

Course Unit: 923802 – Social Contemporary Problems

Year 1 Semester 1 ISCED Code: 762 ECTS: 6,0

Type of Course Unit: Compulsory Delivery Mode: Face-to-face Language of Instruction: Portuguese

COURSE COORDINATOR: Ana Piedade; Maria Inês Faria

HOURS OF WORK

TOTAL HOURS	Contact Hours								Hours in autonomous work
	Theory	Theory and practice	Practical and laboratory work	Field work	Seminar	Internship	Tutorial guidance	Other	
150			50				25		75

Prerequisites (if applicable): Not applied

LEARNING OUTCOMES (knowledge, skills and competence)

This curricular Unit aims to give the student a set of knowledge, skills and competencies related to what are some of the social problems and needs in the world today. Contemporary social problems are expressions of Social issues, so they are a subject of professional intervention of social workers. One of the goals of the present Curricular Unit is to make a first approach to some of the social problems and needs associated with specific groups.

CONTENTS

1. Introduction to the concepts of: Social issues, Social problem and Social need
2. The different political and doctrinal approaches around the social problems and needs
3. Poverty and their expressions as the central problems of social workers professional intervention
4. Other social issues, cross-professional Social worker intervention
 - 4.1. Social exclusion
 - 4.2. Unemployment
5. Some social problems and needs related with specific groups:
 - 5.1. Elderly people
 - 5.2. Migrants
 - 5.3. Ethnic-cultural minorities
 - 5.4. People with disabilities

DEMONSTRATION OF THE CONTENTS COHERENCE WITH THE COURSE UNIT'S LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Concerning Item 1 of the syllabus, it is intended that students stay empowered to develop a framework of the concept of problem and social need, within the various theoretical approaches-conceptual social sciences;

- With regard to points 3, 4, and 5: Once internalized the concepts of problem and social need in the context of different approaches, students will become familiar with a set of cross-cutting social issues to professional intervention. They will also approach problems and needs of specific groups, transversal to all professional intervention as well as the majority of other course units of the degree in Social Service

TEACHING METHODOLOGIES

Combination of multiple strategies:

Exploração das temáticas através de métodos expositivos, seminários, workshops; Simulation of situations and solving exercises; Small group work presented and discussed to a large group. Autonomous work of research and systematization.

Planning techniques explored in small group. Analysis and reflection of Community intervention projects. Sharing of experiences.

DEMONSTRATION OF THE COHERENCE BETWEEN THE TEACHING METHODOLOGIES AND THE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The learning objectives of the curricular unit contemporary social issues are explored and consolidated by situations of concepts definitions and theoretical foundations. The brain storms and considerations are complemented by practical examples followed by periods of reflection in the context of the classroom. The group assessment will also facilitate greater involvement of students in research associated to some problematic content, social needs issues and groups that are the target of the professional Social worker intervention. Some videos will be projected in context of classroom regarding issues of the syllabus. These video projections will be followed by group reflections. These activities aim stimulate the ability of students' reasoning and expository.

EVALUATION METHODS

The evaluation of competences acquired in this course is continuous, formative and summative. Comprises:

- Thematic exploration through exhibition methods and dynamics of active work involving students;
- Simulation and resolu

MAIN BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ander – Egg, E. (1995). Introdução ao Trabalho Social. Petrópolis: Editora Vozes

EAPN Portugal – Rede Europeia Anti Pobreza (2011). Guia Metodológico Sobre a Participação das Pessoas em Situação de Pobreza e Exclusão Social. Porto: EAPN

Carmo, H. (2008). Problemas Sociais Contemporâneos. Lisboa: Edição Universidade Aberta

Costa, A. et al (1998). Um olhar sobre a pobreza - Vulnerabilidade e Exclusão Social no Portugal Contemporâneo. Lisboa: Gradiva

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Saíz, L. (2015). El papel del trabajador social en una sociedad precarizada. Revista Cuadernos de Trabajo Social. Madrid: Universidad Complutense de Madrid Nº. 28, Nº. 2, pp 187- 197

Texts suggested by the teachers of the Curricular Unit

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