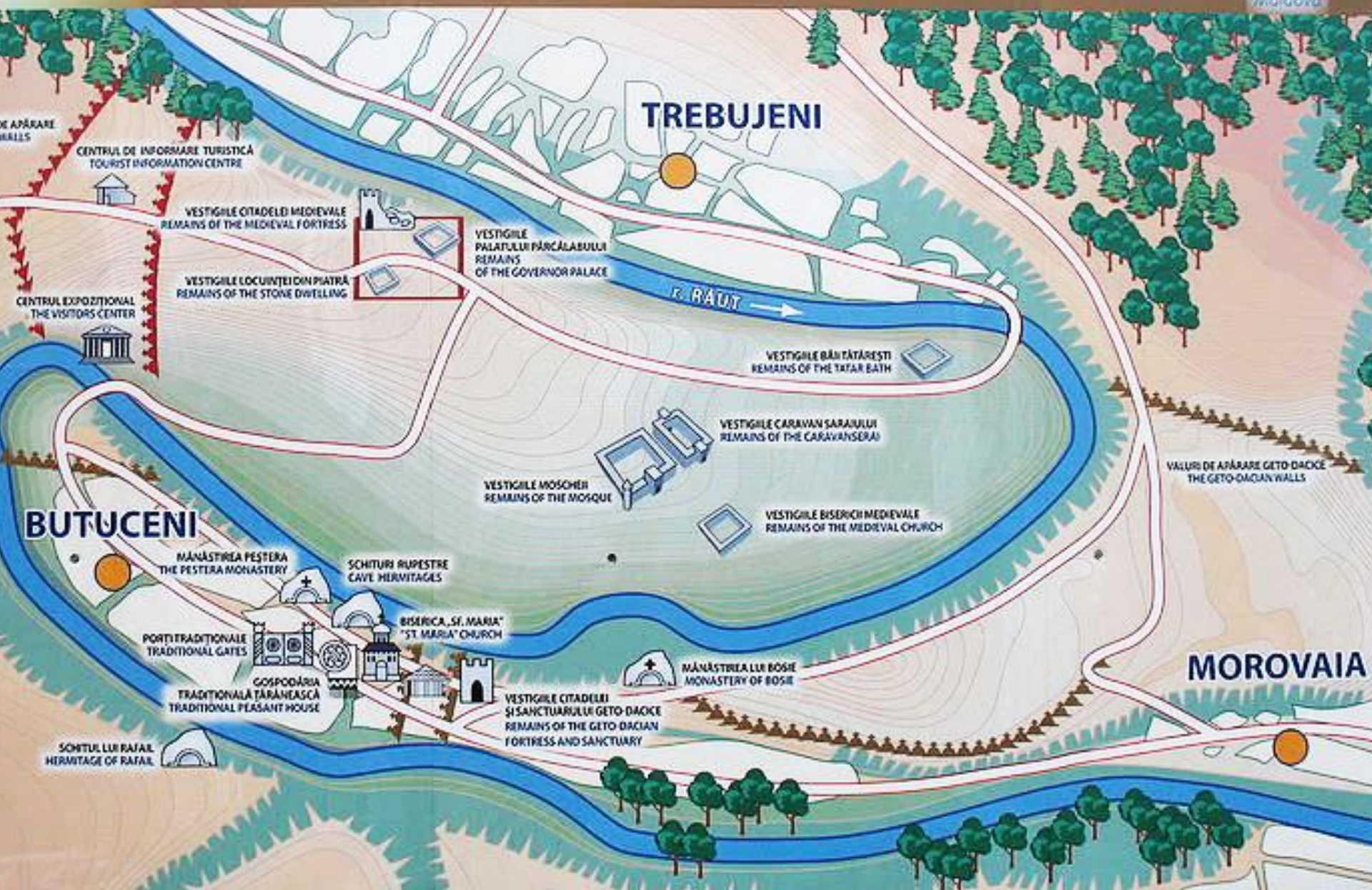






ORHEIUL VECHI

COMPLEX MUZEAL SUB CERUL LIBER
MUSEUM COMPLEX IN THE OPEN AIR



TREBUJENI

R. RAUT

MOROVAIA

VALURI DE APĂRARE
DEFENSIVE WALLS

CENTRUL DE INFORMARE TURISTICĂ
TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

VESTIGILE CITADELEI MEDIEVALE
REMAINS OF THE MEDIEVAL FORTRESS

VESTIGILE PALATULUI PĂRĂLĂBULUI
REMAINS OF THE GOVERNOR PALACE

VESTIGILE LOCUINȚEI DIN PIATRĂ
REMAINS OF THE STONE DWELLING

VESTIGILE BĂI TĂTĂREȘTI
REMAINS OF THE TATAR BATH

VESTIGILE CARAVAN SARAIULUI
REMAINS OF THE CARAVANSERAJ

VALURI DE APĂRARE GETO-DACICE
THE GETO-DACIAN WALLS

CENTRUL EXPOZITIV
THE VISITORS CENTER

VESTIGILE MOSCHEII
REMAINS OF THE MOSQUE

VESTIGILE BISERICII MEDIEVALE
REMAINS OF THE MEDIEVAL CHURCH

BUTUCENI

MĂNĂȘTIREA PEȘTERA
THE PEȘTERA MONASTERY

SCHITURI RUPEȘTRE
CAVE HERMITAGES

PORTURI TRADITIONALE
TRADITIONAL GATES

BISERICA „SĂ MĂRIA”
“ST. MARIA” CHURCH

GOSPODĂRIA
TRADITIONAL PEASANT HOUSE

MĂNĂȘTIREA LUI BOȘIE
MONASTERY OF BOȘIE

VESTIGILE CITADELEI
ȘI SANCTUARULUI GETO-DACICE
REMAINS OF THE GETO-DACIAN
FORTRESS AND SANCTUARY

SCHITUL LUI RAFAEL
HERITAGE OF RAFAEL

The Systemic Wellness Region project seeks to address the interrelated health, ecology, security, and economic needs of the community through an innovative social entrepreneurship initiative. At the heart of the project is the plan to promote community members' investment in their community through getting them interested in their history through the archaeological expedition. Members of the community will take part in archaeological digs, historical seminars, artisan skills trainings, and entrepreneurial activities in their history-rich area. The artefacts that will emerge from the ground or other archeological objects that were discovered in Moldova before, will serve as models for replication by local artisans-in-training and beyond, i.e. **pottery, jewelry, and glass objects**. Consequently, the locally-crafted objects will be marketed with the help of local and international partners. The large portion of proceedings will be allocated toward improvement in the designated areas of community need.



The Social Wellness Region (SWR)

The project is predicated on several assumptions:

Community development has to be:

- *approached multi-dimensionally
- *planned as a social enterprise on the academic/theoretical/methodological platform
- *economically viable;
- *propelled by community members' buy-in
- *implemented through coordinated efforts of the broad national and international spectrum of stakeholders
- *assessed through attainable, sustainable, and measurable outcomes



The Social Work profession is key to interdisciplinary integration and capacity building in social welfare in the Republic of Moldova

- Social workers are trained to approach social problems systemically.
- They are uniquely equipped to deal with systemic community needs and challenges and capable of addressing community need in its full complexity.
- The social work knowledge base is interdisciplinary and they are trained on the master's level to work across various disciplines and in collaboration with allied professions.
- Social entrepreneurship is the primary methodology of the social work profession.
- The coordinating role of social workers in social projects ensures effectiveness and sustainability.

Measurable Outcomes

1. Create study-abroad program at York College
2. Comprehensive assessment of community strengths and needs
3. Articulation of agreements with project partners, including the ministries
4. Articulate the protocol of responsibilities, procedures, and timetables
5. Complete the month-long archaeological expedition
6. Conduct four archaeology/history/culture seminars
7. Organize building a pottery kiln in Butuceni, glass-making workshop in Trebujeni, and jewelry-making workshop in Morovaia.
8. Organize manufacture of archaeological artefacts' replicas
9. By the end of the project, organize marketing and sale of the first batch of products in all three genres.
10. Allocate the larger part of proceedings toward a specific area of need in all three villages, e.g. improvement of sanitation or access to potable water
11. Comprehensive assessment of outcomes for effectiveness, efficiency, plans for sustainability, and feasibility of replication in other locations.
12. Secure the funding for at least two more years.

Project Objectives

1. Develop a thorough understanding of theories, methodologies, and best practices of sustainable community development that is based on private-public partnerships, grass-roots entrepreneurial activities, arts, crafts, and other economies.
2. Create a study-abroad program at York College
3. Develop a thorough understanding of community needs and strengths in the area of Old Orhei
4. Establish a formal network of stakeholders and project partners involved in this project
5. Develop the protocol of activities with allocation of responsibilities, procedures, and timetables
6. Conduct archaeological excavations with participation of local population and students
7. Present the discovered artefacts in the context of the world and Moldovan history at academic seminars in Old Orhei
8. Organize artisan training of local population
9. Organize manufacture and marketing of archaeological artefacts' replicas
10. Develop a system of parlaying the proceedings of selling the replicas of artefacts toward meeting community needs.
11. Assess the project for effectiveness, efficiency, and feasibility of replication in other locations.
12. Ensure sustainability of the project through on-going funding



Urban Systemic Wellness Region – at Costujeni State Psychiatric Hospital in Chisinau: Vocational Rehabilitation Center



Vocational Rehabilitation Center



VRC @ Costujeni

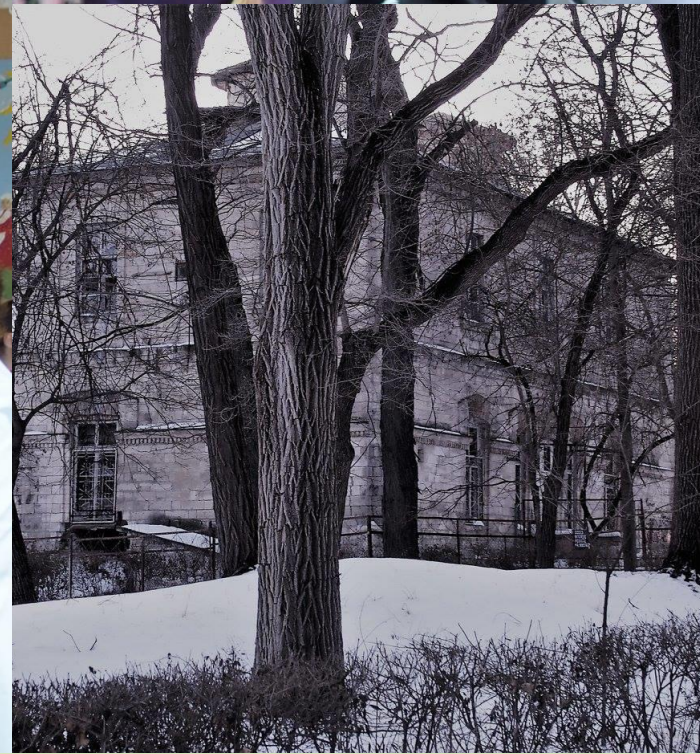
is a public-private social entrepreneurial venture that is built on synergies between Codru State Psychiatric Hospital, Project Casa Mare, and Free International University of Moldova and dedicated to the mission of bringing creative, therapeutic, and remunerative activities to the psychiatric patient population.

We work with them as with students and colleagues. Our relationship is that of respect and solidarity rather than clinical pathologizing. VRC seeks to build skills, self-esteem, and the sense of empowerment among the alienated persons with the diagnosis of mental illness.

We bring them the joy of accomplishment and the sense of self-efficacy that comes when fruits of your labor are appreciated by the people who are willing to pay for them.

Please write to us. We are looking for friends, partners, and partner institutions to join us in the mission of bringing energy and hope to the lives of persons with psychiatric conditions.





Systemic Wellness Region project partners

- Moldova Ministry of Culture (in the person of Vice-Minister Gh. Postica) - promotion of Moldovan culture at home and abroad.
- Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family RM – introduction and promotion of the Social Expert profession in Moldova
- Ministry of Education of the RM – as a foundation of a academic consortium for the development of the educational component
- York College of the City University of New York – students’ exchange from different faculties of CUNY, for the SWR focused Summer Schools in Moldova
- ULIM – education and training of Social Expert professionals
- IMSPF Codru – pilot implementation of the methodology of traditional crafts skills as a method of community involvement.
- Local Partners (Local Public Administration, Private Sector, Middle School from Trebujeni, Local Museums) – active participation in project implementation
- Science Academy of Moldova “Institute of Cultural Heritage” – archeological digs and scientific researches/work
- National History Museum of Moldova – classification of exhibits, organisation and promotion of the exhibitions
- American consortium of anthropologists and archaeologists and York College of the City University of New York – as a liason to International academic partnership
- PCM – coordinator of this project, development and assessment as well as project management and monitoring
- National Association of Social Workers in Moldova – provide social expertise in the field of social work.



Program Itinerary

- Departure from New York: Friday, July 7
- Arrival to Chisinau: Saturday, July 8
- Temporal adjustment: Sunday, July 9
- Program starts: Monday, July 10
- Urban SWR field placement: 7/10 – 7/27
- Rural SWR field placement: 7/24 – 8/03
- Final presentations in Moldova: 8/04 and 8/05
- Departure for New York: 8/06
- Follow-up in New York: 8/07-8/21
- College-wide presentation, national or international presentation and a scholarly journal article submission: Fall/2017

Weekly Schedule of Activities

Week One

July 10 – July 16

46 hrs internship

Time	Mon. 07/10/17	Tue. 07/11/17	Wed. 07/12/17	Thu. 07/13/17	Fri. 07/14/17	Sat. 07/15/17	Sun. 07/16/17
9 – 10:25 am	Field orientation: History, culture, current politics, population, social issues.	Lecture	Urban Systemic Wellness Region – Costujeni Psychiatric Hospital	Lecture	Urban Systemic Wellness Region – Costujeni Psychiatric Hospital	Free Time	Free Time
10:40 – 12:05 p m		Lecture		Lecture		Field Trips to Moldova cultural sites, sightseeing and museums	
12:05-3 pm	Field orientation: City excursion	Cultural/Environmental exposure		Cultural/Environmental exposure		Field Trips to Moldova cultural sites, sightseeing and museums	
3 pm-5 pm		Field Seminar		Field Seminar			
5:30 7:30-PM		Field Seminar		Field Seminar			
8-9 PM	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Free Time	
9 - mid	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time		

Weekly Schedule of Activities

Week Two

July 17 – July 22

46 hrs internship

Time	Mon. 07/17/17	Tue. 07/18/17	Wed. 07/19/17	Thu. 07/20/17	Fri. 07/21/17	Sat. 07/22/17	Sun. 07/23/17
9 – 10:25 am	Urban Systemic Wellness Region – Costujeni Psychiatric Hospital	Lecture	Urban Systemic Wellness Region – Costujeni Psychiatric Hospital	Lecture	Urban Systemic Wellness Region – Costujeni Psychiatric Hospital	Free Time	Free Time
10:40 – 12:05 pm		Lecture		Lecture		Field Trips to Moldova cultural sites, sightseeing and museums	
12:05- 3 pm		Cultural/Environmental exposure		Cultural/Environmental exposure			
3 pm- 5 pm		Field Seminar		Field Seminar			
5:30 7:30-PM		Field Seminar		Field Seminar			
8-9 PM	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Free Time	
9 - mid	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time		

Weekly Schedule of Activities

Week Three

July 24 – July 29 46 hrs internship

Time	Mon. 07/24/17	Tue. 07/25/17	Wed. 07/26/17	Thu. 07/27/17	Fri. 07/28/17	Sat. 07/29/17	Sun. 07/30/17
9 – 10:25 am	Rural Systemic Wellness Region – Old Orhei	Lecture	Rural Systemic Wellness Region – Old Orhei	Lecture	Rural Systemic Wellness Region – Old Orhei	Free Time	Free Time
10:40 – 12:05 pm		Lecture		Lecture		Field Trips to Moldova cultural sites, sightseeing and museums	
12:05- 3 pm		Cultural/Environmental exposure		Cultural/Environmental exposure			
3 pm- 5 pm		Field Seminar		Field Seminar			
5:30 7:30-PM		Field Seminar		Field Seminar			
8-9 PM	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Free Time	
9 - mid	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time		

Weekly Schedule of Activities

Week Four

July 31 – Aug 6 6 hrs internship

Time	Mon. 07/31/17	Tue. 08/01/17	Wed. 08/02/17	Thu. 08/03/17	Fri. 08/04/17	Sat. 08/05/17	Sun. 08/06/17
9 – 10:25 am	Rural Systemic Wellness Region – Old Orhei	Rural Systemic Wellness Region – Old Orhei	Rural Systemic Wellness Region – Old Orhei	Rural Systemic Wellness Region – Old Orhei	Rural Systemic Wellness Region – Old Orhei	Rural Systemic Wellness Region – Old Orhei End-of-Semester Presentation (with preparation)	Urban Systemic Wellness Region – Costujeni End-of-Semester Presentation (with preparation)
10:40 – 12:05 pm							
12:05- 3 pm							
3 pm- 5 pm							
5:30 7:30-PM							
8-9 PM	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Readings and Logs	Free Time	Departure for the United States
9 - mid	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time		

Follow-up on New York

Aug. 7 – Aug. 21

- On-line lecture content:
 - Aug. 10 – **Written assignment 1** is due both for the Lecture course and Field Seminar
 - Aug. 10: 3 pm -7:30 pm -**Field Seminar** – two classes
 - Aug. 14: 3 pm – 7:30 pm – **Lecture Course** – two classes
 - Aug. 21: **Written assignment 2** is due both, for the Lecture course and Field Seminar
- Fall 2017 - **Presentation at York**
 - Presentation of a scholarly article at a national or international conference**
 - Scholarly article journal submission**

