

## **SOCIAL WORK**

### **MASTER PROGRAM IN SOCIAL WORK**

**Degree:** Master

**Professional qualification:** Master in Social Work

**Duration of studies:** 1 academic year (two semesters)

**Mode of education:** part-time

**Admission requirements:** completed education and qualification degree of "Bachelor" or "Master" in a field 3.4. Social activities and 3.2. Psychology, with an average grade of the diploma for completed higher education not lower than “good”.

Professional field 3.4 Social activities in the area of higher education 3.4 Social, economic and legal sciences at the South-West University “Neofit Rilski” is accredited by the National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency on 16.07.2018 for a 6-year period on the grounds of an overall assessment of 9.26 (nine, point twenty-six).

The program expands the fundamental, broad-based and specialized training in social activities acquired in the bachelor's degree. Graduates will have a wide interdisciplinary training, combining knowledge, skills and competencies in the field of social activities in accordance with the latest trends in this field of social work following the latest trends in this field on a European and global scale.

The program provides for the integration of knowledge and skills and the application of relevant competencies in practice with individuals, families, groups, communities and organizations.

**Areas of professional realization:** In the process of their training and research, Masters of Social Work are prepared to work as:

- Managers.
- Administrative officers.
- Analytical specialists in social activities.
- Lecturers, academic researchers and scholars.
- At any structure within the social welfare system.
- At any system wherein a regulated position for performing social activities exist.

Successful graduates from the Master's Degree in Social Work can continue their studies in the country and abroad in other Master's degree programs and PhD programs.

## CURRICULUM

### MASTER PROGRAM SOCIAL WORK (2 SEMESTERS)

First Semester	ECTS credits	Second Semester	ECTSCredit
Differential Diagnosis in Social Work	4.0	Contemporary Social Legislation Methodology and Methods of Research in Social Work	2.0 4.0
Theoretical Basis of Social Work	4.0	Management Ethics	3.0
Communication and Communicative training	4.0	Ethnology and Folk Psychology	2.0
Social Intergration of Ethnocultural Communities	5.0	Elective Course from Second Group	2.0
Entrepreneurship in Social Activities	3.0	Elective Course from Second Group	15.0
Elective Course from First Group	3.0	Graduation: State Theoretical Exam or Diploma Thesis Defense	
Elective Course from First Group Practice	5.0		
	<b>Total: 30</b>		<b>Total: 30</b>
<b>Elective Courses from First Group</b>		<b>Elective Courses from Second Group</b>	
Social Integration of Criminals Religion and Sects	3.0	Information Aspects of Social Activities	2.0
Mediation in Conflict Resolution	3.0	Psychological Defenses and Nonverbal Communication	2.0
Health Promotion	3.0	Social Activities in Extreme Conditions	2.0
Reproductive Behavior and Demographic Policy	3.0	Public-private Partnership	2.0
Public Relations	3.0	Labor and Social Rehabilitation	2.0

**TOTAL CREDIT FOR THE PROGRAM:60**

# **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

## **DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS IN SOCIAL WORK**

**ECTScredits:** 4.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** I

**Total number of classes:** 15l+8s+0p

**Course type:** compulsory

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

**Lecturers:** Chief Assist. Prof. Yoanna Tzvetanova, PhD

**E-mail:** [ytzvetanova@swu.bg](mailto:ytzvetanova@swu.bg)

### **Annotation:**

The knowledge of differential diagnosis in social work is necessary for students because of the essential particularities of their interaction with patients / clients /, persons in social need, marginal groups, and individuals with deviant behavior. The course objective is to provide knowledge of differential diagnosis in social work.

### **Course content:**

Introduction to the specialty. Basic terms and concepts in differential diagnosis. Principles and methods of diagnosis in social work. Theories of social behavior. Social education and social development. Socio-pedagogical aspects of personality. Informal groups and problems of social education.

Etopedia - a branch of social pedagogy. Deviations from normal behavior. Personality traits of adolescents with deviant behavior. Social diagnosis of alcoholism. Social diagnosis of drug addiction. Social diagnosis of AIDS patients. Social diagnostics of persons with physical disabilities.

Social diagnosis of people with mental disabilities. Social diagnostics of Kids in risk. Social diagnosis of women subjected to sexual and physical violence. Social diagnostics of the unemployed. Social diagnostics of social needy people. Social diagnostics of refugees. Social diagnostics of persons imprisoned.

### **Technology of education and assessment**

The course is conducted in the traditionally approved way. In the training classes, examples from the Lecturer's social practice are used. The seminars are conducted in facilities provided for the purpose or using documents and materials. The final exam is in a written form, while considering the semestrial evaluations.

## **THEORETICAL BASIS OF SOCIAL WORK**

**ECTScredits:** 4.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** I

**Total number of classes:** 15l+8s+0p

**Course type:** compulsory

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

**Lecturers:** Assoc. Prof. Viktoriya Sotirova, PhD; Chief Assist. Prof. Maria Stoikova, PhD

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### **Annotation:**

“Theoretical Basis of Social Activity” is core discipline of the masters’ class educating on the problems of social activity. The course concentrates on knowledge, which uncovers the “paradigms”, basic concepts, and terms of social activity; as well as the methodological and

technological information and goals of this activity. It looks closely at the necessity of development of the issues, methodology, and technology of social activity, mainly social work and social administration – policy and management. The reasons for the formation of social problems and risks are analyzed; as well as the approaches, methods, and means for their resolution.

**Contents of the discipline:**

The lecture course on “Theoretical Basis of Social Activity” aims to give the students thorough information on the paradigms and problems, methodology, and technology of social activity, to highlight and explain its characteristic elements and on this basis to better describe the different elements and sub-systems of the social system for protection and support of individuals, families, and groups.

Emphasis will be put on the issues and methodology of the activity.

The contents of the lectures, its structure, the latest problems, the formulated problematical tasks, aim to create the highest number of possibilities to stimulate the independent academic work of students.

**Technology of education and assessment:**

In the lectures and seminars a complex, system-wide, approach is being used to analyze the general and particular of social activity, its components, objects, approaches, principles, methods, means, goals, functions, and tasks. In the students, a methodological and technological attitude towards the essence and contents of social work and administration will be built up.

In the course of study, the students get a current mark from presented theoretical works.

The course ends with a written examination – a test – that includes 12 questions from previously handed out summary. The criteria, by which the answers are being assessed, are punctuality, clarity, and precision in the representation of scientific information.

## **COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNICATIVE TRAINING**

**ECTS credits:** 4.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** I

**Total number of classes:** 15l+0s+8p

**Course type:** compulsory

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Logopedics

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Elka Goranova, Ph.D.

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**Annotation:**

The exact definition of the concept of communication is the goal of the whole course and gives the boundaries and its subject. The prerequisites that characterize communication as the social behavior of the person are considered.

The current curriculum aims to provide students with knowledge and skills for human communication (verbal and nonverbal) and to acquire basic communication skills related to their future profession as speech therapists.

The training in the discipline aims to help students master the processes through which participants in communication adapt and solve problems arising from social interaction, or defining roles, responsibilities, and norms, as well as resolving disagreements and conflicts. Students are expected to acquire and apply a set of communication skills needed in their immediate speech therapy work as a final learning outcome.

**Course content:**

The profession of a social worker and human communication; Development of communication, language, and speech; Social communication; Basic Communication Skills -

Effective listening and messaging, asking questions, reflecting, self-disclosing, building and maintaining trust, managing anger, resolving conflicts, negotiating, power and influencing.

**Teaching and assessment:**

Students' training includes lectures and practical exercises, which are mandatory in order to master the minimum knowledge. In the process of learning in some of the classes, students are divided into small groups and play situations in which they demonstrate basic types of communication skills. The main form of assessment of students' knowledge is the written exam. A test with open and closed questions and reporting of the current control is applied.

## **SOCIAL INTERGRATION OF ETHNOCULTURAL COMMUNITIES**

**ECTScredits:** 4.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** I

**Total number of classes:** 15l+8s+0p

**Course type:** compulsory

**Course coordinating department:**

Medico-social Sciences Department

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

**Lecturer:** Chief Assist. Prof. Maria Stoykova, PhD

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**Annotation:**

The main goal is to give students the knowledge and skills to critically analyze the current situation and the most controversial issues related to social integration of the larger ethnic minority groups in Bulgaria. Focus is on Roma and immigrant (refugees and asylum seekers) communities and how the policies and cultural specifics influence the level of integration and social inclusion. Students will be given a highly specialized training in reviewing, analyzing and summarizing Roma and immigrants related strategic documents with respect to their impact on the access to and quality of education, health, housing, employment, culture, antidiscrimination issues.

**Content:**

Theoretical framework: Culture, Ethnos and Identity; Theoretical framework: Prejudices, Stereotyping, Discrimination; Ethno-cultural situation in Bulgaria and challenges to the social integration: Traditional Ethnic Minority Communities; Ethno-cultural situation in Bulgaria and challenges to the social integration: Immigrant Communities; Social Inclusion of Ethnic Minority Communities: Social Inclusion and Social Work; SocialInclusionofEthnicMinorityCommunities: Inclusive Policies for Roma; Cultural Approaches to Social Work: Cultural Competence and Cultural Humility; Cultural Approaches to Social Work: Culturally Competent Practice

**Organization of instruction and assessment:**

The teaching course is conducted by using traditional and contemporary methods of teaching and learning: lecture, multimedia presentation, discussion, learning by doing, etc. Instructor's own research and practical experience is also used in the process of teaching. Emphasis in seminars is placed on critical analysis and evaluation of strategic documents and other written materials. The exam is in written.

## **ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**ECTScredits:** 5.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** I

**Total number of classes:** 22l+8s+0p

**Course type:** compulsory

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Economics

Faculty of Economics

**Lecturer:** Prof. Dr. Maria Kicheva

**E-mail:** [mkicheva@swu.bg](mailto:mkicheva@swu.bg)

**Annotation:**

The course provides systematic knowledge on the problems of entrepreneurship in social activities as a specific and highly specialized form of management. Accordingly, the basics of the theory of entrepreneurship, the economic aspects of entrepreneurship and the main specific problems of the application of the entrepreneurial approach in the social sphere are consistently covered. Special attention is paid to modern views on entrepreneurship, the study of processes and resources in entrepreneurial organizations and the peculiarities of social activities as an environment for entrepreneurship.

**Course content:**

Basic concepts; Essence; Personality, culture and entrepreneurship; Entrepreneurial risk and strategies; Types of entrepreneurship; Entrepreneurship in the social sphere; Social and moral responsibilities of entrepreneurship.

**Training and assessment technology:**

Student training includes lectures and seminars. The necessary minimum of knowledge is acquired by regular attendance of classes and through independent work of students on texts by the authors included in the program. Students prepare written works and oral presentations, ask questions and explore problems in the field of entrepreneurship in social activities. All assessments are based on written work.

## **CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL LEGISLATION**

**ECTScredits:** 2.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** II

**Total number of classes:** 15l+0s+0p

**Course type:** compulsory

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Economics

Faculty of Economics

**Lecturer:** Prof. Dr. Maria Kicheva

**E-mail:** [mkicheva@swu.bg](mailto:mkicheva@swu.bg)

**Annotation:**

The issues addressed by the course on "Contemporary Social Legislation" are related to the regulation of public relations arising and developing in the field of social policy, the basic laws and related regulations for their implementation, which regulate issues of social assistance and social protection. It examines the activities of modern social legislators - the UN, ILO, UNESCO and the European Union - their goals, objectives, bodies, regulations.

**Course content:**

Social legislation, nature and meaning. International social legislation and international institutions addressing the issue and setting modern standards for social work. Regulatory base. Organization and management of social work internationally. Organization and management of social work in the Republic of Bulgaria.

**Training and assessment technology:**

The lectures on the course are conducted in the established traditional way, as the students are acquainted with the taught material. As short introduction in the beginning of the lecture is mandatory, ensuring the necessary transition from one topic to another. In the process of

acquainting the students with the new topics, a conversation is held with them in order to achieve continuity between the individual lectures and for them to come to conclusions to introduce in the new material. Students are informed about the organization of the training, about the peculiarities of the planned current assessment and about the system for assessment of knowledge at the first lecture.

## **METHODOLOGY AND METHODS OF RESEARCH IN SOCIAL WORK**

**ECTScredits:** 4.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** II

**Total number of classes:** 15l+8s+0p

**Course type:** compulsory

**Course coordinating department:**

Medico-social Sciences Department

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

**Lecturer:** Prof. Vaska Stancheva-Popkostadinova, PhD

**E-mail:** [v\\_stancheva@swu.bg](mailto:v_stancheva@swu.bg)

### **Annotation:**

The main goal is to give students the knowledge and skills related to the methodological framework for constructing research in the field of social work; common qualitative and quantitative methods used in the sphere of social work research and evidence-based practice; common statistical methods for information processing; the structure of a research and preparation of a research paper, etc.

### **Content:**

Research and Social Work. Concepts about Research-Informed Teaching & Evidence - Based Practice in Social Work; How to Proceed with a Research? Problem Formulation, Research Elements, Research Instruments; Research Designs: Pilot Studies, Experimental Designs; Research Designs: Single-Case Evaluation Designs, Program Evaluation; Sampling and Survey Research Methods; Secondary, Content, Historical & Comparative Analyses; Qualitative Methods for Social WorkResearch: Principles and Data Analysis; Quantitative Data Analysis

### **Organization of instruction and assessment:**

The teaching course is implemented by using traditional and contemporary methods of teaching and learning: lecture, multimedia presentation, discussion on research articles, learning by doing, etc. Own research and practical experience of the trainer are also used in the process of teaching. Seminars aim at applying specific research methods and techniques in practical context in assisted or independent way. Assessment is in written.

## **MANAGEMENT ETHICS**

**ECTScredits:** 3.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** II

**Total number of classes:** 15l+0s+0p

**Course type:** compulsory

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Economics

Faculty of Economics

**Lecturer:** Prof. Mariya Kicheva, PhD

**E-mail:** [mkicheva@swu.bg](mailto:mkicheva@swu.bg)

The lecture course "Management Ethics" is present as a mandatory program in the curriculum of the Master's degree of Social Work. The lecture material traces the issues of general



concepts of morality and ethics, as well as the emergence of applied ethical knowledge and the need to comply with certain moral norms in the implementation of modern professional work. The subject of attention is the specifics of the social and health and managerial ethics, activity and the related traditional moral principles, the observance of which is a condition for the efficiency of the medical and managerial work. A special focus of the course is the ethics of business communication, characteristic of each professional activity, in its specific relations in the medical and managerial field.

**Course content:**

The concept of morality and ethics. Applied and professional ethics. Professional morality. Moral specifics of social and health activities. Professional and ethical code of the health worker. The Hippocratic oath - tradition and modernity. Elements of management theory. Management styles and moral requirements for the leader of the organization. Ethics of business communication. Ethics, etiquette and behavioral culture. Ethical principles and values as an element of organizational culture. Moral aspects of human resource management and conflict resolution.

**Training and assessment technology:**

The lecture course is conducted in the traditionally established way with the use of many schemes and sketches for illustration. Examples from the practice of the discipline lecturer are used in teaching.

The independent preparation en visages:

- case development and analysis;
- development of topics with theoretical and practical orientation / the lists with the topics are attached separately /.

The exam is written taking in to account the current assessment. It is conducted through a test or 8-10 questions, including basic concepts, mechanisms, schemes, descriptions, etc. The current assessment is carried out by evaluating independently developed theoretical topics, developing individual cases and participating in role-playing games.

## **ETHNOLOGY AND FOLK PSYCHOLOGY**

**ECTS credits:** 2.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** II

**Total number of classes:** 8l+7s+0p

**Course type:** compulsory

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Ethnology and Balkan Studies

Faculty of Philology

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Iliya Nedin, Ph.D.

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**Abstract:**

Ethnopsychology is an interdisciplinary field of knowledge in which ethnology / anthropology and psychology meet. Attempts to explain cultural phenomena and features of the mentality of various communities, including ethnic ones, have been made by well-known ethnologists / anthropologists since the very beginning of anthropology as an independent field of knowledge. The very first representatives in the spirit of evolutionary theory explain the similarities in the cultures of different societies through the common human psyche. Such is Edward Tyler. W. Rivers, one of the prominent British anthropologists, was a psychiatrist and neurologist. The functionalism of Bronislaw Malinowski, the founder of modern British anthropology, is often described as psychological. Despite the powerful influence of Freud's psychoanalysis on ethnoanthropological research, Malinowski was one of its first critics. American cultural anthropology initially relied on psychological aspects in the study of different cultures and so in its tradition the school "Culture and Personality" was formed, and later psychological anthropology developed as an independent discipline in the system of



anthropological knowledge. The German tradition has a strong influence on the formation of ethnopsychology, including in Bulgaria, and here is the leading name of Wilhelm Wundt. His lectures were attended by leading scholars in our country such as Iv. Shishmanov, M. Arnaudov, St. Bobchev et al.

**Course content:**

In the course of teaching names such as: ethnology, cultural and social anthropology, cultural psychology, cross-cultural psychology, folk psychology, ethnopsychology are clarified. The historical development of ethnopsychology as an independent interdisciplinary field is outlined. Topics such as: psychological aspects in the study of ethnicity are discussed; theories of ethnicity; ethnic community, ethnicity, ethnic identity, ethnocentrism, ethnic stereotypes, ethnocultural ideas, cultural adaptation, acculturation, enculturation and socialization of the individual, assimilation; ethnopsychological aspects of the conflict, discrimination, marginalization, ethnocide; ethnopsychology and national identity: patriotism and nationalism, national character; attempts to outline features of the Bulgarian national character.

**Training and assessment technology:**

The lecture course is conducted in the traditionally established way. The teaching uses examples from the long-term field research practice of the holder of the discipline.

The independent preparation envisages the development of topics with theoretical and practical orientation.

The exam is written taking into account the current grades during the semester.

## **SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF CRIMINALS**

**ECTS credits:** 3.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** I

**Total number of classes:** 8l+7s+0p

**Course type:** elective

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Stoil Mavrodiev, PhD

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**Annotation:**

The training in the discipline: "Social integration of criminals" includes acquaintance of the students with the various aspects of the re-socialization of prisoners, covering various structural components and interrelated conditions, as well as problem areas in the process of social adaptation and integration. Special attention is paid to the factors that have a negative impact on the process of re-socialization of prisoners and to the factors and processes that determine the readiness of prisoners for successful adaptation and integration into society.

**Course content:**

Resocialization of prisoners - nature, goals, prerequisites, factors. Psychological and pedagogical aspects of resocialization. Resocialization approaches and methods for social inclusion. Socio-psychological difficulties in the integration into society of criminals.

**Teaching and assessment:**

The lecture course is conducted in the traditionally established way with the use of various audio-visual aids, multimedia presentations, videos, role-playing games, case studies and video materials. The exam includes the development and defense of essays on the topics of the discipline. The final grade is based on the current exam and final exam grade.

## RELIGION AND SECTS

**ECTScredits:** 3.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** I

**Total number of classes:** 8l+7s+0p

**Course type:** elective

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Philosophical and Political Sciences

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Antoaneta Nikolova, PhD

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### **Annotation:**

The main purpose of the course "Religion and Sects" is to build in the students' thinking a comprehensive idea of the origin and essence of religion, mythology and various beliefs, as well as of the religious teachings of different cultures from ancient times to the present day.

The course aims at helping students to acquire knowledge that will allow them to interpret the facts of our modern life in terms of understanding of the rational, historical, dogmatic and moral dimensions of religion.

The development of these knowledge and understandings should result in a formation of a balanced person with a national dignity and awareness of universal values and contemporary challenges.

**Course content:** Origin of religion. The essence of religion. Essence of mythology. Religious teachings in Bulgaria. Religious teachings in other countries.

### **Teaching and assessment technology:**

The lecture course is conducted in the traditionally established way with the use of many illustrative materials.

Independent training includes:

- preparation for seminars on each topic / plan-summaries; methods, etc./; development and analysis of case studies;
- development of a thesis on a chosen topics with a theoretical and practical focus /lists of topics are attached separately/.

The exam is written and takes into account the scores acquired during the semester.

## MEDIATION IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION

**ECTS credits:** 3.0

**Evaluation:** formative assessment and written exam

**Semester:** I

**Hours weekly:** 8l+7s+0lab+0p

**Statute of the discipline:** compulsory

**Methodical guidance:**

Department of Psychology

Faculty of Philosophy

**Lecturers:** Assoc. Prof. Natasha Angelova, PhD

**E-mail:** [natasha\\_v@swu.bg](mailto:natasha_v@swu.bg)

### **Annotation:**

The program of the course "Mediation in conflict resolution" is designed for students in Master's degree in Social Mediation in the professional field of Social Work. Knowledge and skills for conducting mediation in conflict situations and resolving conflicts in a constructive manner are essential for the social worker in any context – in working with individuals, families, groups and communities.

**Content:**

Definition of a conflict. Elements of the conflict. Types of conflicts. Dynamics of the conflict. Types of conflict solutions. Steps for constructive conflict resolution. Mediation in overcoming conflicts in the family. Mediation in overcoming ethnic and social conflicts. Mediation in resolving labor conflicts. Competence of the social worker in resolving conflicts.

**Organization of instruction and assessment:**

The teaching course is conducted by using traditional and contemporary methods of teaching and learning: lecture, multimedia presentation, discussion, learning by doing, etc. Instructor's own research and practical experience is also used in the process of teaching. The seminars are aimed at implementing particular methods and techniques in a practical context alone or with the support of the instructor. The exam is in written.

## **HEALTH PROMOTION**

**ECTScredits:** 3.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** I

**Total number of classes:** 8l+7s+0p

**Course type:** elective

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

**Lecturer:** Prof. Vaska Stancheva-Popkostadinova, PhD

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**Annotation:**

The lecture course presents the promotion of health as a modern philosophy of public health. Emphasis is placed on the opportunities for developing a healthy lifestyle of the individual and society as a whole, stimulating adequate health motivation and attitudes, health habits and healthy lifestyle in the process of achieving improved health status of the population.

The aim of the training is to acquaint students with the nature, goals, and basic principles of health promotion and to form skills for analysis and assessment of the health status of individual groups, the health needs of the population, the social factors of health, the approaches to solving specific medical and social problems in the context of stimulating people's personal responsibility for their health.

**Content of the course:**

The course provides information on ideas and decisions for health promotion adopted in cooperation with the World Health Organization. The strategy, activities, and commitments of state and public structures, as well as personal and group rights and responsibilities for health, are presented. The course includes components of health, conceptual review of health promotion; health promotion strategies and activities; health education and upbringing; primary health care as the basis of the new public health; the individual and the social group as resources of health; of the WHO in health promotion; international and national strategies and programs for health promotion.

**Course organization and assessment:**

The lecture course is conducted by using traditional and contemporary methods implying different audio-visual aids, videos, and if it is available, with a demonstration of cases. During the classes are used examples from the practice of the lecturer. The seminars are held in the form of semi-structured discussions with the modeling role of the teacher and include discussion of case studies, video analysis and discussions of research results. The on-going assessment is carried out by assessing students' individual work/papers on pre-set topics from the lecture course. The exam is written taking into account the current grades during the semester.

## REPRODUCTIVE BEHAVIOR AND DEMOGRAPHIC POLICY

**ECTScredits:** 3.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** I

**Total number of classes:** 8l+7s+0p

**Course type:** elective

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Health Care

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Petya Andreeva, Ph.D.

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### **Annotation:**

The course in "Reproductive Behavior and Demographic Policy" is both general and basic for the training of students in the master's program in "Social Work". The course "Reproductive Behavior and Demographic Policy" is a necessary part of the preparation of students in this specialty, because it provides knowledge about the nature of demographic processes, the factors that determine them and trends in demographic development in Bulgaria.

### **Course content:**

The aim of the training in the section on reproductive behavior is to inform students with the problems of sexual and reproductive health in different age groups, as well as for people with disabilities. In the sector of demographic policy - to inform students with the main demographic indicators used in the analysis of demographic processes; with the causes and manifestations of the demographic collapse in the country, the socio-economic and other factors influencing the demographic indicators; to provoke the search for and implementation of strategies and models for dealing with the demographic collapse in the country.

### **Training and assessment technology:**

The lecture course is conducted in the traditionally established way with the use of various audio-visual means, video materials. The seminars are conducted mainly through the use of diagrams, videos, discussions, case studies, study of literature on a predetermined topic. The exam is written taking into account the current grades during the semester. It is conducted through a test or 8-10 questions, including basic concepts, mechanisms, schemes, descriptions, etc. The current control is carried out by evaluating independently developed theoretical topics, developing individual cases.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

**ECTScredits:** 3.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** I

**Total number of classes:** 8l+7s+0p

**Course type:** elective

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Public Relations

Faculty of Law and History

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Dimitrina Stefanova, Ph.D.

**E-mail:** [dimi@swu.bg](mailto:dimi@swu.bg)

### **Annotation**

**The main objective** of this course is introducing the nature and the characteristic features of the professional PR communication as well as giving systematic knowledge about the theory and practice of the communication connections within an institutional and organization structure. Another objective is to introduce to the students the theoretical social communication concepts and the practical rules for applying them in the sphere of PR. The

third aim is to introduce the students the possibilities for enlarging and specialising and going deeper into the theory of the modern society communication forms.

### **Syllabus contents**

Origin and nature of Public Relations. Principles. Structure of the PR professional activity. Organization of the PR activity. PR practice, PR staff and departments. PR schedule. The systematic analysis as PR organization principle. PR models. The organizations and PR – the communication in the organization; the organization structure and PR; The communication between the small groups. Mass communication and PR; Marketing and PR. The PR activity. PR campaigns.

### **Education methods and assessment**

Examples, including visualization, illustrate the lectures. The students prepare in advance for participation in the lectures. A term project is prepared by the students as a home assignment. There is a term test. The final exam during the regular session is written. The final mark is a proportion between the results of the term test, the projects and the final exam.

## **INFORMATION ASPECTS OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**ECTScredits:** 2.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** II

**Total number of classes:** 8l+7s+0p

**Course type:** elective

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

**Lecturer:** Chief. Assis. Prof. Yoanna Tzvetanova

**E-mail:** [ytzvetanova@swu.bg](mailto:ytzvetanova@swu.bg)

### **Abstract:**

Information and communication technologies are an integral part of the functional literacy of modern social workers. The emphasis in the discipline is placed on the acquisition of knowledge related to modern methodological solutions and practices in social work, in which the forms and methods of assistance are based on modern information and communication technologies. This will help build students' self-confidence to know the applicability of technology in the field of social work.

### **Course content:**

The course covers achievements in the field of information technology and their application in social work, which are diverse and claim a new conceptual approach to the issue. Examples are: e-therapy, providing services to individual clients through the use of online consulting, video conferencing, self-managed web-based interventions, electronic social networks, mobile applications, artificial intelligence and how these tools can be used effectively and ethically, as the use of ICT in social work is associated with unprecedented ethical dilemmas.

### **Teaching and assessment:**

The lecture course lays the theoretical foundations of the discipline. The seminars illustrate in practical terms the studied issues. During the semester exam are carried out, abstracts and projects are developed. The exam includes the development and defense of essays on the topics of the discipline. The final grade is based on the current exam and final exam grade.

## **PSYCHOLOGICAL DEFENSES AND NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION**

**ECTScredits:** 2.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** II

**Total number of classes:** 8l+7s+0p

**Course type:** elective

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

**Lecturer:** Prof. Vaska Stancheva-Popkostadinova, PhD

**E-mail:** [v\\_stancheva@swu.bg](mailto:v_stancheva@swu.bg)

**Annotation:**

The subject of this course are the different types of psychological defenses and non-verbal communication in the context of social work. The content is divided into two relatively separate parts: psychological defenses and non-verbal communication. The main goal of the course is to build an understanding of defense mechanisms; the process of communication and barriers to its effectiveness on a verbal and nonverbal level. The thematic material is directly related to the practical social work, in accordance with its specifics.

**Course content:**

Defense mechanisms-classification and characteristics. Anxiety and protective role of defense mechanisms in social work. Theory of communication. Nonverbal communication-elements and characteristics. Axioms of communication. Barriers for effective nonverbal communication. Approaches for evaluation of NVC.

**Organization of instruction and assessment:**

The lecture course is conducted with the help of audiovisual equipment, as well as interactive methods, presentations and discussions of cases, and video analysis of cases.

The final exam is written. The final grade takes into account the results of the on-going assessment and the grade from the final exam.

## **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES IN EXTREME CONDITIONS**

**ECTScredits:** 2.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** II

**Total number of classes:** 8l+7s+0p

**Course type:** elective

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

**Lecturer:** Assoc. Prof. Rosen Kalpachki, PhD

**E-mail:** [rosen\\_kalpachki@swu.bg](mailto:rosen_kalpachki@swu.bg)

**Annotation:**

Natural disasters such as earthquakes, fires, floods, and others are extremely dangerous for people, as they occur suddenly, develop rapidly, affect vast areas, and usually impact large populations. When such disasters occur, normal life is abruptly disrupted, buildings and infrastructure are destroyed, and injuries or even fatalities may result. In addition to these natural catastrophic phenomena, severe accidents can also occur in energy or other industrial enterprises, leading to similar consequences. When an accident involves a nuclear reactor, the result is contamination of the environment with radioactive substances, and people may be exposed to doses of radiation several times higher than the maximum permissible levels. Since radiation is the most powerful mutagenic and carcinogenic factor for humans, severe nuclear reactor accidents have unpredictable consequences for both people and the environment.

We live in a rapidly changing world where uncertainty and the threat of conflict between different human populations, as well as the risk of terrorist attacks, increase daily. The terrorist acts in the United States, Spain, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Turkey, and even in our own country have proven that any nation in the world can become a



target of such a disaster. In such cases, especially high risks for human life arise in places where large numbers of people are concentrated. All of this makes the study of extreme conditions, including their implications in the field of social work, particularly relevant and necessary.

The objectives of the course are for students to acquire knowledge of how extreme conditions affect people both in everyday life and psychologically; the reactions of individuals and society in such situations; manifestations of post-traumatic stress; and the role of the social work professional in its mitigation. Furthermore, students will be introduced to the main characteristics and principles of appropriate actions during earthquakes, fires, floods, hurricanes, and similar events; the main methods and means of organizing and conducting rescue operations in disaster-stricken areas; and the approaches and tools for providing first aid to affected populations.

#### **Contents of the course:**

The main types and characteristics of natural disasters. Extreme situations and their influence on the behavior of people. Posttraumatic stress disorders. Social and psychological aspects of terrorism. Main principles of action in earthquakes. Types of lifesaving actions, which are used on injured people in earthquakes. Defense methods in occurrence of floods from down pouring rains and tidal waves. Types of lifesaving actions and first aid in floods. Principles for action in occurrence of fires in residents and public buildings. The role of the social consultant.

#### **Training and assessment technology:**

The main teaching methods used in the course are lectures and discussion-based exercises. During these sessions, the course content is illustrated through computer-based configurations with carefully selected modern visual aids. In addition, practical demonstrations are conducted using technical equipment for:

- providing first aid,
- rescuing people from collapsed and burning buildings,
- methods and means of fire extinguishing.

The central focus of the course is on the participation of the social work specialist as a member of a multidisciplinary team in a simulated rescue operation or emergency situation. Lectures – The topics are presented according to their specific nature, with the use of multimedia and computer-based configurations in all sessions. Seminar exercises – The topics outlined in the course plan are examined, aligned with the stated aims and objectives of the course, and their application in practical contexts.

The primary form of knowledge and skills evaluation is a written examination/test. Students are assessed using the six-point grading system.

Evaluation procedures include: Ongoing assessment – conducted during attendance at lectures and seminar exercises. Final exam – a written examination, which may include a test, theoretical questions, and practical tasks.

## **PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP**

**ECTScredits:** 2.0

**Assessment:** written exam

**Semester:** II

**Hours weekly:** 8l+7s+0p

**Statute of the discipline:** elective

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Economics

Faculty of Economics

**Lecturer:** Prof. Mariya Kicheva, PhD

**E-mail:** [mkicheva@swu.bg](mailto:mkicheva@swu.bg)

#### **Annotation:**

The course provides students with knowledge and skills on the main issues of the implementation of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in the field of technical and social



infrastructure development at regional and/or local (including urban) level. The study of PPPs is useful and necessary in view of the dynamics of socio-economic development. Students gain knowledge of the various processes associated with exploring partnership opportunities, planning, financing, organising, monitoring, developing, constructing, operating, maintaining and/or managing infrastructure systems and facilities, and delivering related public assets.

**Course content:**

Overview of the public-private partnership model. Risks and risk management in public-private partnership. Theoretical and applied aspects of public-private partnership in technical infrastructure investment projects. Specifics of the PPPs implementation process. Initiation phase of public-private projects. Evaluation phase of public-private projects. Negotiation phase of public-private projects. Implementation phase of public-private projects.

**Teaching and assessment:**

The course is organized through lectures. At the beginning of each lecture, a short introduction is given, providing the transition from one topic to another. The lectures are supported with necessary diagrams to achieve the training objectives.

Following the assignments given by the lecturer, extra-curricular activities consist of visits to the library, browsing and organising information on the Internet; writing research papers, preparation for tests.

The course ends with a final exam at the end of the current semester. Students' practical and independent work, evaluated by means of ongoing control, is highly valued in the training. Ongoing control is carried out through: discussions, expressing own reasoned opinions concerning the topic discussed during the seminars; presentation and defense of the theses set in written assignments; mid-term tests, and skills for motivated defense of own ideas.

## **LABOR AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION**

**ECTScredits:** 2.0

**Assessment type:** written exam

**Semester:** II

**Total number of classes:** 8l+7s+0p

**Course type:** elective

**Course coordinating department:**

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

**Lecturer:** Chief Assist. Prof. Maria Stoikova, PhD

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**Annotation:**

The lecture course is conducted in the traditionally established way and is based on the theoretical paradigm of the universal significance of labor and social rehabilitation to improve the quality of life of social sites and people with disabilities. The knowledge in the field of "Labor and social rehabilitation" is necessary for students due to the essential features of their future work with patients / clients /, elderly people with social problems, with impaired anatomical and physiological functions, as well as with accompanying other somatic disorders. The course aims to provide fundamental training in a basic direction - labor and social rehabilitation. The content of the lecture course, its structure, the various current problems, the formulated problem tasks aim to create maximum opportunities to activate the self-student work.

**Course content:**

Introduction to the course "Labor and social rehabilitation". Definition of labor and social rehabilitation. Nature and definitions for labor and social rehabilitation. Research on the disability as an object of rehabilitation. Basic directions of research. Systems for assessment of lost working capacity. Rehabilitation and employment. Diseases and disabilities. Terms and concepts in the field of labor and social rehabilitation. International organizations and their

role in the development of labor and social rehabilitation. Bodies and organizations in Bulgaria conducting rehabilitation. Labor and social legislation governing the issues of Rehabilitation Professional qualification and retraining of people with disabilities. Evaluation of the effectiveness of rehabilitation measures.

**Training and assessment technology:**

The lecture course is conducted in the traditionally established way and is based on the theoretical paradigm of the universal significance of labor and social rehabilitation to improve the quality of life of social sites and persons with disabilities. The teaching strategy is built on the classic teaching traditions. The exam is written. It includes 12 questions / definitions, norms, rules, processes, etc. / . The final grade takes into account the results of the current control and the grade from the exam.