B.A. Social Work ECTS Manual for Exchange Students

- valid for summer term 2023 -

Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin
University of Applied Sciences

The Social Work bachelor programme started in a revised version in summer term 2022 and will replace the old version step by step.

Therefore, during summer term 2023, ASH Berlin offers 1st to 3rd semester level courses from the new version and 4th to 7th semester level courses from the old version.

Please also note the FAQs on the last pages.

If you would like to study in English, please only refer to the courses down below when putting together your Learning Agreement.

Please note that this list does not guarantee that these courses will be offered during your exchange semester. The exact course offer will only be published 3-4 weeks before the start of the semester. For more information about the International Curriculum and for course details, please go to our website.

➲ NEW STUDY PROGRAMME VERSION ➲
(1st to 3rd semester)

1st and 2nd Semester *(beginners level)*

Module 3: Fields of Practice, Target Groups and Organizations of Social Work							1 exam in unit 1 *or* 2 Maximum amount of ECTS for all English-taught courses offered in this module: 7	
Graduates hold knowledge about how fields of Social Work practice are structured in general, and in-depth knowledge about one field in particular. They can apply relevant theoretical frameworks to analyse social work practice in specific fields and with specific populations.								
	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*	*Sem 1*	*Sem 2*	*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
Unit 2	Workshop I	S 13301	workshop	3	X		final paper *or* other type of written exam (e.g. essay, portfolio) *or* presentation	3/4*
	Workshop II	S 23201	workshop	2		X		3/4*
Requirements: none.								

Module 6: Society, Health and Social Work	1 exam in the seminars of unit 1, 2 *or* 3 Maximum amount of ECTS for all English-taught courses offered in this module: 12
Graduates recognize the connections between social, (social) political and health fields and factors for social work. They can compare perspectives from sociology, political science/ social policy and social medicine/ social psychiatry and derive insights for the tasks, role, and activities of social work.' Unit 1: Graduates have achieved a basic understanding of sociological ways of thinking and selected theoretical approaches for analysing societal structures (of power, domination and inequality), constructions of normality and social systems. They are able to identify how societal and social conditions influence social work recipients' life circumstances, their courses of action, and their understandings of self and the world. Graduates also recognize how these factors impact themselves and can problematize individualizing accounts against this background. They are encouraged to reflect upon the function and significance of social work as well as their own (future) professional practice in the societal context.	

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** Once the course catalogue ("LSF") is published 3-4 weeks before the start of the semester, you may consult it for the exact course number at www.ash-berlin.eu/lsf.

Unit 2: Graduates understand the interrelationships of society, economy, and state in current and historical processes. They know the epochs of economic and social history, the history of social movements as well as concepts of a welfare state in international comparison. They are able to recognize and analyse political and economic conditions that determine social policy. The basic knowledge acquired enables critical self-reflection and differentiated analyses in the fields of social work. Graduates know, how social work can contribute to an improvement of the socio-political foundations.

Unit 3: Graduates recognize the significance of demographic and social epidemiological data and findings from the health sciences as well as from reports of health and social sectors for social work and are able to interpret them. They are familiar with selected scientific and psychosocial explanatory concepts of health and illness; on this basis, they have a social science understanding of health. They know the interrelation of social conditions (social situation, gender, migration and age) and the areas of health / illness; being ill / coping with illness; utilization of health care. Graduates are familiar with the health policy objectives of health promotion / disease prevention and introduced to the complex process of rehabilitation of chronically / mentally ill and addicted people. Graduates are familiar with different areas of work in health-related social work as well as the requirements for the role of social workers in interdisciplinary work contexts.

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*	*Sem 1*	*Sem 2*	*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
Unit 1	Sociological Foundations of Social Work	S 15101	seminar	3	X		Written exam *or* final paper *or* oral exam *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	3/6*
Unit 2	Political and socio-political Foundations of Social Work	S 25101	seminar	3		X	Written exam or final paper or oral exam or other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	3/6*
Unit 3	Foundations of Social Medicine and Social Psychiatry for Social Work	S 25301	seminar	3		X	Written exam *or* final paper *or* oral exam *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	3/6*

Requirements: none.

3rd Semester *(intermediate level)*

Module 7: Diversity Studies	1 exam in unit 1 *or* 2 Maximum amount of ECTS for all English-taught courses offered in this module: 5

Graduates are familiar with selected debates on class, gender, sexuality, racism, ethnicity, migration and disability and have dealt with their interactions. They hold basic knowledge about the constructed character of normalization and marginalization in its societal, cultural, social, and subjective dimensions. Social practices are understood as a site for processing experiences, negotiating meanings, and perceiving possibilities for action. Social realities are recognized in their complexity, and the dangers of simplification and any unifications of meaning are reflected upon. Irritations of one's own perception are recognized as a productive source for self-reflexive practices. Different ways of dealing with socially significant differentiations and discriminations are critically analyzed for their contribution to de-/construction.

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*	*Sem 3*	*Sem 4*	*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
Unit 1	Racism and Migration	S 31101	seminar	2	X		Written exam *or* final paper *or* oral exam *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	2/3*
Unit 2	Gender and Queer Studies	S 31202 S 31201 (S)	seminar	2	X			2/3*

Requirements: none.

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➲ OLD STUDY PROGRAMME VERSION ⊖
(4th to 7th semester)

4th Semester (intermediate level)

Culture – Aesthetics – Media of Social Work	1 exam in one part of unit 1 (exam will not be graded, only "pass" or "fail") Maximum amount of ECTS for all English-taught courses offered in this module: 7

Graduates have insight into cultural, media and educational research, especially socialization, reception and impact research, an overview of social cultural work as a field of activity and the use of aesthetic-media practices for social work target groups. With a focus on media education, theatre education, or music, graduates have deepened their knowledge and competencies in creative group processes, social-aesthetic and media design and a critical examination of the respective approaches, art genres and media, artistic strategies as well as inter- and transdisciplinary positions.

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*	*Sem 3*	*Sem 4*	*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
Unit 1	Exempl. Introduction to Cult., Aesthetic or Media Social Work I	S 36101	seminar	2	X		Final paper *or* oral exam *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	3/4*
	Exempl. Introduction to Cult., Aesthetic or Media Social Work II	S 44301	seminar	2		X		3/4*

Requirements: none.

International Social Work	1 exam Maximum amount of ECTS for all English-taught courses offered in this module: 5

Graduates know how to analyse the global and imperial interdependencies of social worlds on the one hand and their social and political impact on concrete social life on the others hand. They differentiate the contexts of respective international socio-state constitutions and devise methodical approaches for action accordingly. They recognize the influential role of relationships between governmental actors and those in civil society. Graduates critically assess the global challenges of climate change and develop action strategies that allow them to integrate these into the professional fields of social work. They understand the importance of maintaining a research stance and attitude in light of the global complexities.

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*	*Sem 3*	*Sem 4*	*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
	International Social Work	S 45101	seminar	2		X	Written exam *or* final paper *or* oral exam *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	3/5*

Requirements: students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area.

Introduction to Social Economics and Social Management in Social Work	1 exam Maximum amount of ECTS for all English-taught courses offered in this module: 5

Graduates have introductory knowledge about the central concepts and theories of social economics, as well as their relevance with respect to the organisations and fields of social work. They have a basic understanding of the role of the social economy in the context of the overall of economic structures and the welfare state. They are acquainted with community economic approaches that underline perspectives of empowerment and social-ecological transformation within solidarity economies.

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*	*Sem 6*	*Sem 7*	*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
	Introduction to Social Economics and Social Management in Social Work	S 46101	seminar	2		X	Written exam *or* final paper *or* oral exam *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	2/5*

Requirements: students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area. In addition, students must have completed a module equivalent to "Areas, Target Groups and Organisation of Social Work".

* Number of ECTS depends on whether or not you complete an exam. Students can choose whether or not they wish to do an exam. However, please be aware that some of our partner universities may only accredit courses if they are graded (i.e. if you have completed an exam). Please consult your home university to find out.

** Once the course catalogue ("LSF") is published 3-4 weeks before the start of the semester, you may consult it for the exact course number at www.ash-berlin.eu/lsf.

6th and 7th Semester *(advanced level)*

Social Work Theories and Methods	1 exam in one part of unit 2 Maximum amount of ECTS for all English-taught courses offered in this module: 7

Graduates hold in-depth knowledge of selected theories, concepts and methods of social work and relate questions of practice to scientific questions. Focused on either general methods of practice or reconstructive methods, they locate practice methods in theory, critically assess impact and limitations of various approaches on different levels and formulate implications for the discipline and profession. They analyse and assess institutional and organisational conditions into which social work is bound and identify ethical difficulties and dilemmas. They grasp and re-construct the biographical context and life-world of addressees, and develop fitting forms of professional engagement and intervention. Graduates analyse cases, situations, problems and resources from multiple perspectives to devise professional strategies that are sensitive to human differences and diversity. They reflect on their own biographical and professional experiences and skills, identify links to social work theory, and use insights to further their understanding of professional attitudes and sense of professional identity.

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*	*Sem 6*	*Sem 7*	*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
Unit 2	Practice Methods *or* Reconstructive Social Work I	S 62201	seminar	3	X		Written exam *or* final paper *or* oral exam *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	3/4*
	Practice Methods *or* Reconstructive Social Work II	S 72201	seminar	3		X	Written exam *or* final paper *or* oral exam *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	3/4*

Requirements: students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area. In addition, students must have completed modules equivalent to “Practice Methods I + II” and “Social Work: Academic Skills, History and Theory”.

Advanced Theory and Practice: Health, Illness and Social Work	1 exam Maximum amount of ECTS for all English-taught courses offered in this module: 10

Graduates are familiar with the social determinants of health and the connection between social and health inequality and are sensitized to the importance of social work in the health sector. They are familiar with and can apply theoretical concepts of the bio-psycho-social health process, know the conditions under which selected diseases develop and their course, and the associated fields of action of social work in the context of health promotion, health care and rehabilitation. They are familiar with respective structures and facilities as well as different settings and target groups. On the basis of this knowledge, graduates apply reflected perspectives, action strategies and competencies of social work in these mostly interprofessional fields of work. They are able to introduce a resource-oriented perspective into multi-professional work processes and develop specific case and field competencies for the health sector.

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*	*Sem 6*	*Sem 7*	*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
	Health, Illness and Social Work	S 63401	seminar	4	X		Final paper *or* oral exam *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	10

Requirements: students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area.

Legal Foundations of Social Work III	1 exam in unit 1 *or* 2 Maximum amount of ECTS for all English-taught courses offered in this module: 7

Graduates can apply the concept of social advocacy in the practice of social work (on a case-by-case basis). They devise strategies for legal support and solutions regarding social rights in different legal areas (livelihood security, health/ rehabilitation, child and youth welfare, old age/ care, migration). They can use social advocacy in the following areas: crime and criminal law, intersectionality and anti-discrimination law, international and human rights, care law and self-determination rights, special life situations and social welfare law, homelessness.

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*	*Sem 6*	*Sem 7*	*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
Unit 2	Selected Aspects of Law for Social Work	S 73101	seminar	3		X	Written exam *or* final paper *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	3/7*

Requirements: students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area. In addition, students must have completed a module equivalent to “Legal Foundations of Social Work I + II”.

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Electives + language courses

Elective courses ("Wahlmodul")	1 exam in elective 1 or 2 (exam will not be graded, only "pass" or "fail") Maximum amount of ECTS for all English-taught courses offered in this module: 5

Graduates have deepened or supplemented previously acquired skills and knowledge according to their personal course of study or professional goals. They hold knowledge of current topics or practical fields of social work, deepen their knowledge in specific methods or in other areas of knowledge relevant to social work. They take on new perspectives, link their findings with other disciplines and present insights and results.

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*			*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
	Elective course 1	W…	seminar	2			At least two different types of exam (consult with the lecturer directly)	2/3*
	Elective course 2	W…	seminar	2				2/3*

Requirements: students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area. Note: each semester, there will be different electives offered.

Language Courses (e.g. German, Spanish or English)	Exams are mandatory No maximum amount of ECTS

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*			*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
	Language course (2 hours p. week)	O…	seminar	3			Written exam	3
	Language course (3-4 hours p. week)	O …	seminar	5			Written exam	5

Note: Please make sure to ask your *home university* whether language courses can be accredited.

Information concerning modules and units:

Our Bachelor "Social Work" at ASH Berlin consists of so-called "modules". A module is a complete "package" of teaching and learning with clearly defined contents to be completed in a set time-frame. Often, a module consists of several units (which may in turn consist of several parts). For example, our module "Diversity Studies" in the third semester consists of three units: unit 1 "Racism and Migration", unit 2 "Gender and Queer Studies" and unit 3 "Dis-Ability and Ableism", out of which two units are offered in English.

As we explain in the FAQ / question 3 below, you usually do not have to complete the entire module, but you can also only attend single units. If there are restrictions, we explain them in the footnotes (e.g. in "Social Work Theories and Methods").

Module 7: Diversity Studies	1 exam in unit 1 *or* 2 Maximum amount of ECTS for all courses offered in this module: 5

Graduates are familiar with selected debates on class, gender, sexuality, racism, ethnicity, migration and disability and have dealt with their interactions. They hold basic knowledge about the constructed character of normalization and marginalization in its societal, cultural, social, and subjective dimensions. Social practices are understood as a site for processing experiences, negotiating meanings, and perceiving possibilities for action. Social realities are recognized in their complexity, and the dangers of simplification and any unifications of meaning are reflected upon. Irritations of one's own perception are recognized as a productive source for self-reflexive practices. Different ways of dealing with socially significant differentiations and discriminations are critically analyzed for their contribution to de-/construction.

	Title	*Course No.***	*Type of Course*	*Hours p. Week*	*Sem 3*	*Sem 4*	*Exam / Type of Exam*	*ECTS*
Unit 1	Racism and Migration	S 31101	seminar	2	X		Written exam *or* final paper *or* oral exam *or* other type of exam (e.g. presentation)	2/3*
Unit 2	Gender and Queer Studies	S 31202 S 31201 (S)	seminar	2	X			2/3*

Requirements: none.

Please note: In case you complete all units offered in English in one module, the ECTS and exam regulations mentioned in the *grey module line* apply. If you only attend single units, the ECTS and exam regulations mentioned in the *unit line* apply.

Let's take, for example, our module "Diversity Studies" from the third semester: If you complete both English-taught courses offered in this module (unit 1 *and* unit 2), you only do one exam (you can choose in which unit) and receive 5 ECTS in total. If you only complete one unit, you'll receive 2 or 3 ECTS (depending on whether you do an exam or not).

* Number of ECTS depends on whether or not you complete an exam. Students can choose whether or not they wish to do an exam. However, please be aware that some of our partner universities may only accredit courses if they are graded (i.e. if you have completed an exam). Please consult your home university to find out.

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FAQ for Exchange Students in Social Work (B.A.)

? *Will all units be offered every semester?*

! Every semester 10-15 units will also be offered in English or Spanish (called “International Curriculum”). The exact course offer will be published in the course catalogue “LSF” online at www.ash-berlin.eu/lsf about 3-4 weeks before the start of the semester. You can find the courses offered in the International Curriculum in past semesters at www.ash-berlin.eu/en/ash-international/exchange-at-ash-berlin/studying-at-ash-berlin/#c7405. Please note that the course offer might be subject to change every semester.

? *Do I have to do the entire module or can I attend single units?*

! Yes, you can attend single units. If there are restrictions, we explain them in the field “Requirements”.

? *Can I attend units from different semesters (e.g. from the 2nd, 3rd and 4th semester)?*

! Yes, you can attend units from different semesters. If there are any structural or academic restrictions, we explain them in the field “Requirements”.

? *In some modules, the restrictions say that students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area. What are related study areas?*

! Related study areas are for example social pedagogics, sociocultural animation, psychology, education, sociology or political studies. If you don’t study in a related study area, please make sure to not choose these courses. If you have not yet completed 60 ECTS but you will do so before the start of your semester at ASH Berlin, you can choose these courses on your Learning Agreement but please make sure to send us your latest transcript before the start of your exchange semester.

? *In some modules and units, I can seem to choose if I want to do an exam or not – what does that mean?*

! All units marked with the footnote* offer students the option to choose if they want to do the course with a final exam or not. The no. of ECTS you can receive for such a course depends on whether or not you do the exam. However, please be aware that some of our partner universities may only accredit courses if they are graded (i.e. if you have completed an exam). Please consult your home university to find out *before* you prepare your Learning Agreement.

? *What kinds of exams will be offered?*

! At least two of the listed kinds of exam will be offered from which you can choose. Your lecturers will inform you at the beginning of the semester about your exact exam options.

? *In some modules, the exam is only pass or fail – what does that mean?*

! In the elective module or in the module “Culture – Aesthetics – Media of Social Work”, the exam is not graded, the grade is only pass or fail. Before preparing your Learning Agreement, please check with your home university, if they accept courses / modules that are not graded with a numerical grade, but only with pass or fail. If not, you may ask the ASH Berlin teachers for an exception and to grade your exam with a numerical grade. Please note that it is your responsibility to talk to your teachers about this at the *beginning* of the semester!

? *Where can I find the exact content of the modules and units?*

! For the exact content of the modules, please consult the module handbook at https://www.ash-berlin.eu/fileadmin/Daten/Internationales/Incomings/International_Curriculum/Engl_Handbuch_8.Auflage_final.pdf.

? *When and how will I know about the exact course times, locations and teachers? How can I sign up for the courses?*

! You can access the course times and details via the course catalogue „LSF“ at www.ash-berlin.eu/lsf about 3-4 weeks before the start of the semester. Before the start of the semester, we will inform you in detail about how to use the LSF and how to register for your courses.

? *Can I change my Learning Agreement after the semester has started?*

! In certain circumstances, you can change your Learning Agreement after the semester has started, e.g. because of a time clash or in case a course isn’t offered anymore and you need to substitute it with another course.

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