

# CURRICULUM VITAE

CATHERINE DUCOMMUN-NAGY, M.D.

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

**Professional Address:** The Institute for Contextual Growth, Inc.  
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## LICENSURES:

**11/1988: Pennsylvania Unrestricted Medical License MD 041076-L**

Current status: Active-retired. Expiration/renewal date: 12-31-2022

**02/2003: Pennsylvania Marriage and Family Therapist License MF000353 (inactive)**

## SPECIALITY CERTIFICATIONS:

**10/24/1985:**

Specialist F.M.H. (Swiss Medical Federation) in psychiatry and psychotherapy for children and adults (dual child and adult psychiatry certification)

## DEGREES OBTAINED

**04/11/1983: Doctoral Degree in Medicine, spec. History of Medicine** University of Lausanne, Lausanne (Switzerland) Dissertation: Paul Dubois (1845-1918). Sa place dans l'histoire de la psychothérapie.

**01/26/1977 : Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates E.C.F.M.G**

Certificate # 272-757-6, Philadelphia, PA USA. (Unlimited validity)

**12/09/1976: Medical Degree,** University of Geneva Medical School, Geneva (Switzerland)

**12/09/1976: Swiss Federal Diploma in Medicine,** Bern (Switzerland)

## CURRENT PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

**From 2005 to present:**

**The Institute for Contextual Growth, Inc., Glenside, PA USA**

- 1) Private teaching on contextual therapy and its applications.
- 2) Development of the theory of contextual therapy with emphasis on loyalties
- 3) Publications on contextual therapy theory and its applications.

(Sole owner, director and president since 1999. Institute founded by Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy, director emeritus until his death in 2007).

### **MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES:**

Current member:

- European Family Therapy Association (active)
- Swiss Medical Federation (active)
- American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (clinical fellow)

Retired member:

- American Family Therapy Academy
- American Psychiatric Association

Honorary member:

- Hungarian Family Therapy Association
- State of Vaud Medical Society, Switzerland

### **CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:**

**Master of Family Therapy Program, Counselling and Family Therapy Department  
Drexel University College of Nursing and Health Professions, Philadelphia, PA USA.**

**2008-present: Clinical Associate Professor** (volunteer status since 01/2013)

**Academic year 2013-present:**

*Winter Quarter:* Invited speaker for one class in the contextual therapy course each year.

### **PAST ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

**In the same program:**

**2003-2008: Clinical Assistant Professor** (adjunct faculty)

**1989 to 2003: Clinical Assistant Professor**

**1987-1989: Lecturer**

*NOTE: The original 1987 academic appointment was with the Master Program in Couple and Family Therapy in the Department of Health Sciences of Hahnemann University, which subsequently operated under several names until its final closing in 2002 and the transfer of all faculty appointments to Drexel University.*

### **Past teaching activities in the program:**

**I. Contextual therapy (theory and clinical applications)** 3 and 4 credits courses.

Courses taught for close to 25 years, design and contents varied over the years. (Detailed courses outlines are available upon request.)

**II. Nosology and diagnosis for family therapists.** 3 credits course

Course taught for over ten years

Training in the use of DSM/IV for individual diagnosis and treatment planning.

Basics of psychiatry and pharmacotherapy for family therapists.

**III: Group supervision**

For many years, weekly group supervision of master level students in couple and family therapy.

**IV: Miscellaneous classes in contextual therapy**

Replacement of Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy, MD during his lecture tours in Europe (1987-1998).

**V: Introduction to family therapy for residents in child and adult psychiatry**

Lectures upon request by the department of psychiatry (1987-1995)

**OTHER PAST ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

**Department of Psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA**

**1991/92-1995/96: Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry**

Teaching and supervision of Child-Psychiatry resident

**1990/91: Clinical Associate**

Teaching and supervision of Child-Psychiatry resident

**TEACHING FOR UNIVERSITIES AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS AS GUEST LECTURER**

**On-going activities:**

**Since 2013 : Diplôme Universitaire de Thérapie Familiale, Université Le Mirail/Jean-Jaurès, Toulouse, France.**

Yearly: Classes on contextual therapy during each training cycle.

**Since 2010: Institut universitaire de psychothérapie-Unité du centre d'étude de la famille. University of Lausanne, Switzerland.**

Short seminars on contextual therapy, loyalties, and the five dimensions of the genogram.

**Since 2009 : Haute École de Travail Social et de la Santé. Lausanne, Switzerland.**

Sort seminars on family loyalties, loyalties and migration, work with adolescents with conduct disorders

**PAST ACTIVITIES:**

**9/1983-12/1986: Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry University of Lausanne, Lausanne (Switzerland).** Contextual Therapy theory and applications (4 hours per month)

**From 1983 to present:**

**Many short interventions for academic programs in Switzerland, France, the Dominican Republic, and Ecuador** (detailed list available upon request).

**Subjects :**

Intensive course on contextual therapy, family loyalties, relational ethics and destructive entitlement, work with youths suffering from visual handicap and their families, and others.

## **LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS BY INVITATION FOR PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS:**

(Detailed list available upon request)

### **From 1983 to present:**

-Guest speaker and trainer for numerous private couple and family therapy training programs, for institutions specialized in the care of children and adolescents, and for psychiatric institutions.

-Plenary presenter at international family Therapy conferences and national conferences in the USA and in Europe.

-Invited presenter at international and national conferences in the USA and in Europe (multiple family therapy conferences, one history of psychiatry conference, two national pastoral counselling conferences)

### **Main subjects:**

Contextual family therapy theory.

Clinical application of contextual therapy:

Work with clients and families affected by severe mental illness.

Work with clients and families affected by mental retardation.

Work with disfranchises youth with conduct disorders and work with homeless youth.

Work with clients and families affected by chronic illnesses and end of life issues.

Family loyalties:

The five dimensions of family loyalties.

Loyalty dynamics in divorce, adoption, residential placement, and foster care families.

Loyalty dynamics in situations involving medically assisted reproduction and donors.

Group loyalties and family loyalties:

The implications of family and group loyalties in the context of immigration.

Loyalty and solidarity.

The contribution of contextual therapy to the understanding of youth radicalization.

The five dimensions of the genogram, a didactical program for therapists

Applications of contextual therapy to pastoral counselling

Use of contextual therapy principles in pastoral care (congregations, jails, hospitals, army)

### **Location of the presentations:**

**North America:** USA and Canada

**Central America:** Santo-Domingo

**South America:** Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, and Venezuela

**Europe:** Most activities are in France and Switzerland. Also: Belgium, England, Germany, Holland Hungary, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Romania, and Spain

**North Africa:** Algeria

**Asia:** Mongolia

## **PAST CLINICAL ACTIVITIES**

### **I. PRIVATE PRACTICE**

**1988-2004: Private practice of child, adolescent, adult and family psychiatry.** The Institute for Contextual Growth, Inc., Glenside, PA

**1988-1999: Associate director and organizer of international training programs through the Institute for Contextual Growth, Inc (with Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy, M.D.)** Annual International Summer Seminars in the U.S.A., Switzerland and France. Certificate and other short programs in the USA and in Switzerland.

**1983-1987: Private practice of adult adolescent and child psychiatry, couple and family therapy.** Hôpital de l'Enfance, Lausanne, Switzerland.

### **II. INSTITUTIONAL DIRECT CLINICAL MEDICAL AND PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES**

#### **1977-1987 (SWITZERLAND):**

**01/1977-09/1977: Hôpital communal, Fleurier Switzerland.** General medical services (as part of requirements for Swiss equivalent to a residency program)

**10/1977-03/1981 : -Secteur Psychiatrique Ouest, Prangins, Switzerland.**  
In and outpatient adult psychiatric services (as part of requirements for Swiss equivalent to a residency program). Highest rank obtained: associate section head (Chef de clinique adjoint).

**07/1981-09/1981 : Services de Gériatrie. Département universitaire de Psychiatrie, Genève Suisse."**  
Direct medical and psychiatric services (as part of requirements for Swiss equivalent to a residency program).

**10/1981-09/1982 : Service Universitaire de Psychiatrie de l'Enfant et de l'Adolescent, Lausanne Switzerland** Outpatient child-psychiatry services (as part of requirements for Swiss equivalent to a residency program)

**06/1986-12-1987 : -Le Bercail, internat du centre psychothérapeutique de l'hôpital de l'enfance. Lausanne, Switzerland.**  
Medical director Residential treatment facility for children with severe mental illnesses including autism.

### **III. INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRIC CONSULTING SERVICES**

#### **1983-1987 (Switzerland)**

**-Fondation Renée de la Fontaine, Le Mont-sur-Lausanne, Switzerland.** Day treatment center for children with multiple handicaps and mental retardation.

**-Centre pour handicapés de la vue, Lausanne, Switzerland.** Residential school for children with blindness or serious visual handicap

- Foyer Panatier, Lausanne, Switzerland.** Residential school for children and adolescents with blindness and mental retardation
- Service Éducatif Itinérant, Lausanne, Switzerland.** Home based services of children with disabilities

**1988-2004 (USA):**

- Covenant House PA, Philadelphia, PA USA.** Crisis center for homeless youths age 18-21 years.
- The clinical Trial Center, Jenkintown, PA USA.** Clinical evaluation of psychotropic medications.
- Northern Homes Children and Family Services, Philadelphia PA, USA.** Ambulatory services for children and their family.
- Foundations Behavioural Health, Doylestown PA, USA,** Private psychiatric hospital for teenagers.
- St.-Mary's Villa for Children, Ambler PA, USA.** Residential program for children and teenagers.
- Presbyterian Children's Village Services, Rosemont PA, USA.** Residential program for children adolescents and young adults. (Interim medical director 01-07/2000)
- Northeast Treatment Center, Philadelphia PA, USA.** Ambulatory services for youths.
- Northwestern Institute, Fort Washington PA, USA,** Private psychiatric hospital for children adolescents and adults.
- Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic, Philadelphia PA, USA.** University of Pennsylvania child and adolescents psychiatric in-patient and outpatient services
- The Marriage Council of Philadelphia, Philadelphia PA, USA.** Outpatient clinic for couple and family therapy.

**OTHER PAST PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

**1981-1998: Miscellaneous locations in Europe:** French-English interpreter Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy, M.D. during his lecture tours in French speaking countries.

**1977: Tibetan Children Village, Dharamsala, India:** Volunteer temporary substitute physician.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**English:**

- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (1999). Contextual therapy. In D. Lawson & F. Prevatt F. (eds.), *The casebook in family therapy* (pp. 1-26). Pacific Grove, CA: Brook/Cole.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2002). Contextual Therapy. In F. Kaslow (Ed.), *Comprehensive handbook of psychotherapy* Vol. III (pp. 463-487). New-York: John Willey and Sons.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2003). Can giving heal? Contextual therapy and biological psychiatry In D. Keith & P. Prosky (Eds.), *Family therapy as an alternative to medication* (pp. 111-138) New-York: Brunner-Routledge.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2007). What is contextual therapy? *Vakblad voor contextuele hulverlening*, no 12-2007/4, 10-14.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2010) Forgiveness and Relational Ethics: The perspective of the contextual therapist. In A. Kalayjian & R. Paloutzian (Eds.), *Forgiveness and reconciliation. Psychological pathways to conflict transformation and peace building* (pp.33-54). New-York: Springer.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2015) Boszormenyi-Nagy Ivan in E.S. Neukrug ed. *The Sage encyclopedia of theory in counseling and psychotherapy*. Los Angeles: Sage

- Ducommun-Nagy, C. & Schwoeri, L. (2003). Contextual Therapy. In P. Sholevar & L. Schwoeri (Eds.), *Handbook of marriage and family therapy* (pp.127-145). Washington DC: American Psychiatry Press Inc.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. Reiter, M. D. (2013). Contextual therapy. In M. D. Reiter, *Case conceptualization in family therapy* (pp. 55-81). New-York: Pearson
- Berzin, A. & Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2019). Dependent Arising of the Self in Terms of Relations with Others. <https://studybuddhism.com/en/advanced-studies>.

**French :**

- Ducommun, C. (1984). Paul Dubois (1848-1918): Sa place dans l'histoire de la psychothérapie. *Gesnerus* Vol. 41, 61-99.
- Ducommun, C. (1987). Approche contextuelle de la relation éducateur-famille. *Feuillets de pédagogie curative* No. 17, 38-42
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (1989). L'Agenda Invisible. *Mariage, mariages*. Autrement, série mutations no 105, 12, 141-154.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (1995). La thérapie contextuelle. In M. Elkaim (Ed.) *Panorama des Thérapies Familiale* ( pp. 97-113) Paris: le Seuil.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2006). *Ces loyautés qui nous libèrent*. Paris : J.C. Lattès.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2007). Transmission intergénérationnelle et trouble des conduites : le point de vue du thérapeute contextuel. *Cahiers critiques de thérapie familiale et de pratique de réseaux* no 38-2007/1 pp. 118-134
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2007). Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy n'est plus, mais son message reste. *Cahiers critiques de thérapie familiale et de pratique de réseaux* no 39-2007/2 163-165
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2007). Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy, décès d'un pionnier de la thérapie familiale. *Dialogue, recherches cliniques sur le couple et la famille*. No 176-2<sup>e</sup> trimestre 2007
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2008). Implications de la théorie dialectique de la personnalité et de la dimension ontique de la réalité relationnelle dans le traitement des adolescents. *Cahiers critiques de thérapie familiale et de pratique de réseaux* no 40-2008/1 , 59-77
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2008). Les loyautés familiales. In S. Angel (ed.), *Mieux vivre ma vie*. Paris : Larousse.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2008). La loyauté familiale, une ressource relationnelle. *Gérontologie et société* No 127-décembre 2008, 115-128.
- Ducommun-Nagy C. (2009). La loyauté dans le couple et la famille. *Temps d'arrêt-Loyautés et familles*. (pp. 47-58). *Yapaka.be*
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2009). L'apport de la thérapie contextuelle pour la compréhension des troubles des conduites chez les adolescents. *Actes du congrès vents d'ouest 2009 « Familles et adolescence: de la chrysalide au papillon »* p.96-102. *Pegaseprocessus.fr*
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2010). Loyautés familiales et processus thérapeutique. *Cahiers critiques de thérapie familiale et de pratiques de réseaux* no 44-2010 pp. 28-42. Bruxelles : de Boeck
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2010). Nouvelles familles, nouvelles définitions de la loyauté familiale. In S. d'Amore ed. *Les nouvelles familles* pp. 261-280. Bruxelles: de Boeck
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2013). Comprendre les loyautés familiales à travers l'œuvre d'Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy. In J.-L. Le Run & M., de Maximi, eds. *Les conflits de loyauté*. Enfance et Psy no 56-2013
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2014). Que se doivent entre eux les membres d'une famille ? In S. Angel (ed.) *Le guide psycho*. Paris : Larousse.
- Ducommun-Nagy, C. & Villat, J.-M. (2016) Légitimité destructive et placement d'enfants en institution d'éducation : comment prévenir les injustices ? *Thérapie familiale* 37-2 pp. 129-149.

Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2020) Loyautés familiales et radicalisation des jeunes. *Dans Intervention auprès des familles. Réussir le défi de la coconstruction* pp 190-199. T. Darnaud & S. Escots, Éds. Lyon : Chronique Sociale

Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2020). Psychose, thérapie familiale et psychiatrie familiale. La situation aux États-Unis. *Dans Intervention auprès des familles. Réussir le défi de la coconstruction* pp 190-199. T. Darnaud & S. Escots, Éds. Lyon : Chronique Sociale

### **French language DVDs:**

Loyautés familiales mythes et réalité, un entretien avec Catherine Ducommun-Nagy (2011). Collection " Un entretien avec" Ed. CECOM/GESH. Canada

Se libérer de la honte et des loyautés aliénantes. Le rôle du psychothérapeute et de l'intervenant Réflexion avec Catherine Ducommun-Nagy, Serge Tisseron et Eric Trappeniers (2011). Ed. CECOM/GESH Canada

### **Spanish:**

Ducommun-Nagy, C. (1992). Aplicaciones de la terapia contextual al trabajo con adolescentes y sus padres. Dans R. Opazo (ed.), *Integracion and Psicoterapia* (pp. 250-250). Santiago de Chile: CECIDEP.

Ducommun, C. & Franco-Vicario, J. -M. (1988). La terapia de familia contextual. [traduction] *Informaciones psiquiatricas* No1, 62-167.

### **Flemish:**

Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2008) *Van onzichtbare naar bevrijdende loyaliteit* .[Translation]. Antwerpt : Acco.

### **Italian :**

Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2008). *Le lealtà que ci fanno esistere*. [Translation] Torino : Ed. Antigone.

### **Croatian:**

Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2010) *Lojalnosti koje oslobađaju* . [Translation]. Split: Verbum .

### **Hungarian:**

Ducommun-Nagy, C. (2014) *Loyalitás* [Translation]. Cluj: Exxit.