

Syllabus

Course description

Course title:	Information and communication skills for Social Work
Course year:	3 rd
Semester:	1 st
Course code:	51042
Scientific sector:	M-PED/03
Lecturer:	Dr. Laura Trott
Credits:	2
Total lecturing hours:	30
Total Hours of availability for students and tutoring:	6
Office hours:	Tuesdays 2-3pm
Attendance:	according to the regulation
Teaching language:	English
Propaedeutic course:	none
Course description:	
Specific educational objectives:	<p>The course is an additional element (zusätzliches Ausbildungselement – area affine integrativa) within the degree program and belongs to the scientific area 11 (historical, philosophical, pedagogical and psychological sciences), macro sector 11/D (pedagogy).</p> <p>The course introduces the pertaining basic subjects of sociology, psychology and pedagogy, with a strong focus of practice application of skills in information literacy and communication science.</p>
List of topics covered:	<p>Basics of Information and Communication in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pedagogy - Psychology - Sociology - ICT <p>Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finding (online research) - Receiving (from the client) - Processing (critical thinking) - Distributing (to different user groups) <p>Communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Non-violently - User-centred (with children and other user groups) - Electronic <p>Using information and communication skills for evidence-based practice</p>
Teaching format:	Lectures
Learning outcomes:	Students gain knowledge on the psychological and sociological theory underlying information and communication as human interaction, as well as their applications in ICT. They understand the meaning information and communication skills have for social work practice.

	<p>They are able to apply information and communication skills in practice settings and understand to differentiate between different settings and modes of communication. Students have the ability to check sources, critically analyze contents (e.g. online propaganda and hate speech) and their own decision-making processes. They know how to identify and avoid fallacies.</p> <p>The acquired communication skills include non-violent communication, user-centred communication (e.g. with children), communication in a multi-language setting, and electronic communication.</p> <p>Students have the ability to apply their knowledge in different social and professional settings and develop a tool set that helps them navigate new and unknown scenarios. They can use their information and communication skills as effectively in social work practice.</p>
Assessment:	Project work and oral exam: Individual essay and oral exam on project and course contents.
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks:	<p>Project work (individual essay): 80 % (Research and problem solving skills; critical evaluation; ability to apply newly acquired skills)</p> <p>Oral: 20 % (Skills in critical thinking; reflexivity on own problem solving strategies; ability to apply communication skills)</p>
Required readings:	<p>Articles:</p> <p>Castillo de Mesa, J., de las Olas Palma García, M. & Gómez Jacinto, L. (2018). Analysis of social innovation on social networking services. <i>European Journal of Social Work</i>, 21:6, 902-915.</p> <p>O'Reilly, L. & Dolan, P. (2016). The voice of the Child in Social Work Assessments: Age-Appropriate Communication with Children. <i>British Journal of Social Work</i>, 46, 1191-1207.</p> <p>Books:</p> <p>Gambrill, E. (2019). <i>Critical Thinking and the Process of Evidence-Based Practice</i>. New York: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Hargie, O. (2017). <i>Skilled Interpersonal Communication. Research, Theory and Practice</i>. Sixth edition. Abingdon: Routledge.</p> <p>Further required reading will be supplied throughout the course.</p>
Supplementary readings:	<p>Berne, E. (1964). <i>The games people play. The psychology of human relationships</i>. London: Penguin books.</p> <p>McNutt, J.G. (2018). <i>Technology, Activism, + Social Justice in a Digital Age</i>. New York: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Sidell, N.J. (2011). <i>Social Work Documentation. A guide to Strengthening Your Case Recording</i>. Washington: NASW Press.</p> <p>Trevithick, P. (2005). <i>Social Work Skills. A practice handbook</i>. Second edition. Maidenhead: Open University Press.</p> <p>Watzlawick, P., Beavin Bavelas, J. & Jackson, D.D. (2011). <i>Pragmatics of human interaction. A study of interactional patterns, pathologies, and paradoxes</i>. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.</p> <p>Further supplementary reading will be supplied throughout the course.</p>