

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

INTRODUCTION

The School of Social Work (SSW) promotes education in social work that is democratic, emancipatory, egalitarian, and develops a critical perspective in students. It offers dynamic and relevant programmes at the Doctoral, Master's and Certificate levels. It also identifies new areas for social work practice and evolves innovative strategies through practice-based research and field action projects. Other thrust areas of the School are research, networking and liaising with governmental and non-governmental organisations for capacity building, policy and programme development, and extension.

The SSW has 8 centres:

- Centre for Community Organisation and Development Practice
- Centre for Criminology and Justice
- Centre for Disability Studies and Action
- Centre for Equity and Justice for Children and Families
- Centre for Health and Mental Health
- Centre for Livelihoods and Social Innovation

- Centre for Social Justice and Governance
- Centre for Women-Centred Social Work

The School of Social Work offers 9 M.A. Social Work programmes emerging from the thematic areas of the 8 Centres. In the first year, students are introduced to the field of Social Work through core courses and fieldwork which is generic in nature. Fieldwork in the first year is organised in a way that each student is exposed to a broader thematic area, not necessarily one that the student has chosen to specialise in. Foundation Courses focus on key social issues. All these together help students develop a critical-analytical gaze and basic intervention skills of working with marginalised groups and institutional structures. Programme-specific, thematic inputs in the first year are designed to help students understand concepts, theories and practice in their chosen field of engagement. It is in the second year that thematic inputs are deepened through several more courses offered by each Centre, anchoring the specific M.A. programme.

The credits are common across all the 9 social work programmes offered by the SSW, as given below:

Distribution of Credit Hours

Detail	Credits
Foundation Course	4
Core Social Work Courses	18
Thematic Courses	18
Elective Foundation Course (CBCS)	2
Open Elective Courses (CBCS)	2
Disciplinary Electives (CBCS)	4
Research Project	6
Field Work	24
Total Credits	78

PROGRAMME DETAILS

M.A. Social Work with Children and Families

Social Work with children and families as a field has grown considerably in terms of its perspectives, scope and requirement of professional expertise. In recent years, the globalised world has been witnessing considerable civil society engagement on issues related to children and families. Discourses

and interventions are taking place on a wide range of issues from services on health and education to quality care and State support for children in need of care and protection. The neoliberal forces have led to an emphasis on the individual and have redrawn families, gender roles and childhood experiences.

Moreover, in recent times, the refugee crisis across the world has further added stress on the family, breaking them and especially placing the children, women, and elderly into a vulnerable situation. Besides, families are not only spaces for holding people together by providing nurturance and identity, they are also sites of conflict and violence, particularly for children and other vulnerable members. Thus, the intervention of government and civil society to support children and families becomes important to realise the rights of the children within the family.

The forces of globalisation superimposed over highly inequitable social and economic institutions is driving children of vulnerable families into child labour, sex work or other forms of exploitative relationships. Children and their families belonging to specific marginalised communities like dalits, adivasis, religious minorities, forced migrants, the poor, and those affected by disasters and conflicts are living on the edge, struggling to find ways to survive, protect and educate themselves. On the one hand, families of these children struggle against discrimination and dignity, and on the other hand, for survival — ensuring food, education and shelter for their children. Though challenging, social workers have found it extremely fulfilling and rewarding to work on these issues and promote the rights of children and families for survival, development, protection and participation.

The programme provides students with a critical understanding of the diversities of childhoods, of family as a context for individual development, as well as of policies, legislations and macro developmental processes impacting children and families. Students in this programme will have developed their capacities

to undertake rights-based work for ensuring inclusion of children of marginalised communities into the mainstream processes of development. Recognising and working with children as citizens and rights holders is the focus of this programme, while also understanding the social realities impacting families and the different members residing in a household unit. Students will learn to design social work interventions and provide services, as well as learn about advocacy and policy change. Thus, the students will have improved capabilities to translate theory into practice, and to reflectively work with children in addressing particular problem situations and vulnerabilities like children on the streets, in conflict with law, in conflict situations, child labour, children of sex workers, children in residential care, etc.

Social work professionals in this field are often involved in designing and coordinating suitable services to assist a child or family, whether it is in ensuring child rights and child protection, or in facilitating adoptions, or in finding foster homes for neglected, abandoned or abused children. The field not only provides ample scope to work with professional agencies in assisting children and families in dealing with stress or emotional problems, but also in directly working with children, youth and families affected by different vulnerabilities and/or children within the purview of the juvenile justice system. Graduates of the present programme have a lot of scope to find employment in government projects, educational, health care, and residential care institutions, and in many local and international NGOs, and across urban and rural areas. Students can also find suitable job prospects in research, consulting, teaching, and policy advocacy.

Semester-wise Listing of Courses

Course Code	Course Title	Credits
SEMESTER I		
FC	Foundation Course	4
SW 01	History and Perspectives of Social Work	2
SW 02	Social Work Practice with Individuals	2
SW 03	Social Work Practice with Groups	2
SW 05	Research Methods I	2
CF 01	Child and Childhood In India: Theories, Demographics and Perspectives	2
SEMESTER II		
EF	Elective Foundation Course (CBCS)*	2
OE	Open Elective Course (CBCS)*	2
SW 04	Community Organisation	2

Course Code	Course Title	Credits
SEMESTER II		
SW 06	Social Welfare Administration	2
SW 07	Critical Perspectives on Social Work: Introduction to Social Theories	2
SW 08	Research Methods II	2
CF 02	Family in India	2
FW 01	Fieldwork	12
SEMESTER III		
SW 09	Social Policy and Planning	2
CF 03	Child and Family Laws in India	2
CF 04	Policies and Programmes for Children	2
CF 05	Vulnerable and Marginalised Children: Issues and Perspectives	2
CF 06	Issues and Concerns of Children and Families in Rural India	2
CF 07	Working with Children: Skills and Interventions	2
CF 08	Working with Families: Skills and Interventions	2
SEMESTER IV		
CF 09	Action and Advocacy for Children and Families	2
RP	Research Project	6
FW 02	Fieldwork	12
DE 01	Disciplinary Elective Course (CBCS)	2
DE 02	Disciplinary Elective Course (CBCS)	2

Note: The total number of credits, list of CBCS courses and semester-wise listing of courses is provisional, and may undergo some changes.

* Refer to the section on Choice Based Credit System

M.A. Social Work in Community Organisation and Development Practice

Communities are at critical crossroads across the Global South. In a technology and market-driven process of development, the expanse of the marginalised and deprived sections of communities has increased. Those who have been historically disadvantaged, dispossessed of land, lack appropriate skills, quality education and/or other resources, are not able to benefit from the fruits of this “progress” and “development”. A critical analysis of the dynamics between the processes of marginalities and collective deprivation, and the macro processes of development and its trajectories has become very significant for informed practice with communities. Today, development practitioners require multiple perspectives to analyse and engage with present day complex realities of life and livelihoods. This necessitates capacity enhancement and development of newer strategies to serve the interests of disadvantaged populations. Further, understanding local situations and working with communities to

address key concerns is as critical today as being able to see national and international connections of these very concerns in the globalising world.

The M.A. Social Work in Community Organisation and Development Practice (CODP) programme aims to blend a critical socio-political analysis of marginalities of communities with appropriate strategies and approaches in enabling the process of claiming their entitlements and rights. This programme envisages preparation of a cadre of development practitioners that could effectively respond to the contemporary concerns of marginalised communities and to promote people-centred development. The curriculum of CODP brings synergy across various components such as course work, field education and social research spread across four semesters. Graduates of M.A. Social Work in CODP find meaning in working in a range of rural and urban settings — government as well as non-governmental development organisations and

projects, people's organisations and movements, trade unions, and corporate social responsibility initiatives. Some may also engage in self-initiated work in areas

or on issues that require innovative approaches and strategies, as well as contribute to policy practice and advocacy.

Semester-wise Listing of Courses

Course Code	Course Title	Credits
SEMESTER I		
FC	Foundation Course	4
SW 01	History and Perspectives of Social Work	2
SW 02	Social Work Practice with Individuals	2
SW 03	Social Work Practice with Groups	2
SW 05	Research Methods I	2
CODP 02	Theoretical Perspectives for Community Practice	2
SEMESTER II		
EF	Elective Foundation Course (CBCS)*	2
OE	Open Elective Course (CBCS)*	2
SW 04	Community Organisation	2
SW 06	Social Welfare Administration	2
SW 07	Critical Perspectives on Social Work: Introduction to Social Theories	2
SW 08	Research Methods II	2
CODP 01	Rural Development and Governance	2
CODP 04	Sustainable Development and Gender	2
FW 01	Fieldwork	12
SEMESTER III		
SW 09	Social Policy and Planning	2
CODP 06	Socio Legal Dimensions in Development Practice	2
CODP 07	Urbanisation, Governance and Informal Work	2
CODP 08	Social Action, Advocacy and Movements	2
CODP 09	Disasters and Development	2
CODP 10	Programme Planning and Management	2
LSE 05	Business Plan Development for Social Sector	2
SEMESTER IV		
RP	Research Project	6
FW 02	Fieldwork	12
DE 01	Disciplinary Elective Course (CBCS)	2
DE 02	Disciplinary Elective Course (CBCS)	2

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M.A. Social Work in Criminology and Justice

Social Work in the thematic field of Criminology and Justice provides immense opportunity to examine and work with social actors and institutions dealing with crime, law and justice from a rights-based perspective.

Students opting for this programme will be exposed to the dynamics and complexities of deviance and crime from diverse world-views, and will develop capacities to critically reflect on the criminal justice system across

the country. The broad concerns of the programme correspond to four inter-related areas. First, it provides a strong theoretical underpinning on human rights and the criminal / juvenile justice system. Second, it encourages a critical examination of crime around issues such as gender-based violence; and atrocities against Dalits, de-notified tribes and socially stigmatised communities. It also dwells upon areas related to juvenile justice and crime among youth; trafficking of drugs and human beings. Third, it lays the foundation for a critical understanding of criminal /juvenile justice systems and agencies, and current issues such as policing, prison management, custodial justice, human rights violations, role of the State, correctional agencies and alternative justice systems. Fourth, it offers frameworks to engage towards social reintegration and inclusion of persons affected by crime, violence, stigma, and aggravated forms of vulnerabilities.

Today, the Indian justice system is characterised by innumerable arrests, overcrowded jails, punitive system with little to no corrections / rehabilitation and courts with lakhs of pending cases. Despite these realities there is a significant traditional indifference towards criminal justice. It is the poor, the unemployed, the visible minorities, the powerless, and those ostracised for their sexual orientation that are most frequently criminalised by the system. Understanding that the law and its application are frequently biased, the marginalised may behave in ways that bring them into direct conflict with the law. The presence of social work in the administration of justice has, thus, become a valuable component of practice for the profession itself, as well as an important influence on justice agencies.

In this context, social workers need to play a key role in engaging with State actors and victim groups in ensuring justice and accessing rehabilitative structures. They need to interface with a diversity

of issues in practice situations. Their engagement with the justice system will impact the situation of offenders, victims, disputants, persons released from custodial institutions, vulnerable groups rescued from exploitative situations and those who are prone to criminalisation or victimisation. They can be involved in a range of interventions such as counselling, liaison with family/community structures and the administration, providing outreach services, pre-litigation work, conflict resolution, and community-based rehabilitation work. The field is full of involuntary clients and groups who are in custody often against their will, e.g. prisoners, children and women in protective care, victims of abuse, and homeless people arrested under beggary and vagrancy laws. These are almost always the most stigmatised and socially excluded populations.

Working with such groups requires specialised knowledge, attitudes and skills specific to justice settings, in terms of international laws and conventions, constitutional and legal provisions, powers and accountability of the system, and correctional laws and policies. It needs specialised skills to work with resistant and status-quoist systems; to engage with overloaded and demoralised justice functionaries and to work with affected groups who are traumatised and disadvantaged due to their experiences with society and the State. Job prospects in this field include engagement and positions with agencies collaborating with law enforcement agencies, correctional institutions and within civil society organisations working in the area of human rights, juvenile justice and child rights, legal aid, anti-trafficking and rehabilitation of victims of commercial sexual exploitation, prison reforms and rehabilitation of prisoners and their families, victim services and victim advocacy. With experience, professionals in this field may also qualify for professional positions in, teaching, and policy research.

Semester-wise Listing of Courses

Course Code	Course Title	Credits
SEMESTER I		
FC	Foundation Courses	4
SW 01	History and Perspectives of Social Work	2
SW 02	Social Work Practice with Individuals	2
SW 03	Social Work Practice with Groups	2
SW 05	Research Methods I	2
CJ 01	Criminology: Trends and Perspectives	2

Course Code	Course Title	Credits
SEMESTER II		
EF	Elective Foundation Course (CBCS)*	2
OE	Open Elective Course (CBCS)*	2
SW 04	Community Organisation	2
SW 06	Social Welfare Administration	2
SW 07	Critical Perspectives on Social Work: Introduction to Social Theories	2
SW 08	Research Methods II	2
CJ 02	Child Rights and Juvenile Justice	2
CJ 03	Rural Crime and Justice	2
FW 01	Fieldwork	12
SEMESTER III		
SW 09	Social Policy and Planning	2
CJ 07	Victimology and Crime Prevention	2
CJ 04	Criminal Law and Practice	2
CJ 05	Correctional Perspectives, Policies and Practice	2
CJ 06	Issues and Challenges in Criminal Justice Social Work	2
CJ 09	Social Action and Advocacy	2
SEMESTER IV		
CJ 11	Human Rights and Access to Justice	2
RP	Research Project	6
FW 02	Fieldwork	12
DE 01	Disciplinary Elective Course (CBCS)	2
DE 01	Disciplinary Elective Course (CBCS)	2

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M.A. Social Work in Dalit and Tribal Studies and Action

Dalit and Tribal Studies and Action is an intensive and theoretically engaging field with the academic programme premised within a Dalit and Tribal episteme. It is located within anti-oppressive social work and articulates a bottom up, perspective from within and perspective from below under the framework of Dalit and Tribal Studies and Action. The programme follows a meta-discipline approach to knowledge acquisition and brings within its theoretical ambit subjects such as Ontology, Epistemology, Ethics and Aesthetics, Social and Political Philosophy, and Dalit and Tribal Knowledge Systems. Students are exposed to the latest theoretical debates from a meta-discipline approach pertaining to Tribes, Caste, the Indian State and global geopolitics.

The programme uses critical and contextual pedagogy led by faculty who are renowned for

their ability to facilitate the process. Academically oriented students interested in the ideas of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and dedicated to the empowerment of Dalits and Tribes would greatly benefit from the programme. Those who have a degree in History, Human Geography, Anthropology, Sociology, Cultural Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies, Political Science and any Humanities subject would find the programme both challenging and fulfilling. Students of Bachelor's in Social Work with interest in Ambedkar Social Work would be greatly enriched by the theoretical insights and depth that the programme offers. Activists with any academic background having few years of experience with people's movements would find the programme extremely insightful and engaging. The programme is the first of its kind in the world, providing students with wide theoretical exposure to international politico-

historical and political economic discourses situated within the framework of Ambedkar Social Work. Graduates of this programme have job opportunities

in a range of governmental and non-governmental organisations, civil society movements, and social enterprises.

Semester-wise Listing of Courses

Course Code	Course Title	Credits
SEMESTER I		
FC	Foundation Course	4
SW 01	History and Perspectives of Social Work	2
SW 02	Social Work Practice with Individuals	2
SW 03	Social Work Practice with Groups	2
SW 05	Research Methods I	2
DTSA 4	Dalit and Tribal Social Work: Perspectives and Concepts	2
SEMESTER II		
EF	Elective Foundation Course (CBCS)*	2
OE	Open Elective Course (CBCS)*	2
SW 04	Community Organisation	2
SW 06	Social Welfare Administration	2
SW 07	Critical Perspectives on Social Work: Introduction to Social Theories	2
SW 08	Research Methods II	2
DTSA 2	Political Theory for Critical Social Work	2
DTSA 9	Advanced Dalit and Tribal Social Work Practice Skills	2
DTSA 12	Project Planning and Management	2
FW 01	Fieldwork	12
SEMESTER III		
SW 09	Social Policy and Planning	2
DTSA 7	Tribes, State and Governance	2
DTSA 3	Term Paper on Dalit and Tribal Studies	2
DTSA 5	Political Economy, Development and Dalits	2
DTSA 10	Law, Justice and Democratic Rights	2
SEMESTER IV		
	Choose any one between DTSA 11 and DTSA 13.2	
DTSA 11	Tribal and Dalit Movements: Theory and Practice	2
DTSA 13.2	Social Entrepreneurship among Dalits and Tribes	2
RP	Research Project	6
FW 02	Fieldwork	12
DE1	Disciplinary Elective Courses (CBCS)	2
DE2	Disciplinary Elective Courses (CBCS)	2

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M.A. Social Work in Disability Studies and Action

The focus among professionals in the field of disability rehabilitation today is on the rights of persons with disability, equalisation of opportunities and their integration into mainstream society. It has been formally recognised that people with disabilities are people who have the same economic, emotional, physical, intellectual, spiritual, social and political needs that other people have. Though we have come a long way, we still have far to go in ensuring an inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based society for persons with disabilities. In India, persons with disability are still oppressed and marginalised, and denied the opportunity to lead a reasonable quality of life because of society's persistent stereotypical and prejudiced perception of them as inferior, incapable and inadequate; a drain on family resources; and costly for society to maintain.

The M.A. Social Work in Disability Studies and Action enables students to understand and conceptualise disability as socially constructed and find explanations for disablement within the context of a person's life, rather than within the individuals themselves. Rehabilitation conducted within a comprehensive

social framework is not only about the removal of barriers at the individual level, it is also about the removal of physical and attitudinal barriers in society at large. It includes not only engaging with persons with disability, but also engaging with the community and other systems of society for creating more enabling and inclusive environments so that their complete integration into mainstream society is possible.

The M.A. Social Work in Disability Studies and Action is being offered to create a cadre of professional social workers, with competency in empowering people with disability and all other stakeholders with regard to this issue.

The programme provides immense wide-ranging career opportunities for students with diverse interests. Students can choose to work in government sectors, National government programmes, and flagship schemes like NREGA, NRHM, and ICDS. This programme also equips students to work in different capacities in diverse settings including government institutions, non-government organisations, hospitals and research-based organisations.

Semester-wise Listing of Courses

Course Code	Course Title	Credits
SEMESTER I		
FC	Foundation Course	4
SW 01	History and Perspectives of Social Work	2
SW 02	Social Work Practice with Individuals	2
SW 03	Social Work Practice with Groups	2
SW 05	Research Methods I	2
DSA 01	Theoretical Perspectives and their Application to Disability Rehabilitation Social Work	2
SEMESTER II		
EF	Elective Foundation Course (CBCS)*	2
OE	Open Elective Course (CBCS)*	2
SW 04	Community Organisation	2
SW 06	Social Welfare Administration	2
SW 07	Critical Perspectives on Social Work: Introduction to Social Theories	2
SW 08	Research Methods II	2
DSA 02	Persons with Disability and their Rehabilitation Contexts	4
FW 01	Fieldwork	12