Social Work and Human Rights

MODEL DESCRIPTION

Title of the Module	Code
Human Rights and Social Work	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s)
Coordinating: Associate Professor Egle Sumskiene; Professor Laimutė Žalimienė **Other(s):**	Vilnius University Faculty of Philosophy, Social Work Department, Universiteto st. 9/1, Vilnius

Study level	Module level	Type of the module
First	–	Erasmus course

Study form	Study period	Working language
Auditorial		English

Prerequisites for students	
Prerequisites for entering the course	**Additional prerequisites**
None	None

Number of credits	Student's workload	Contact hours	Individual work
5	130	48	82

Goal of the module: competences developed by the study programme

Goal of the module.
To provide the students with necessary knowledge and skills to apply human rights approach and principles in social help for vulnerable people.

General competences:
· Ability to find, analyze and systematize information from a variety of theoretical and empirical sources.
· Ability to work independently and in a team, to organize and manage group work
· Ability to creatively solve problems
· Ability to act professionally, with respect, civil responsibility, value of equity, human rights and ethical principles.

Subject competencies:
· Ability to analyze social problems in a historical and socio-cultural context, to take into account a variety of social systems and to identify the impact of economic, political, socio-cultural changes on social strata and groups.
· Ability to understand and critically evaluate social welfare and social services systems of nowadays states with respect to human rights issues.
· Ability to make impact on social policy by proposing changes for its development, by initiating and implementing human rights approach.
· Ability to understand, communicate, and cooperate with social movements, civil, professional and political organizations, interest groups, representatives of government structures when solving human rights problems of vulnerable social groups.

Study program outcomes	Course outcomes	Criteria of learning achievement evaluation
Students are able to compare the results of the research with their knowledge and theories, to systematize information and report in in written or oral form. Students are able to link contradictory ideas and evaluate social problems from different theoretical perspectives.	Lectures, analysis of academic researches, group discussions.	Oral presentations of individual or group assignments (evidence-based awareness raising campaign etc.), quality of written paper.
Students are able to create an effective team and lead its members, to communicate ideas and information clearly, find solutions to the problems and apply flexible interpersonal communication style. Students are able to combine individual and	Group assignment, analysis of academic researches and media articles	Oral presentations of group assignments (evidence-based awareness raising campaign etc.), presentations of group work.

group work, to share competence and responsibility, to take different needs, opinions and potential inputs into account.		
Students are able to critically assess proposed policy changes, social services organisation with respect to human rights, equity, social justice, equality and other democratic values. Students are able to identify violations of the democratic values, to assess the impact of those violations on different social groups and propose improvements. Students are able to critically reflect their actions in respect to social work ethics, and human rights.	Lectures, analysis of academic researches and statistical information	Oral presentations of individual or group assignments (evidence-based awareness raising campaigns etc.), cumulative grade, presentation of media article analysis and opinion poll, presentations of group work.
Students are able to analyze human rights-related social problems and propose innovative solutions to them.	Lectures, analysis of academic researches, group discussions, group assignment	Oral presentations of group assignments (evidence-based awareness raising campaign etc.), cumulative grade
Students are able to participate constructively in the discussions on the topics of human rights, based on their knowledge and theories, with respect to other opinions and providing well-grounded arguments.	Lectures, analysis of academic researches and legislation, group discussions, group assignment	Oral presentations of individual or group assignments (evidence-based awareness raising campaign etc.), cumulative grade

	Contact work hours							Independent work tasks	
Themes	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Practice	Lab-work	Practice	Total contact hours	Independent work hours	**Tasks**
Social work – profession responsible for human rights. History of social work and human rights.	4		2				4	6	Individual readings, analysis of problematical questions Exploring the history of social work as a human rights profession pp. 735-748. Human Rights and Social Work: Towards Rights Based Practice pp. 140-166 Group work.
Human rights concept. Development of human rights. Three generations of human rights.	2		2				2	8	Individual readings, analysis of problematical questions Human Rights And Social Work: Towards Rights Based Practice pp. 167-199
International human rights documents. CRPD (2006), CRC (1989), CEDAW (1979)	4		2				4	8	Collection and analysis of media information, raising and formulation of problematic questions. CRPD (2006), CRC (1989) and CEDAW (1979).
Variety and discrimination. Xenophobia. Stigma. Hate speech and hate crime.	4		2				4	10	Planning of the anti-stigma project
Role of NGO in human rights discourse and protection. Human rights advocacy.	2		2				4	10	Final presentation.
The features and developments of personal social services in	4		2				4	8	Individual readings, analysis of problematical questions,

nowadays societies. Accessibility to social services approach.								preparation of answers. Group work.
Status and power of social services users. Implications for human rights issues.	4		2				6	12	Individual readings, analysis of problematical questions. Written notes for the discussion, group work. Vojak C. 2009. Choosing language: social service framing and social justice. Kallio J. and A. Kouvo. 2014. Street- level Bureaucrats' and the General Public's Deservingness Perceptions of Social Assistance Recipients in Finland.
Deinstitutionalization, digitalization, quality standardization of the social services sector - what threats for clients' human rights.	4		3				4	10	Individual readings, search for e sources , analysis of problematical questions, preparation of answers. Group work.
Marketization in personal social services - the user's rights perspective.	4		3				6	10	Individual readings, analysis of problematical questions, notes for the discussion, group work. Carey, M. (2008) Everything must go? The privatization of state social work. British Journal of social work, Volume 38, p. 918-935.
Total	32		16				48	82	

Evaluation strategy	Weight, %	Period of evaluation	Evaluation criteria
Written paper	10	During the semester	Consistency, adequacy in justification of human rights problems; Ability to analyze the topic/problem from the perspective of theoretical concepts, social work values and ethic. Clarity of arguments, critical approach in argumentation.
Participation to the group discussions	40	During the semester	Argumentation based on literature provided for reading; Sensitive and non-discriminatory language and communication in the group, talking about vulnerable people; Constructive critical approach in argumentation. Active communication in the group, suggesting of solutions, respect to other opinions.
Group assignment	50	Throughout the term	Maximum 5 points. Students working in a group will be required to produce a 35-40 min. final presentation that demonstrates: - innovativeness and creativity, originality of ideas; - adequacy for problematic of social work and human rights, justification of the strategy chosen. - ability to analyse the topic/problem of choice from the perspective of diverse relevant theoretical concepts; - ability to present the material clearly and in a structured manner; - ability to work effectively in a team, identify and solve problems collectively.

Required reading					
Carey, M.	2008	Everything must go? The privatization of state social work.	Volume 38, p. 918-	British Journal of social work	

			935	
J. Kallio and A. Kouvo.	2014	Street- level Bureaucrats' and the General Public's Deservingness Perceptions of Social Assistance Recipients in Finland.	Vol. 49, No. 3.	Social Policy and Administration
Walters, Gregory J.	1995	Human Rights in Theory and Practice: A Selected and Annotated Bibliography, with an Historical Introduction.		https://ustpaul.ca/upload-files/EthicsCenter/HumanRightsTheory&Practice-Walters.pdf
Susan Mapp, Jane McPherson, David Androff, Shirley Gatenio Gabel,	July 2019	Social Work Is a Human Rights Profession,	Volume 64, Issue 3, Pages 259–269	Social Work, https://doi.org/10.1093/sw/swz023
Edited by Wolfgang Benedek	2012	Understanding human rights European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (ETC) Manual On Human Rights Education		http://www.etc-graz.at/typo3/fileadmin/user_upload/ETC-Hauptseite/manual/versionen/english_3rd_edition/Manual_2012_FINAL.pdf
Healy, Lynne M.	2008	Exploring the history of social work as a human rights profession.	51(6), 735-748	International Social Work, doi: 10.1177/0020872808095247
ACAPS	2019	Global Emergency Overview		https://www.acaps.org/countries
Ife, J.	2008	Human Rights and Social Work. Towards Rights-Based Practice.	P. 140-199	Curtin University of Technology, Pert.
United nations	2006	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities		https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html
United nations	1989	Convention on the Rights of the Child		https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx
United nations	1979	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women		https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cedaw.aspx
Vojak C.	2009	Choosing language: social service framing and social justice.		British Journal of Social Work
Recommended reading				
Brian Munday	2007	Report on user involvement in personal social services. Council of Europe.		https://www.coe.int/t/dg3/socialpolicies/socialrights/source/ID4758-Userinvolvementinpersonalsocialservices.pdf
Sieghant, P.	1992	The International Law of Human Rights		Clasendor Press
Andrew Heard,	1997	Human rights: chimeras in sheep's clothing?		https://www.sfu.ca/~aheard/intro.html
United nations	2016	National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up: A Practical Guide to Effective State Engagement with International Human Rights Mechanisms		http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/HR_PUB_16_1_NMRF_PracticalGuide.pdf
University of Minesota	2016	Training Manual on Human Rights Monitoring		http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/monitoring/monitoring-training.html