

SOCIAL WORK

MASTER PROGRAM IN SOCIAL WORK WITH SOCIALLY SIGNIFICANT DISEASES

Degree: Master

Professional qualification: Master in Social Work with Socially Significant Diseases

Duration of studies: 2 academic years (four semesters)

Mode of education: part-time

Admission requirements: completed educational and qualification degree of "Bachelor" or "Master" in a field, different from 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 training begins with a specialized module in which students receive broad-based and interdisciplinary training in social activities. 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. 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 on a European and global scale.

The main purpose of this type of social activity is to support individuals, families and groups suffering or related to those suffering from socially significant diseases. The variety of this type of supportive work requires theoretical knowledge and practical skills for immediate social protection and prevention of patients and their relatives.

Areas of professional realization: In the process of their training and research, the Masters of Social work with Socially Significant Diseases are prepared to work as a:

- Managers.
- Administrative officers.
- Analytical specialists in social activities.
- Lecturers, academic researchers and scholars.
- At any structure within the social welfare system, providing benefits and services.
- At any system where in a regulated position requiring the implementation of social activities.

Successful graduates from the Master's Degree in Social work with Socially Significant Diseases can continue their studies in the country and abroad in other Master's degree programs and PhD programs.

1. In order to obtain a Master's Degree in Social Work with Socially Significant Diseases, graduates must demonstrate the following knowledge:

1.1. A wide range of specialized knowledge regarding the causes, distribution, prevention and rehabilitation of socially significant diseases.

- 1.2. Knowledge for effective and innovative individual and community approaches to working with people with socially significant diseases, their relatives and the community as a whole.
- 1.3. Legislation and regulations, and the importance of intersectoral partnership in the practice of socially significant diseases.
- 1.4. Critical awareness of the relationship and interaction between health and social aspects of socially significant diseases.
- 1.5. The role and application of modern information and communication technologies in the planning, implementation, monitoring and management of social activities.
- 1.6. The importance of critical thinking and self-reflection in determining the plans for personal educational and qualification improvement.

2. Graduates of the Master's Degree in Social Work with Socially Significant Diseases should have skills for:

- 2.1. Using a wide range of modern methods and approaches that have proven effective in working with individuals, families, groups and communities.
- 2.2. Analysis, formulation and advocacy in the field of legislation in the field of protection and support of persons with socially significant diseases and their relatives.
- 2.3. Analysis and account for the impact of inequality, discrimination and social exclusion, as well as the interaction between health and social factors in the prevention and rehabilitation of socially significant diseases.
- 2.4. Solving specific medico-social problems.
- 2.5. Organizing and leading social health projects, management and leadership in conducting medico-social research.
- 2.6. Use of information and communication technologies and techniques for professional communication, data storage and processing, information retrieval, conducting research, analysis and interpretation of data in a statistical context, resource management.
- 2.7. Critical awareness of one's own conduct and practice, and taking responsibility for further and continuous acquisition of knowledge and skills.
- 2.8. Teamwork skills and organizational skills.
- 2.9. Adherence to ethical and professional standards.

3. Upon successful completion of the Master's Degree Social Work with Socially Significant Diseases, qualified specialists must demonstrate competencies to perform the following:

- 3.1. Application of theoretically-based individual and community approaches and methods of work in social practice, critical evaluation and analysis of the evidence for effective practice.
- 3.2. Proactivity in the development of legislation, policies and practices in the field of social activities in socially significant diseases.
- 3.3. Identification, critical thinking, developing and implementing effective strategies, programs and projects to support people with socially significant diseases and their relatives.
- 3.4. Management and control over one's own work in the context of the policies and changing requirements of the organization and the environment.
- 3.5. Oral, written and electronic format of communication with individuals, families and groups.

CURRICULUM

First year			
First semester	ECTS credits	Second semester	ECTS кредити
General and Social Psychology	6	Social Policy	5
Demographics and Statistics	4	Methods of Social Work	7
Basics of Social Work	7	General Sociology and Sociology of Labour	5
Basics of Law	3	Labor and Social Security	3
Social Medicine	3	Law	
Organization and Management of Social Activities	7	ICT in Social Activities	3
		Technology of Social Work with Children, Adults and People with Disabilities	7
	Total 30		Total 30
Second year			
Third semester	ECTS credits	Fourth semester	ECTS credits
Theoretical Basis of Social Activities	4	Social Work in Socially Significant Diseases	4
Differential Diagnosis in Social Work	4	Team Work. Supervision in Social Work Practice	2
Social Support for Groups	4	Addictions	3
Methodology and Methods of Research in Social Work	4	Organization of Interaction Between Health and Social Care Systems	2
Ethics in Social Health Activities and Management	3	Elective Course from 2 nd Group	2
Ethics	3	Elective Course from 2 nd Group	15
Elective Course from 1 st Group	3	Group Graduation: State Theoretical exam or Diploma Thesis Defense	
Elective Course from 1 st Group Practice	5		
	Total:30		Total: 30
Elective Courses			
First Group		Second Group	
Communication and Communicative Training	3	Information Aspects of Social Activities	2
Mediation in Conflict Resolution	3	Psychological Defenses and Nonverbal Communication	2
Health Promotion	3	Social Activities in Extreme Conditions	2
Reproductive Behavior and Demographic Policy	3	Public-private Partnership	2
Public Relations	3	Labor and Social Rehabilitation	2

TOTAL CREDIT: 120

COURSE DESCRIPTION

GENERAL AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

ECTS credits: 6.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: I

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

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Psychology

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Natasha Angelova, PhD

E-mail: natasha_v@swu.bg

Annotation:

The subject "General and Social Psychology" is studied in the first semester as a compulsory subject in the curricula of master in Social Work with Social Significant Diseases.

Objectives of the course "General and Social Psychology": to clarify General and Social Psychology's basic concepts and theories. In this discipline, students study the modern socio-psychological approaches to personality. Students are introduced to various theories about the nature and characteristics of small groups, the characteristics of the masses' behavior, and the crowd. Conflict typology and strategies of behavior in a conflict situation are studied. In the course "General and Social Psychology" are also presented the cognitive processes through which people contact with the flow of information around them. In this discipline, students are introduced to the structure of the psyche, the types of cognitive processes, and some diagnostic methods for examining cognitive deficits.

Course content:

The course in General and Social Psychology includes the following modules: 1) the process of socialization, socio-psychological theories of personality; 2) social groups, leadership, and social influence; 3) communication, aggression, conflicts, and prosocial behavior; 4) psychological study of cognitive processes and personality.

Training and assessment:

The lecture course is conducted using modern technical means such as multimedia and computer programs. The seminars are conducted through interactive methods. The active independent work on the students' part is expressed in the preparation and presentation of research papers, tests; essays; and case studies.

The evaluation of the students' results is carried out according to the system for transfer and accumulation of credits. The final grade is formed at the end of the course based on the grade received in response to a topic studied in the lecture course, and the grade from the student's extracurricular work.

Grading scale: a six-point grading scale is used, where a grade of excellent 6 is equal to grade A in the European grading system; grade very good 5 is equal to grade B in the European grading system; a score of good 4 is equal to a grade of C in the European grading system; a grade point average of 3 is equal to grade D in the European grading system; a score of weak 2 is equal to a grade of E in the European grading system.

DEMOGRAPHICS AND STATISTICS

ECTS credits: 4.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: I

Total number of classes: 10l+5s+0p

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Informatics

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Elena Karashtranova, PhD

E-mail: helen@swu.bg

Course outline:

The course in *Demographics and Statistics* involves the elements of descriptive statistics, the methods for testing hypotheses, the study of dependencies and the analysis of time series and their application in the study of socio-economic processes. The course lasts one semester and is based on the knowledge of statistics and IT /MS-Excel/ acquired during secondary school education and the BA program. The proposed educational content has a bearing on all courses requiring analysis of empirical data sets. The course aims at raising students' awareness of the nature and the various applications of statistical methods as well as of the possibility of implementing some of these procedures by means of Information Technology tools (MS-Excel, VBA, SPSS, etc) in the study and analysis of demographic processes. The structure and content of the course takes into account the students' knowledge of informatics and statistics, obtained from the relevant courses. The topics in the program have a bearing on all courses that require analysis of empirical data.

Course content:

Upon completing the course students have to be able to:

- use and apply the methods of demographic statistics;
- implement specific applications using various technological means.

Course organization and assessment:

Both traditional and modern interactive teaching methods are applied, including seminars, discussions, exercises, and simulations. Students' independent work takes place both in-class and outside the classroom, with the preparation of a course paper as a key component.

The final grade reflects the results of continuous assessment and the final examination in a ratio of 60:40. It is determined according to the six-point grading scale and rounded to the nearest whole number, in line with the ECTS grading scale. The minimum passing grade for successful completion of the course is "Satisfactory (3)," corresponding to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

BASICS OF SOCIAL WORK

ECTS credits: 7.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: I

Total number of classes: 15l+0s+7p

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 Stoykova, PhD

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Annotation:

The course “Basics of Social Work” is introductory and fundamental for the study of problems in social activity, social work, and social policy. In it the basic concepts, approaches, and methods of social work, protection, and support are being examined; as well as explaining connections between them and social administration, policy, and management.

The course looks closely in the evolution of social work, theoretical schools and directions, the problems, and the prospects for its development. It is accented on the issues, methodology, and methods of social work, its objects and subjects; as well as social problems and approaches, the methods and means to overcome them. The types of protection and support while working with individuals, families, and groups are examined.

Contents of the course: The discipline’s purpose is to teach the students a system of basic knowledge and skills for social activity in its two main areas: social work – protection and support – and social administration.

During the lectures, the students will gain the initial information for the areas, regulatory framework, organization, and administration of social work in the country; its characteristic elements will be highlighted and justified; on this basis, the different parts and subsystems of the social system for protection of people and families will be further described.

With the practical classes, it aims to familiarize the students with the general and particular characteristics of social work mainly – social protection and support, realized practically.

Technology of education and assessment:

During the lectures a complex, system-wide, approach will be used to analyze the general and particular of social work, of its positive and negative characteristics. Critical attitude towards the planning and implementation of social work will be build up in the students.

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

The course end 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.

BASICS OF LAW

ECTS credits: 3.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: I

Total number of classes: 10l+0s+0p

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Public Law and Public Management

Faculty of Law and History

Lecturers: Assoc. Prof. Manol Stanin, PhD; Chief Assist. Prof. Vesela Mircheva, PhD

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Annotation:

The discipline “Basics of Law” gives the fundamental legal concepts of the different branches of law in the Bulgarian legal system. The course explains the historical genesis of the law as a regulatory system of the public relations. The students study the basic principles for organization and functioning of the political institutions. In this regard, the students are provided a detailed review of the formation of the government authorities and their interactions. It emphasizes on the basic legal concepts of the public and private law.

Contents of the course: The course covers the emergence and development of law, the legal system of the Republic of Bulgaria, and the main subjects of law. It examines legal norms, legal acts, subjective rights and legal obligations, as well as legal facts, presumptions, fictions, and legal relations. Special attention is given to legal violations and legal liability, the system of state authorities—including the National Assembly, the President, the Council of Ministers, the Constitutional Court, and the judiciary—as well as administrative acts, administrative offenses, and administrative-penal liability. The course further addresses legal transactions, representation, and the right of ownership.

Course organization and assessment:

Teaching is conducted through lectures. They include discussions and debates on current issues, both theoretically and practically, research and discussion of the Bulgarian legislation, solving of cases, preparation of reports and writing of term papers. The requirements for the semester are regular attendance of the classes, implementation of the assigned tasks and participation in the teamwork. The knowledge of the students is assessed by regular tests, as the assessment of the results achieved during the course of study is in accordance with Regulation No. 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science from 30.09.2004 on the application of the system for accumulation and transfer of credits.

SOCIAL MEDICINE

ECTS credits: 3.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: I

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

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Logopedics

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Ekaterina Mitova MD, PhD

E-mail: ekaterina@swu.bg

Annotation:

In the course in *Social Medicine* the new guidelines and trends for the preparation of different specialties in the disciplines of public health and healthcare are stated as well as to other professionals, which by increasing their knowledge and skills in the field of public health can contribute to reducing preventable diseases and disabilities. The attention of master students majoring in the “Social studies” will be directed primarily at clarifying the subject and the methodology of the social medicine, its integrative character, complex research policy, social health factors, contemporary concepts of individual and public health, especially risk factors of health.

Course content:

The aim of the course is to focus the students' attention to group and public healthcare, to highlight the significance of social problems of medicine and healthcare, to investigate place and role of medico-social and social activities in health promotion and wider personal and social prevention.

The tasks of the course are:

- to propose a methodology for studying the indicators of public health and the health needs of the population, social determinants of health and disease;
- to investigate health status of the population, demographic processes and risk factors of health;
- to contribute to the establishment of a healthy lifestyle;
- to highlight medical and social problems of the active population.

Course organization and assessment: The lecture course applies a comprehensive, systemic approach, analyzing both the general and specific aspects of public healthcare, along with its positive and negative characteristics. Students are encouraged to develop a critical perspective toward the development and implementation of social medicine as a scientific discipline. The lectures combine traditionally established methods with modern innovative approaches, making use of numerous diagrams and illustrations, as well as discussions and analyses. Mini-lectures, debates, student discussions, business simulations, and other interactive methods are also widely employed. Independent study is strongly encouraged through the exploration of literature sources and the formulation of students' own arguments on selected issues, fostering research skills, assertiveness, and positive self-assessment. Continuous assessment is based on theoretical papers presented by students during the semester. The final examination is written in the form of a test covering lecture material. It consists of open- and closed-ended questions with different weights, specified in advance. The evaluation criteria for the responses include accuracy, clarity, and precision in the presentation of scientific information.

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

ECTS credits: 7.0

Assessment type: final written exam

Semester: I

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

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Yoanna Tzvetanova, PhD

E-mail: ytzetanova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course aims to provide fundamental training regarding the management and organization of social activities. The course aims at introducing students to the regulations that are basis for conducting modern social work. The course content, its structure, and discussed issues, are designed in a way to stimulate students' independent research.

Course content:

Nature of management. Principles, methods and functions of management. Management, organizational structure and functions of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy. Agency for

Social Assistance. Employment Agency. Nature of social security. Social assistance in Bulgaria. Basic normative documents for work in the social assistance system. Social Assistance Act. Regulations for implementation of the Social Assistance Act. Family Benefits for Children Act. Regulations for the implementation of the Family Benefits for Children Act. Child Protection Act and regulations for its implementation. Specifics of the profession social worker. Definitions and requirements for the profession of social worker. National Health Insurance Fund. Construction and development of the structures of the National Health Insurance Fund and the Regional Health Insurance Funds. Forms of health insurance. Social work in prisons.

Course organization and assessment:

The course is conducted in traditionally approved way by using different audio-visual aids, videos. The practical exercises are held in social welfare services. The exam is written taking into account the ongoing evaluations during the semester.

SOCIAL POLICY

ECTS credits: 5.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: II

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

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Philosophical and Political Science

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. D.Sc. Petya Pachkova, PhD

E-mail: pachkova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course in *Social Policy* examines the combination of social activities regulating social relations in order to monitor equality and inequality in society. Different communities and institutions - the state, political parties, NGOs, businesses, individual citizens, international institutions and organizations are subject to this regulation. As an object of regulation are considered different aspects of an individual's life - his work, health, education, family development, etc.

Students are supposed to have thorough knowledge of theory and practice in Bulgaria and abroad concerning the implementation of various social policies.

Course content:

Social policy - practice and science. Functions and object of social policy. Demographic processes and social policy. Social Security - a social policy objective. Right to social security. Social risks. General and professional social risks. Pensions. Social assistance. Policy towards people with disabilities. Social and political aspects of labor. Right to work. Labor discrimination and social policies. Trends in social equality.

Social policy in respect of Employment. Working hours. Unemployment and social policy. The right to safe and healthy working environment. Social policy on income and poverty. Family social policy. Child Protection. Health care social policy. Social policy and education. Corporate social policy. The Social policy of the European Union.

Course organization and assessment:

The course is conducted using multiple diagrams, sketches, videos, case studies, role playing games, etc. The teaching methods are lectures, discussions, role games, multimedia, and papers. The exam is written considering the ongoing evaluations during the semester. The test consists of 8-10 questions, including basic concepts, mechanisms, diagrams, descriptions, etc. The ongoing assessment is performed by evaluating assignments on theoretical issues, conducting of independent studies, participation in role-playing games and 1-2 tests on predefined themes from the foreseen material

METHODS OF SOCIAL WORK

ECTS credits: 7.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: II

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

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

E-mail: viktoriya_sotirova@swu.bg; m_stoikova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The training in the discipline includes two modules - first module: theoretical and practical aspects of methods in social work; second module: types of social work and methodology of social work with different categories of persons. The program provides for acquaintance with the general concepts of methodology and methods of social work as well as with the basic theoretical and practical formulations of the specifics of the methods in different types of social work. The training course clarifies its essence the specifics of social work as a profession, the main methods, principles and approaches that are applied in the work with individuals and groups.

Course content:

Individual social work. Essence. Types of skills and relationships. Specifics of the individual phases of individual social work. Group social work. Requirements and rules for group social work. Types and types of groups and their formation. Work phases in group work. People with disabilities like main contingent in social assistance. Classification of disability.

Requirements for determining damage. Assistive technologies when working with people with disabilities. Specifics of the work of a social worker with people with disabilities.

Social and psychological work with people with disabilities. Forms of socio-psychological work with people with disabilities. Stress and disability. Sport as a method in social work with people with disabilities. Social work with families. Methodology of social work with refugees. Social work for the elderly. Methodology of work with unemployed persons. Methodology of work in occupational therapy and cultural therapy. Methodology of social work in AIDS patients. Project preparation - method in modern social work.

Teaching and assessment:

The course is conducted in traditionally approved way. In teaching use examples from the long-term medical and social practice of the holder of discipline. The independent preparation provides: preparation for exercises on each topic /syllabus; methodologies, etc./; preparation for solving tests and control works; developing topics with theoretical and practical orientation.

The exam is written taking into account ongoing evaluations during the semester.

GENERAL SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY OF LABOUR

ECTS credits: 5.0

Form of assessment: written exam

Semester: II

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

Discipline status: mandatory

Methodical guide:

Department of Sociology

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturers: Prof. Valentina Milenkova, Dr Sc.; Chief Assistant Prof. Dilyana Keranova, PhD

Email: vmilenkova@swu.bg; dkeranova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course "General Sociology and Sociology of Labour" is composed of two parts: 1. General sociology enters the terminology and the main structural elements and reflections of sociology and sociological knowledge; 2. Sociology of labour presents those specific sociological trajectories closest to the main issues of the speciality "Social Activities". The topics related to labour division, the labour process elements, labour organizational units, corporate culture, labour conflicts, social policy, motivation, attitudes, the cohesion of labour collectives, labour realization, labour migration, and communication in collectives leadership are considered, social norms and deviation, etc. Students study the discipline not as two separate parts, but as an interconnected sociological whole with specific applications. Knowledge is obtained about the basic sociological methods and their application in the sociological research of organizational groups. The course aims to acquire knowledge and skills for sociological argumentation in analyzing social facts in modern society.

Course content:

The lecture course on "General Sociology and Sociology of Labour" aims to gain in-depth knowledge of students about the theoretical and applied aspects of general sociology and sociology of labour - classical and modern theories, the structure of sociological knowledge, etc. Particular emphasis is placed on the problems of socialization, social roles, social learning, stereotypes, social conflicts, social inequalities and stratification, etc.

Training and assessment technology:

The lectures will use a system-wide and specific approach, analyzing the general and the private in the public and business units. Students will develop a methodological attitude to the nature and content of social facts.

In the process of training, students receive an ongoing assessment of presented theoretical and applied projects.

The course ends with a written exam - a test that includes 15 questions from a pre-set syllabus. The criteria according to which the questions are evaluated are accuracy, clarity and precision in presenting scientific information.

LABOR AND SOCIAL SECURITY LAW

ECTS credits: 3.0

Assessment type: final written exam

Semester: II

Total number of classes: 10l+5s+0p

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Civil and Legal Sciences

Faculty of Law and History

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Andrey Aleksandrov, PhD

E-mail: a.alexandrov@law.swu.bg

Annotation:

The course *Labor and Social Security Law* aims to offer to students the necessary knowledge on the basic principles, concepts and institutions of the *Labor and Social Security Law*. The study is focused upon the applicable labour and insurance law of the Republic of Bulgaria. Its importance is determined by the rank of the wage labour in modern society, the vital importance of relations arising from participation in labour and occurred based on their social security relationships, as well as their management. Enforcement of labour and social security law occupies an important place in practice of education in social work experts such as managers, employees in government employment, social assistance, social security, health insurance and others.

Course content:

By teaching the course on “Labor and Social Security Law” is aimed to familiarize the students with basic problems of legal regulation of public relations in connection with the provision of manpower by the employee to the employer concerning issues related to the formation, existence, implementation and termination of employment as well as those related to material support of citizens expressed in the provision of material resources to meet their and their family members’ needs in the form of cash benefits, pensions, allowances and other specific objects of use when they have fallen into a state of incapacity due to specific reasons - illness, accident, occupational disease, maternity, old age, death, unemployment, etc. In the course content “Labor and Social Security Law” are included issues related to employment contract, its content, types of employment contract and termination. Discussed are institutes of labour law as working time, holidays, vacations. To acquire knowledge in the field of insurance law to the curriculum are added questions about social security of exercising persons in social risks and related to their occurrence insurance benefits to which the insured are entitled.

Course organization and assessment:

The lecture course on *Labor and Social Security Law* takes place in the traditionally approved way by using different audio-visual aids, videos. Conducted are seminars with exercises primarily through the use of diagrams, videos, solving case studies, group discussions, case studies, study of literature by a given topic.

In the process of training students receive ongoing evaluation of the presented theoretical developments.

The course ends with a written exam - a test that includes 12 questions from a predefined syllabus.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES IN SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

ECTS credits: 3.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: II

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

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Informatics

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Elena Karashtanova, PhD

E-mail: helen@swu.bg

Annotation:

The course is one semester and consists of 5 separate units. The first unit emphasizes on advanced information search on the Internet and its filtering. The knowledge of searching, which guarantees self-learning and Lifelong Learning, will help students to cope independently with each of the disciplines.

The course introduces the technologies for creating, processing and publication of images, videos and interactive multimedia presentations.

Course content:

Introduction and basic services on the Internet. Browsers. Browser settings of Google Chrome. Bookmarks (Bookmarks). Search engines. Advanced search for information on the Internet. Some aspects of the graphical Windows operating system and online image editors. The course includes creating interactive, multimedia presentations, videos and publishing them on websites

Course organization and assessment:

The learning process employs modern interactive teaching and learning methods that stimulate students' creativity. Classroom sessions are held in lecture halls equipped with the necessary technical resources. The lecture course is conducted in a multimedia room with computer systems and Internet access.

Practical sessions require a computer lab and access to the global network.

Continuous assessment is carried out during laboratory classes and consists of one test and the completion of two course papers. The assessment criteria are provided to students at the beginning of the course. The test and course papers carry equal weight in the grading process.

The final examination is a computer-based test, conducted in person in a computer lab through the e-learning system.

TECHNOLOGY OF SOCIAL WORK WITH CHILDREN, ADULTS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

ECTS credits: 7.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: II

Total number of classes: 15l+0s+7p

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof Yoanna Tzvetanova, PhD

E-mail: ytzvetanova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The teaching course aims to equip students with a system of knowledge and skills in the technology of social work with children, adults and people with disabilities. The program is divided into two modules: technology of social work with children at risk and technology of social work with vulnerable adults and people with disabilities. The content of the course, its structure, various topical issues, and formulated tasks are designed to create maximum opportunities for strengthening the independent and research work of the students.

Content:

Concepts, requirements and definitions of social work technology; Types of technological approaches in the work of social worker; Essence of the social casework with children. Group social work with children. Current trends in social work with children.

Essence of the social casework with adults and people with disabilities. Group social work with adults and people with disabilities. Current trends in working with adults and people with disabilities.

Technology of education 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. Instructors' own research and practical experience are also used in the process of teaching. The practicum is aimed at implementing particular methods and techniques in a practical context alone or with the support of the instructors. The exam is in written.

THEORETICAL BASIS OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

ECTS credits: 4.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: III

Total number of classes: 23l+0s+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:

The lectures apply a dialectical and systemic approach, analyzing both the general and specific aspects of social activity—its components, objects, approaches, principles, methods, means, goals, functions, and tasks. The course aims to develop in students a methodological and technological perspective on the essence and content of social work and management. The lecture course is delivered by combining the traditionally established classical method of teaching with the use of analytical approaches, observation, discussion, and interactive methods such as individual and group work, content analysis, carousel exercises, poster and collage preparation, and others.

During the course, students receive continuous assessment based on their theoretical papers and presentations. The final examination is in the form of a test and covers the lecture material. It consists of open- and closed-ended questions with varying weights. The criteria for evaluation of students' responses include accuracy, clarity, and precision in the presentation of scientific information.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS IN SOCIAL WORK

ECTS credits: 4.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: III

Total number of classes: 15l+0s+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

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 final exam is in a written form, while considering the semestrial evaluations.

SOCIAL SUPPORT TO GROUPS

ECTS credits: 4.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: III

Total number of classes: 15l+7s+0p

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Maria Stoykova, PhD

E-mail: m_stoikova@swu.bg

Annotation:

The program of the course "Social Support to Groups" is designed for students in Master's degree in Social Work with Socially Significant Diseases in the professional field of Social Work. The course addresses the group as an object of social support; the methodology and technology of the social support to groups; approaches, methods and techniques of group social support; skills to work in a small group. The aim is to equip students with the relevant knowledge and skills to provide efficient social support to groups.

Content:

Definition and meaning of a group. The group as an object of social support. Approaches to social work with a group. Types of groups in social work. The group as a system of mutual support. Socio-psychological characteristics of the small group. Technology of social support for small groups: objectives, principles, rules. Technological steps in the group work. Main methods and techniques for group work. Skills and competence of the social worker to provide efficient group social support.

Organization of instruction and assessment:

The lecture course is conducted using both traditional and modern interactive teaching and learning methods, including lectures, multimedia presentations, discussions, role-playing exercises, learning by doing, and others. The teaching process incorporates results from the lecturer's own research and professional experience. Seminar sessions are designed to apply specific methods and techniques in a practical context, either independently or with the support of the lecturer.

The final examination is written, in the form of a test, and covers material from both lectures and seminar sessions. It consists of open- and closed-ended questions, each with a specific weight

indicated in advance. Students are informed of the assessment criteria prior to the examination. The criteria for correct answers are communicated in class immediately after the submission of written work.

In the event of a pandemic or when in-person examinations cannot be held, the exam and re-sits will be conducted online through a platform selected by the lecturer.

METHODOLOGY AND METHODS OF RESEARCH IN SOCIAL WORK

ECTS credits: 4.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: III

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

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 Work Research: 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.

ETHICS IN SOCIAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES AND MANAGEMENT ETHICS

ECTS credits: 3.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: III

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

Course type: compulsory

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

Annotation:

The lecture course covers fundamental aspects of medical ethics, deontology, and management ethics. The training aims to form: general moral culture, motivation for integration of ethical principles in social practice; building practical skills for professional communication, following the current moral, legal norms, and professional codes in various ethical and deontological situations in social work.

It is expected that through the training opportunities for assessment and self-assessment, models of relationships, understanding of the patient's rights, as well as the need for confidentiality in the exercise of professional activity will be formed; to acquire knowledge about the medical-deontological problems in the modern social practice, legal and moral norms, duty and responsibility in case of professional offenses, ethical-deontological problems at the beginning and the end of life.

Content of the course:

Introduction to medical ethics - a brief historical overview. Theories and basic principles of medical ethics. Charity in social practice. Codes of ethics in medical practice - a general characteristic. Goals and principles - A brief historical overview. Modern codes of ethics. Patient rights. Patient organizations. Moral and ethical problems in terminal conditions. Ethical aspects of euthanasia and assisted suicide - a conceptual review. Types of euthanasia. Historical overview and current state of legalization of euthanasia.

Course organization and assessment:

The lecture course is conducted by using traditional and interactive methods, as well as video presentations. During the classes, the lecturer provides students with examples from the practice. During the seminars, various case studies, video analysis and situational tasks will be discussed. The seminars are held in the form of semi-structured discussions with the modeling role of the lecturer on the topics from the lecture course.

The independent students' preparation envisages: research and analysis of literature sources, preparation of the annotated bibliography on topics from the lecture course; essays; developing topics with theoretical and practical orientation on topics from the lecture course.

The final exam is written. It includes two theoretical questions from the lecture course. The final grade is formed by the results of the assessment of the tasks for extracurricular activities and the presence of lectures and seminars and the assessment of the exam.

SOCIAL WORK IN SOCIALLY SIGNIFICANT DISEASES

ECTS credits: 4.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: IV

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

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Rosen Kalpachki, PhD

E-mail: rosen_kalpachki@swu.bg

Annotation:

The “Social Work with Social Significant Diseases” scholar program has been prepared in accordance with the specifics of this subject, taught at the Faculty of “Social Health, Healthcare and Sports” within the “Neofit Rilski” South-West University of Blagoevgrad. The master students’ attention will be drawn towards the essence of these diseases, their characteristics and the risk factors for their occurrence. Subjects such as health’s social factors, the current concepts of personal well-being, social health and its indicators will also be discussed.

Apart from touching on the essence and the risk factors for social-significant diseases, that can be referred to as a creation of the present-day lifestyle, this course also aims to emphasize on the great significance of personal and social prophylaxis. The purpose of the latter is to support people suffering from such illnesses, as well as whole families and groups of them, or the ones closely related to them. Some examples for such a disease are arterial hypertension, diabetes mellitus, osteoporosis, ischemic heart disease, brain vessel disease, trauma caused by domestic violence, alcoholism, depression, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, ulcer disease, all types of hepatitis, different kinds of dependence, etc.

Course tasks:

❖ Clarifying the characteristics of these illnesses, namely cardiovascular disease, malignant diseases, chronic respiratory diseases, tuberculosis, trauma caused by different kinds of accidents, diseases of the nervous system and the sensory organs, diabetes mellitus, psychotic disorders. A certain growth in the significance of the chronic noninfectious diseases has also been noted.

❖ Contributing to the establishment of a healthy lifestyle.

Course Contents:

- ❖ Definition of Socio-significant diseases.
- ❖ Criteria of Socio-significant diseases.
- ❖ Socio-significant diseases in different countries.
- ❖ Risk factors.
- ❖ World morbidity trends.
- ❖ Risk constellation of the Bulgarian population.
- ❖ Hypotheses of the Bulgarian population’s increased mortality.
- ❖ Smoking as a risk factor.
- ❖ Unhealthy nutritional habits as a risk factor for mortality in Bulgaria.
- ❖ Arterial hypertension as a risk factor.
- ❖ Evaluation of diseases’ stages.

Means of Education and Assessment:

The lecture course is based on the lecturer’s use of both qualitative and quantitative information and also on their way of stimulating the students to actively take part in discussions by asking questions or expressing their opinion on certain subjects. Audio-visual equipment (a video projector) could be provided if needed.

The seminars are mainly held by the use of charts, video materials, exemplary problems’ solving, role-playing, group discussions and performance of various cases, doing research in provided in advance topics.

The type of assessment is a written exam, with the current marks during the semester being taken into account. The exam consists of 12 questions (definitions, patterns, rules, processes, etc.).

The current marks are given in accordance with the performance of self-prepared exemplary topics and participation in role-playing games.

TEAM WORK. SUPERVISION IN SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE

ECTS credits: 2.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: IV

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

Course type: compulsory

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

Annotation:

The course consists of two parts: teamwork and supervision in the practice of social work in socially significant diseases.

The first part of the course introduces basic knowledge about teamwork, outlines the individual stages in team formation, the functions and roles of individual members and the team as a whole, the factors for team effectiveness. Emphasis is placed on the structure of the team meeting and provides an opportunity for discussions about the group processes that arise in teamwork, as well as the role of the facilitator as a factor for the effective functioning of the team. By presenting and analyzing cases and participating in group discussions, course participants are allowed to bring out the basic skills of teamwork and outline the most common problems in the process of creating and functioning teams in the context of caring for people with socially significant diseases.

Supervision is another focus of the course. The aim is to present basic concepts and build an understanding of supervision as a means of encouraging criticism of one's work, awareness of one's behavior in the profession and related feelings, development of analytical and reflective skills, and taking concrete action to positive change. Through group discussions and presentation of personal experience, participants are provided with the opportunity to accept supervision as a necessary condition for effective social work.

Content of the course:

Part one: Team - definitions, main functions, and roles. Formation and development of the team. Characteristics of the individual stages. Models. Team meetings - basic rules and procedures. Teamwork efficiency. Barriers to effective teamwork.

Part two: Supervision in social work in socially significant diseases - purpose, tasks, rules. Procedural aspects. The role of the supervisor. Types of supervision.

Course organization and assessment:

The lecture course is conducted by using traditional and contemporary methods, audio-visual equipment, as well as interactive methods, presentations and discussions of cases, video analysis of cases.

The independent students' preparation envisages: research and analysis of literature sources, preparation of the annotated bibliography; preparation of tools and discussing problems and implying good practices of teamwork; development of term papers. It includes two theoretical questions from the lecture course. The final grade is formed considering the results of the

assessment of the tasks from the extracurricular activities, the attendance of lectures and seminars, and the final exam.

The on-going assessment is carried out by assessing of students' individual work/papers on pre-set topics from the lecture course.

The final exam is written (test with multiple choice questions) taking into account the grades during the semester.

ADDICTIONS

ECTS credits: 3.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: IV

Total number of classes: 15l+7s+0p

Course type: compulsory

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

Annotation:

The course "Addictions" introduces students to the problems of pharmacological and drug addictions - pharmacodynamics, mode of action, course, first aid and more. The objectives of the subject are to provide knowledge of the basic terms and theories of pharmacodynamics, toxicology, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of addictions; to deepen the understanding of the course and development of addictions, as well as the adequate therapeutic approaches; to improve students' ability to provide social support and health care to people suffering from addictions.

Course content:

- Basic terms in pharmacology; pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics.
- Basic terms in pharmacotherapy. Side effects of medications.
- Addiction to psychoactive substances - a chronic relapsing disorder.
- The influence of the environment and genetic factors on the use / dependence on psychoactive substances.
- Neurobiology of addiction.
- Abuse and dependence on stimulants - cocaine, amphetamines.
- Abuse and dependence on depressants - alcohol, barbiturates, other sedatives and hypnotics, tranquilizers, inhalants.
- Abuse and dependence on opioids - morphine, heroin, codeine, methadone.
- Abuse and dependence on cannabis - marijuana, hashish, THC. (tetrahydrocannabinol)
- Abuse and dependence on hallucinogens - LSD, mescaline, PCP.
- Acute intoxication and emergency care.
- Principles of addiction treatment.
- Biofeedback addiction therapy. kEEG-feedback therapy for addiction.
- Addiction prevention strategies.
- Psychosocial rehabilitation of addictions.

Training and assessment technology:

The lecture course is conducted in the traditionally established way, using multimedia. The seminars follow the topics of the lectures. Students work on what they have learned during lectures, work on literature sources that they have read and summarized in time for self-preparation, analyze examples, problems and cases that the assistant uses to form knowledge and habits. The evaluation of the achieved results in the training process is in compliance with the requirements of Ordinance No. 21 of the Ministry of Education and Science of September 30, 2004 on the application of a system for accumulation and transfer of loans.

ORGANIZATION OF INTERACTION BETWEEN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SYSTEMS

ECTS credits: 2.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: IV

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

Course type: compulsory

Course coordinating department:

Department of Logopedics

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Ekaterina Mitova

E-mail: ekaterina@swu.bg

Annotation:

With the occurrence of changes in the economic, social and societal development of society, problems arise whose solution requires a complex and multidisciplinary approach. It is necessary to unite the efforts and resources of the different social systems: educational, health, social, etc. Social workers need to know the resources of different systems and be able to organize interactions between them to provide the necessary help and support to solve different problems. The task of the training on the organization of interaction between the health and social system is to present and acquire basic knowledge in this field. They are needed by 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 somatic disorders.

Course content:

Introduction to the course. People with socially significant diseases as a contingent of the health system. People with socially significant diseases as a contingent of the social system. Purpose and tasks of the interaction of the health and social system in various diseases: strokes, depression, schizophrenia, diabetes, dementia and others. Organization of the interaction between the health and social system in the pre-medical and medical care. Organization of the interaction between the health and social system in social services and institutions. Legal and regulatory framework of the interaction between the health and social system. Health and social insurance of various groups of the population. Health insurance for different groups of the population. Employment of persons with socially significant diseases. Necessary documents for providing social protection and social support to persons with socially significant diseases.

Teaching and assessment:

The lecture course is conducted in the traditionally established format and through the use of interactive methods and audiovisual tools. The teaching strategy is based on the classic teaching

traditions with an emphasis on the interaction between the health and social system for protection of persons at risk. The exam is written taking into account the ongoing evaluations during the semester. The evaluation of the achieved results in the process of training is in compliance with the requirements of Ordinance № 21 of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science of September 30, 2004 for application of the system for accumulation and transfer of credits.

COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNICATIVE TRAINING

ECTS credits: 3.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: III

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

Course type: elective

Course coordinating department:

Department of Logopedics

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Elka Goranova, PhD

E-mail: elkalogo@swu.bg

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 seminars, 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.

MEDIATION IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION

ECTS credits: 3.0

Evaluation: formative assessment and written exam

Semester: III

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

Statute of the discipline: compulsory

Methodical guidance:

Department of Psychology

Faculty of Philosophy

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Natasha Angelova, PhD

E-mail: 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

ECTS credits: 3.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: III

Total number of classes: 7l+8s+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

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; strategies 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

ECTS credits: 3.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: III

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

Course type: elective

Course coordinating department:

Department of Health Care

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Petya Andreeva, PhD

E-mail: petya.andreeva@swu.bg

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 with Socially Significant Diseases". 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

ECTS credits: 3.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: III

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

Course type: elective

Course coordinating department:

Department of Public Relations

Faculty of Law and History

Lecturer: Assoc. Prof. Dimitrina Stefanova, PhD

E-mail: 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

ECTS credits: 2.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: IV

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

Course type: elective

Course coordinating department:

Department of Medical Social Sciences

Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sports

Lecturer: Chief Assist. Prof. Yoanna Tzvetanova, PhD

E-mail: 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 is delivered by combining the traditionally established classical method of teaching with the use of analytical approaches, observation, discussion, and interactive methods such as individual and group work, poster and collage preparation, project development, and others. The course content involves action-oriented methods including interactive techniques, simulations, teamwork, and related approaches.

Assessing students' prior knowledge and skills, their learning styles, motivations, and interests in the discipline is considered an important factor for achieving the course objectives. To establish the entry level of students, different approaches are employed, such as oral discussions, test-questionnaires, or student reports. Depending on the demonstrated level of prior preparation, adjustments are made to the scope, depth, and content of the topics, as well as to the teaching methods applied.

During the semester, students complete written tests, essays, and projects. The final examination is in the form of a test and covers material from both lectures and seminar sessions. It consists of open- and closed-ended questions of varying weight. The final grade is determined on the basis of continuous assessment and the exam result, in a ratio of 6:4.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DEFENSES AND NONVERBAL COMMUNICATION

ECTS credits: 2.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: IV

Total number of classes: 7l+8s+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

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

ECTS credits: 2.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: IV

Total number of classes: 7l+8s+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

Annotation:

Natural disasters like earthquakes, fires, floods etc. are extremely dangerous for people. They arise suddenly, develop fulminant and strike wide spaces and usually affect a lot of people.

The aims and tasks of the course are students to acquire knowledge about these extreme conditions and to understand their effect on people's daily life and psychological state; what are the reactions of the individual personality and the community as a whole in this kind of situations; the features

of posttraumatic stress disorder and the role of the specialist in dealing with it. Also, students are introduced to the main principles for behavior during earthquakes, fires, floods, hurricanes etc.; organizing and conducting rescue operation in regions of disasters; methods and ways of giving first aid to injured people.

The main methods of training, which are used in the course, are lectures and discussion groups. Computer configurations with current illustrations are used to clarify the scientific material. Also practical demonstrations are used to train students on giving first aid and ways of saving people with technical recourses.

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:

Lectures - the referred topics are studied in relevance of their specific nature and in all of them are used multimedia and computer configuration.

Seminars – in conducting them are used schemes and audiovisual materials, group discussions, cases over viewing, solving different complicated situations and implementing them in real life.

The main form of examination and grading of students is a written exam/test. Their knowledge and skills will be graded by the six-point system.

Testing procedures are: current control – it is implemented during the lectures and exercises; exam – the course is finished with a written exam, which includes test, theoretical questions, and practical tasks.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

ECTS credits: 2.0

Assessment: written exam

Semester: IV

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

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

ECT Scredits: 2.0

Assessment type: written exam

Semester: IV

Total number of classes: 7l+8s+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 Stoykova, PhD

E-mail: m.stoikova@swu.bg

Annotation:

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 through a combination of traditional and modern innovative interactive approaches and methods, grounded in the theoretical paradigm of the universal significance of preventive and restorative rehabilitation for improving the quality of life of social groups and persons with disabilities.

The teaching strategy is based on classical academic traditions while incorporating innovative methods designed to stimulate students' activity and creativity.

The final examination is in the form of a test and covers the lecture material. It consists of open- and closed-ended questions with varying weights. The final grade reflects both continuous assessment and the exam result, in a ratio of 6:4.