

## Syllabus Course description

| Course title      | Social Work in historical, inter- and transnational contexts |
|-------------------|--|
| Course code       | 51080  |
| Scientific sector | SPS/07   |
| Degree            | Bachelor in Social Work                                      |
| Semester          | 1st  |
| Course year       | 2nd  |
| Credits           | 10   |
| Modular           | Yes  |

| Total lecturing hours | 60                          |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total lab hours       |                             |
| Attendance            | according to the regulation |
| Prerequisites         |                             |

| Specific educational objectives | The module imparts knowledge about the historical development of social work from a comparative perspective and the challenges it faces in transnational and international contexts, in light of societal and political developments at the local, national, European, and international levels.  |
|---------------------------------|---|
|                                 | The module aims to develop a professionally reflective<br>competence that is historically, socio-politically, and culturally<br>aware, and to utilize the knowledge conveyed in addressing<br>current issues and problem areas in local, national, European,<br>as well as transnational and international contexts.  |
|                                 | <ol> <li>Gain a comprehensive understanding of the historical development of social work, including its origins, key milestones, and influential figures in the field.</li> <li>Analyze the impact of social work within local, national, and transnational contexts, recognizing its evolving role in response to changing social and political landscapes.</li> <li>Develop a critical awareness of the challenges and opportunities associated with international social work and its relevance in the modern world.</li> <li>Examine the contributions of social work pioneers and their significance in shaping the profession and its methods in historical, intercultural, and global perspectives.</li> <li>Explore the premodern roots of social work and its evolution through different historical periods, with a focus on addressing poverty, industrialization, and social issues.</li> <li>Understand the role of organizations like the COS (Charity Organization Society) and settlements in the development of social work practices.</li> <li>Gain insight into the process of professionalization within the field of social work and its historical context.</li> <li>Analyze the history of social work within a European and international social work framework, considering its unique features and global relevance.</li> </ol> |



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| social work in specific regions, such as Germany, Italy, and |
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| South Tyrol.   |
| 10. Develop the ability to apply historical insights to      |
| contemporary social work challenges and opportunities in     |
| diverse settings, from local to international contexts.      |

| Module 1                          | Inter- and transnational Social Work  |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Lecturer                          | Nothdurfter Urban   |
| Scientific sector of the lecturer | SPS/07  |
| Teaching language                 | English   |
| Office hours                      | 12 (from Monday to Friday on request)   |
| List of topics covered            | <ol> <li>International Social Work Organizations and Cooperations:         <ul> <li>Overview of international social work organizations (e.g.,<br/>IASSW, IFSW, ICSW)</li> <li>Cooperation initiatives like the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable<br/>Development and Social Platform</li> <li>Understanding the structure, roles, and functions of these<br/>organizations</li> </ul> </li> </ol>  |
|                                   | <ul> <li>2. Global Social Problems:</li> <li>Examination of global issues such as poverty, migration, human trafficking</li> <li>Analysis of the root causes, consequences, and impact of these global problems</li> <li>The role of international social work in addressing and mitigating these issues</li> </ul>   |
|                                   | <ul> <li>3. Regional Practice and International Comparisons: <ul> <li>Exploration of "international" issues in regional social work practice</li> <li>Comparative analysis of social policies in different countries and regions</li> <li>Comparative study of social work practices and approaches from various parts of the world</li> <li>Understanding the challenges and successes of international social work interventions</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|                                   | <ul> <li>4. Interconnectivity of Global Social Issues: <ul> <li>Emphasis on how global social issues are interconnected and interdependent</li> <li>Recognizing the transnational nature of social problems and their impact on local communities</li> <li>Identifying the need for international collaboration and solutions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |
|                                   | <ul> <li>5. Roles of Social Work and Social Workers in an International Perspective: <ul> <li>Discussion of the roles and responsibilities of social workers in addressing global challenges</li> <li>The ethical and professional obligations of social workers in international contexts</li> <li>Case studies and examples of social workers making a difference on a global scale</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |
|                                   | <ul><li>6. Sensitivity and Cultural Awareness:</li><li>- Developing cultural competence and awareness in social</li></ul>   |



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|                           | work practice<br>- Understanding diverse cultural perspectives and values<br>- Promoting respectful and effective cross-cultural<br>communication   |
|---------------------------|---|
|                           | This course covers a wide range of topics related to social work<br>in historical, inter- and transnational contexts, aiming to provide<br>students with a comprehensive understanding of the global<br>dimensions of social work and the skills needed to address<br>complex international issues. |
| Teaching format           | Frontal lectures, exercises, discussions  |
| Total lecturing/lab hours | 30  |
| Credits                   | 5   |

| Modul 2  | Geschichte der Sozialarbeit  |
|--|--|
| Dozent   | Urban Nothdurfter  |
| Wissenschaftlich-disziplinärer<br>Bereich                  | SPS/07   |
| Unterrichtssprache   | Deutsch  |
| Sprechstunden  | 12 (auf Anfrage)   |
| Auflistung der behandelten<br>Themen                       | Die Veranstaltung gibt einen Überblick über die Geschichte der<br>Sozialarbeit von ihren vormodernen Vorläufern bis zur<br>Gegenwart. Dabei werden sowohl der lokale und nationale<br>Kontext als auch eine europäische (und internationale)<br>Perspektive berücksichtigt. Besondere Betonung erfährt die<br>sozialhistorische Gewordenheit der Sozialarbeit als Profession im<br>Kontext gesellschaftlicher und sozialpolitischer Entwicklung. Vor<br>diesem Hintergrund wird auf das Leben und Werk ausgewählter<br>PionierInnen der Sozialarbeit eingegangen und deren<br>Bedeutung für die Begründung von Traditionslinien in<br>Professions- und Methodenentwicklung aufgezeigt.<br>Vorgeschichte: Der Umgang mit Armut im Wandel der Zeit<br>Pauperismus, Industriealisierung, Soziale Frage<br>COS & Settlements<br>Geschichte der Professionalisierung<br>Geschichte im Kontext einer Europäischen Sozialen Arbeit<br>Überblick: Geschichte der Sozialarbeit in Deutschland<br>Überblick: Geschichte der Sozialarbeit in Südtirol |
| Unterrichtsform  | Vorlesungen, Übungen, Projekte   |
| Gesamtanzahl<br>Vorlesungsstunden/<br>Laboratoriumsstunden | 30   |
| Kreditpunkte   | 5  |

| Learning outcomes   | Upon completing this course, students will be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:   |
|---|--|
| (The learning outcomes need to be arranged and defined among the                                | 1. Knowledge and Understanding:  |
| lecturers of all modules. The coordinator of the modules is responsible for the provided data.) | - Acquire a deep understanding of the historical development<br>of social work, including its origins, milestones, and influential<br>figures. |
|   | - Comprehend the challenges that social work faces in the context of transnational and international connections.                              |



| - Recognize the impact of societal and social policy developments at the local, national, European, and international levels on the field of social work.   |
|---|
| <ul> <li>2. Application of Knowledge and Understanding: <ul> <li>Develop a profound professional reflexive competence that is historically, socio-politically, and culturally aware.</li> <li>Apply acquired knowledge to address current issues and problem areas in various contexts, including local, transnational, and international settings.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |
| <ul> <li><b>3. Judgment:</b> <ul> <li>Demonstrate the ability to critically assess professionalization strategies and the evolution of theory and practice in social work, taking into consideration diverse contexts.</li> <li>Analyze and evaluate the relevance of current societal and political developments for the practice of social work, both locally and in transnational and international settings.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <ul> <li>4. Communication:</li> <li>Acquire specialized language and terminology in both teaching languages related to the subject matter of social work in historical, inter- and transnational contexts.</li> <li>Develop effective communication skills for engaging in social work within transnational and international environments.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>5. Learning Strategies:</b><br>- Apply effective strategies for independent learning, research, and knowledge acquisition, particularly in relation to the historical, transnational, and international dimensions of social work.   |
| These learning outcomes reflect the knowledge, skills, and<br>competencies that students will gain from the course "Social<br>Work in Historical, Inter- and Transnational Contexts,"<br>preparing them to excel in the field of social work across<br>various global and historical settings.  |

| Assessment   | Written partial exam, presentation, or seminar paper for each module.   |
|--|---|
|  | Additional performance requirements for the course will be agreed upon with the students.                                       |
|  | Integrated oral final examination.  |
| Assessment language  | Deutsch, English  |
| Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks                                  | Engagement with the conveyed content as well as its<br>understanding and applicability to current issues and problem<br>areas.  |
| (The evaluation criteria need to   |   |
| be arranged and defined<br>among the lecturers of all                                | In written assignments, particular attention will be given to the use of relevant academic literature, logical structure, clear |
| modules. The coordinator of<br>the modules is responsible for<br>the provided data.) | argumentation, the ability for critical analysis, and formal correctness.   |



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|                        | In the oral examination, emphasis will be placed on communication and reflection skills.  |
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|                        | Another criterion relates to active participation in the course.  |
|                        | Module weighting: 1:1   |
| Required readings      | Geschichte der Sozialarbeit   |
|                        | Ausgewählte Kapitel aus folgenden Büchern:  |
|                        | Lorenz, W., Havrdová, Z. & Matoušek O. (2020). European<br>Social Work After 1989: East-West Exchanges Between<br>Universal Principles and Cultural Sensitivity. New York:<br>Springer. |
|                        | Fargion S., (2009), Il servizio sociale. Storia, temi e dibattiti,<br>Laterza, Roma/Bari.   |
|                        | Stefani, M. (2012). Le origini del servizio sociale italiano.<br>Tremezzo: un evento fondativo del 1946.  |
|                        | Müller, C. W. (2013): Wie Helfen zum Beruf wurde: Eine<br>Methodengeschichte der Sozialen Arbeit. Weinheim und<br>München: Juventa, 6. Auflage.   |
|                        | Hering, S./Münchmeier, R. (2014): Geschichte der Sozialen<br>Arbeit: Eine Einführung. Weinheim und München: Juventa, 5.<br>Auflage.   |
|                        | Amthor, RCh. (2016) Einführung in die Berufsgeschichte der<br>Sozialen Arbeit. Weinheim: Beltz Juventa, 2. Auflage.   |
|                        | Weitere Kapitel oder Fachartikel werden in der<br>Lehrveranstaltung zur Verfügung gestellt.   |
|                        | <b>International Social Work</b><br>Selected chapters from following books (additional readings as<br>announced in the lecture)   |
|                        | Cox, D. & Pawar, M. (2013). International Social Work: Issues, strategies, and programs. 2nd edition. Thousand Oaks: SAGE.  |
|                        | Lyons, K. et al. (2012). The SAGE Handbook of International Social Work. London: SAGE Publications. (online resource)   |
|                        | Mapp, Susan C. Human Rights and Social Justice in a Global<br>Perspective. An Introduction to International Social Work. (2nd<br>ed.) Oxford University Press                           |
| Supplementary readings | Negi, Nalini Junko and Furman, Rich. Transnational Social Work<br>Practice, New York Chichester, West Sussex: Columbia<br>University Press, 2010. https://doi.org/10.7312/negi14448     |