

# Alice Salomon Hochschule (ASH) Berlin · Bachelor Social Work · International Curriculum:

## Courses offered in English (*summer term 2025, last updated on: 22 May 2025*)



Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin  
University of Applied Sciences

This is an overview of the English-taught courses in the Bachelor Social Work. For more information about module descriptions and further details, please check our homepage at [www.ash-berlin.eu/en/ash-international/exchange-at-ash-berlin/studying-at-ash-berlin/](http://www.ash-berlin.eu/en/ash-international/exchange-at-ash-berlin/studying-at-ash-berlin/).

Course no.	Module	Course title and contents · Hours per week / Type / Length / Exam	Language of instruction	Teacher	ECTS credits	Semester	Requirements
S 13301	Areas, Target Groups and Organisations of Social Work	<b>Workshop I</b>  Intersectionality and Migration  Based on a profound definition of intersectionality, diversity and migration, forms and types of discrimination and societal (de-)privilege will be elaborated. Building on this, the role and mandate of Social Work in the context of (forced) migration will be critically examined and the diversity of different self-perceptions and positions reflected upon. Dr. Yuriditz Pascacio Montijo is a philosopher of Science and studied Intercultural Conflict Management at Alice Salomon University, Tabea Metz holds a BA in Social Work and MA in Management, Education and Diversity with focus on (forced) migration. Both have various further professional qualifications and several years of experience in diversity-oriented and discrimination-sensitive Social Work. An exchange with other experts and institutions in the field through excursions is planned, certain interests of students will be considered. For examination, individual or group presentations as well as creative study projects on a self-selected and affirmed topic relevant to the workshop are possible Hours per week: 3 / type of course: workshop / length: 1 term	English	T. Metz , Y. Pascacio Montijo	3/4*	1	none
S 23101	Areas, Target Groups and Organisations of Social Work	<b>Reflection on practical work</b>  This compact seminar for English-speaking students is about reflection on the 4-week field study phase. You will reflect on and evaluate the field study phase through oral (group) presentations, groups discussions, and your individual field study report. During the summer semester, we will meet on two Saturdays: May 24 2025, 10am to 6pm (on-site) June 21 2025, 10am to 6pm (on-site) Please be prepared to participate actively. Hours per week: 2 / type of course: workshop / length: 1 term	English	L. Groig	1/2*	2	none
Note: Both S 13301 and S23201 belong to the same module. If you attend both courses, you can only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for both courses, there will be 7 ECTS in total.							
S 15101	Society, Health and Social Work	<b>Sociological Foundations of Social Work</b>  This introductory level course familiarizes students with key concepts, questions, theories and methods of sociological research. As part of the course schedule, students are expected to participate in selected academic events in Berlin, which will allow us to engage with cutting-edge research in the field of urban sociology.  Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	E. Erdem	3/6*	1	none
S 25101	Society, Health and Social Work	<b>Political and socio-political Foundations of Social Work</b>  The political and sociological literature on populism generally focuses on how and why populism contradicts the main principles of representative democracy and mostly emphasizes the role of populist leaders. Even though these studies give significant insights into understanding the current global crisis of democracy, they mainly ignore the social and political dynamics behind the rise of populism in general and right-wing populism in particular. This course aims to shed light on the new politics of welfare and social question, and its impacts on the rise of right-wing populism both in North and South. It aims to discuss the transformation of the social question, the new welfare politics, and particular welfare policies, promoted by the right-wing populist parties in countries like the USA, Germany, France, Poland, Turkey, Hungary, Italy and Austria.  Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	Z. Yilmaz	3/6*	2	none
S 25301	Society, Health and Social Work	<b>Foundations of Social Medicine and Social Psychiatry for Social Work</b>  Content The seminar clarifies basic concepts of social medicine and social psychiatry, highlights different explanatory approaches to health and illness, which lead to a comprehensive understanding of the bio-psycho-social model. The aetiology, diagnoses and forms of therapy of mental disorders, addictive disorders and neuropsychiatric diseases are an elementary part of the basic knowledge of health-related social work in all age groups. We will deal with the importance of a helpful therapeutic basic attitude and get to know numerous possibilities of participation for the target groups. Another seminar focus is on social psychiatric, rehabilitative and addiction therapy treatment and care options - a large field of application for social workers. An excursion is being planned.  Method The seminar will be held mainly according to the flipped classroom method: all materials will be available on moodle from the beginning, so that the theoretical preparation is done in advance. In the seminar, we actively process this in small group work, in discussion rounds and interactive formats. The linking of theory with concrete social work practice takes place continuously and is deepened and examined in the context of case studies and practical examples.  Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	J. Rehn	3/6*	2	none

Note: The courses S 15101, S 25101 and S 25301 belong to the same module. If you attend two or three courses, you can only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for both or all three courses, there will be 9 ECTS (2 courses) or 12 ECTS (3 courses) in total.

Course no.	Module	Course title and contents · Hours per week / Type / Length / Exam	Language of instruction	Teacher	ECTS credits	Semester	Requirements
S 31001	Diversity Studies	<b>Racism and Migration</b> This module draws on intersecting scholarly fields including race and ethnicity, critical race theory, comparative migration research, and diversity scholarship. The objective of this module is to provide students with an overview of critical race theory within the current political context, while also offering case studies to deepen their understanding of racially as a social construct.  Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	F. Bhimji	2/3*	3	none
S 31102	Diversity Studies	<b>Gender and Queer Studies</b> In this course, you will be introduced to selected concepts, terminology, authors, and debates within Gender and Queer Studies. Gender and Queer Studies are no longer merely a niche within the social sciences but rather a highly productive interdisciplinary field of study. While there are many overlaps between Gender and Queer Studies, they remain distinct areas of research. In this seminar, you will become familiar with both approaches. One of the goals is for you to apply the concepts, analyses, and terminology in your future practice in social work and to engage knowledgeably in current socio-political debates.  Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	C. Tamayo Rojas	2/3*	3	none
S 31201	Diversity Studies	<b>Dis_Ability and Ableism</b> This is an English language course guided by a blend of approaches which include the Social Model of Disability and intersectional framings such as DisCrit and disability justice. The course will meet online once per month on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 7:00 PM as follows: April 9, May 14, June 11 and July 2. Under the approaches mentioned above, the course's purpose is to critically explore the intersecting links between disability, immigration, race, gender and class. Its learning objectives are: 1) Understand the meaning of disability intersectionality as a movement against interlocking forms of oppression 2) Understand the practical meaning of disability justice 3) Discuss ableism and anti-ableist possibilities at the intersection of immigration and disability.  Hours per week: 1 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	A. Padilla	1/2*	3	none
Note: The courses S 31001, S 31102/S 31101 and S 31201 belong to the same module. If you attend two or all three courses, you can only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for both or all three courses, there will be 4/5 ECTS (2 courses) or 6 ECTS (3 courses) in total.							
S 32001	Research methods	<b>Qualitative Research methods</b>  This course introduces students to the principles and practices of qualitative research methods in social work and social sciences. Students will learn how to design, conduct, analyse, and present qualitative research, with a focus on ethical considerations and practical applications in social work settings.  Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	M. Tadesse	4/5*	3	none

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S 34201	Culture - Aesthetics - Media	<b>Exemplary Introduction in One Field of Cultural, Aesthetic or Media Social Work I</b> Theatrical practice During the summer semester we will explore the history of theater and present different theatrical methods and experiences in a practical way. During the course, in collaboration with Theater der Erfahrungen and the theatrical Group Bunten Zellen, we will gain practical theater experience with people over 50. Important note on the seminar dates: - The seminar work takes place in classroom teaching. - Seminar dates can be found in the seminar schedule on moodle - No previous theater training is required for the seminar In this summer semester, we will also gain a lot of theater experience outside of ASH, in particular there will be some dates where you should be present. Attendance performance in SOSE25: - mandatory participation: on June 21, 2025 - opening event 51st Berlin Senior Citizens' Week (under the motto "Senior Citizens' Week 2025 - together in the neighborhood") in the Amerika-Gedenkbibliothek. - Mandatory participation: July 7 to 12, 2025, Hoffestspiele 2025, in Theater Expedition Metropolis, details will be clarified in the seminars. - binding participation: date and location to be confirmed, Creative day, Theater of Experience. Further information will be given at the beginning of the seminar. Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	M. Vestri	3/4*	3	none
S 44201	Culture - Aesthetics - Media	<b>Exemplary Introduction in One Field of Cultural, Aesthetic or Media Social Work II</b> BRING IT IN ACTION – A practical theater project from getting to know the basics of theater pedagogy to a joint performance In this practical seminar we try out and learn about the basics of theater education. In a collective, researching space, the group tries out playing with body, voice, costume, object and text. The thematic starting point is the state of being "in between". We examine moments of personal change and transition. We look at relationships and society under the contrasting pairs of closeness and distance, of conflict and consent. The dates build on one another. The seminar concludes with a small presentation. During rehearsals we develop various sequences which will be brought into a performance. While we gain aesthetic experience through our actions, there is always an exchange about how the content can be applied in social-educational contexts. A particular focus is on implementing and reflecting on diversity-sensitive and racism-critical approaches in theater education. How can we enable participation and break down barriers? This seminar is the second part of the English curriculum seminar „Exemplary Introduction in one Field of Cultural, Aesthetic or Media Social Work II“. For Erasmus students it can stand on its own and they can also receive a grading if needed for their participation in the collaborative theater production. For the resident students who took part in the first part, it will be a chance to look into a different sphere of Cultural Social Work. The seminar language is English. In exercises and on the stage there is space for all languages that the participants bring with them. Come and take part. No previous experience in theater is necessary. The conditions to participate are: Presence at all dates! Joy and curiosity in acting and being part in an intensive group process. Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	A. Petzoldt	3/4*	4	none
Note: The courses S 34201 and S 44201 belong to the same module. If you attend both courses, you can only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for both courses, there will be 7 ECTS in total. Please also note that this exam will not be graded.							

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S44001	Pedagogical Foundations of Social Work	<b>Intensive</b> Trauma and Reconciliation: Educational Perspectives Wars, violence, and terror leave deep and lasting scars—not only through death and physical harm but also by eroding trust in others and reshaping entire communities. Even those not directly affected by violence can experience its ripple effects, impacting their ability to communicate, connect, and trust institutions. How can education help break this cycle? In this seminar, we will explore trauma—what it is, how it manifests, and how it affects individuals and societies. We will then dive into innovative educational approaches that address trauma and foster reconciliation. Our discussions will center on the Israel/Palestine conflict, but we will also examine powerful reconciliation efforts in post-apartheid South Africa and post-genocide Rwanda. Through thought-provoking readings (including English-language texts), films, and discussions with international experts, we will critically engage with real-world examples and strategies for healing and peacebuilding. This seminar is interactive, and active participation is encouraged! Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	V. Berman	2/3*	4	none
S 44101	Pedagogical Foundations of Social Work	<b>Sexuality Pedagogy Intensive</b> Sexuality Pedagogy Reloaded In a world that has rapidly evolved, some topics still remain in the shadows—especially when it comes to sexual education and self-determination. Our society holds clear ideas about what sexual relationships should look like, shaped by gender roles, deeply rooted myths, and outdated norms. But where do we stand today, about 50 years after the sexual revolution? Have we achieved the freedom that was once promised to us, or are we still stuck in old patterns? In our course "Sexuality Pedagogy Reloaded", we aim to address these questions boldly and openly. Together, we will question traditional ways of thinking and explore what a contemporary approach to sexual pedagogy could look like. We will focus particularly on three central themes: Sex Education: How do we convey knowledge about sexuality that is free from prejudice and taboo? Prevention of Sexual Violence: What strategies can we develop to effectively prevent sexual violence? Promotion of Sexual Self-Determination and Rights: How can we strengthen the rights of all people to live their sexual identities freely and autonomously? This course is much more than just a theoretical exploration—it is an invitation to experience sexuality pedagogy in practice and expand your expertise in the field. The course will take place in person. For your assessment, you may either give a presentation or write a term paper. If you choose not to do a traditional form of assessment, you can alternatively complete a participation-based task, such as writing a reflection on one of our sessions. Detailed requirements and options will be provided on Moodle. Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	E. Kosman	2/3*	4	none
Note: The courses S 44001 and S 44101 belong to the same module. If you attend both courses, you can only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for both courses, there will be 5 ECTS in total.							
S 45101	Methods of Social Work Practice II - Counselling	<b>Methods of Social Work Practice II - Counselling</b> This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental theories, techniques, and applications of counselling. The focus will be on developing practical skills and theoretical understanding necessary for effective counselling in social work contexts. Particular emphasis will be placed on both traditional counselling methods and the growing field of online consultation. By the end of the course, students will be able to: Understand the core principles, approaches, and techniques of counselling. Apply counselling techniques in face-to-face and online environments. Demonstrate ethical and professional behaviour in counselling settings. Reflect critically on their own personal development as future counsellors. Evaluate and provide constructive feedback on the counselling techniques used by peers. Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	M. Apak	6	4	Students must have completed a module equivalent to "Methods of Social Work Practice I".

Course no.	Module	Course title and contents · Hours per week / Type / Length / Exam	Language of instruction	Teacher	ECTS credits	Semester	Requirements
S 45201	International Social Work, Social Economics and Social Management in Social Work	<b>International Social Work</b> The seminar combines conflict theory and practice in conflict situations. It provides an overview of key classical and contemporary theories of conflict and approaches to peace. Through the study of works by renowned authors, students explore basic concepts of conflict, modern perspectives on global conflicts, and approaches to conflict resolution. On the practical side, international humanitarian action and the challenges of working in situations of armed conflict are presented and reflected upon. International humanitarian law is examined to understand the rights of civilians in armed conflict. The vulnerability of specific groups of people is analysed and the 'do no harm' approach is presented as a conflict-sensitive way of working in such contexts. Finally, dilemmas and criticisms of humanitarian work are discussed. Theory will be complemented by first-hand examples from the practice of international organisations in situations of armed conflict. The seminar is mainly face-to-face (including longer sessions during the "block weeks"). Some sessions may take place online if required. Students are expected to come to class with completed readings and be prepared to contribute to discussions in order to develop new perspectives. Examinations will be in the form of a presentation (including a short written elaboration) or a paper (10-12 pages).  Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	N. Catalan Ojeda, L. Spadolini	2/5*	4	Students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area.
S 45301	International Social Work, Social Economics and Social Management in Social Work	<b>Foundations of Social Economics and Social Management in Social Work</b> This course explores the diversity of economic practices and the ethical considerations necessary for transforming our communities and world. Drawing from publications such as "The Handbook of Diverse Economies" and "Take Back the Economy: An Ethical Guide for Transforming our Communities," students will examine alternative economic models, ethical interventions, and practical tools for creating sustainable and equitable economies.  Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	M. Tadesse	2/5*	4	Students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area plus a module equivalent to "Fields of Practice, Target Groups and Organizations of Social Work" for unit 2 and unit 3.
S 45401	International Social Work, Social Economics and Social Management in Social Work	<b>Advanced Study of Social Economics and Social Management</b> This course aims to shed light on the Social Solidarity Economy (SSE) of marginalized and racialized groups in the diaspora. To do so, it specifically focuses on the SSE of People of African Descent (PAD) as a case study. It draws on the pioneering research and publications of PAD scholars such as Jessica Gordon Nembhard, Caroline Shenaz Hossein, and Michael Emru Tadesse to offer an in-depth exploration and nuanced understanding of the SSE of PAD. The course applies the theoretical frameworks of Racial Capitalism (Robinson, 1983) and Stratification Economics within the context of global migration (Obeng-Odoom, 2022) to help contextualize the SSE of PAD. Furthermore, the course highlights the vital connections between the SSE (of PAD) and social work, equipping students with the knowledge and tools necessary to foster sustainable and equitable societies.  Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	M. Tadesse	2/5*	4	Students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area plus a module equivalent to "Fields of Practice, Target Groups and Organizations of Social Work" for unit 2 and unit 3.
Note: S 45201 and S 45301 and S 45401 belong to the same module. If you attend two or all three courses, you can only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for both or all three courses, there will be 7 ECTS (2 courses) or 9 ECTS (3 courses) in total.							

Course no.	Module	Course title and contents · Hours per week / Type / Length / Exam	Language of instruction	Teacher	ECTS credits	Semester	Requirements
S 62201	Social Work Theories and Methods	<b>Methods of Social Work Practice or Reconstructive-qualitative Methods of Research I: Methods of Social Work Practice I</b> This seminar focuses on theories and methods of social work practice and the role of critical reflection. Using a case analytic approach, the seminar builds on students' practice experiences and interests. Theoretical and practical approaches will be introduced, discussed and applied in exercises, case examples etc. The seminar combines self-study, reading, and critical analysis of texts and case descriptions, small group and full class discussions, as well as experiential approaches to learning always seeking multiple perspectives. The majority of sessions are held in-person, with occasional asynchronous online sessions. Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	U. Walter	3/4*	6	Students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area. Further restrictions explained in course and ECTS manual for exchange students.
S 72201	Social Work Theories and Methods	<b>Methods of Social Work Practice or Reconstructive-qualitative Methods of Research II: Methods of Social Work Practice II</b> This seminar (starting on time at 15:00h and ending at 17:30h) continues from the 6th Semester and focuses on theories and methods of social work practice and the role of critical reflection. Building on students' practice experiences and interests developed in previous classes, theoretical and practical approaches will be discussed and applied in exercises, case examples etc. The seminar combines self-study, reading, case analyses and critical analysis of texts in small group and full class discussions, as well as experiential approaches to learning always seeking multiple perspectives. The majority of sessions are held in-person, with occasional asynchronous online sessions. Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	U. Walter	3/4*	7	Students must have completed at least 60 ECTS in social work or a related study area. Further restrictions explained in course and ECTS manual for exchange students.
Note: Both S 62201 and S 72201 belong to the same module. If you attend both courses, you can only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for both courses, there will be 7 ECTS in total.							
S 73111	Legal Foundations of Social Work III	<b>Social Advocacy in Selected Fields of Law</b> Anti-discrimination rights play an important role in social work. How can these be enforced in an international context? In the seminar, various areas such as racism and anti-Semitism will be examined from an international perspective and the international dimension and the limits of these rights will be shown. Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	M. Swatek	3/7*	7	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

Course no.	Module	Course title and contents · Hours per week / Type / Length / Exam	Language of instruction	Teacher	ECTS credits	Semester	Requirements
W 001	Elective course	<b>Undoing Gender: and other conditions that make life unliveable</b> Interest and willingness to read and actively discuss complex texts. Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	A. Akunth	2/3*		none
W 006	Elective course	<b>Academic Writing</b> This course is aimed at students with a high proficiency level of English (B2-C2) who are striving towards more accuracy and coherency in their writing as well as the ability to express themselves competently in the academic context. Over the course of the semester we will be focusing on the following topics: identifying the types and purposes of academic texts punctuation and clearly defined sentences; compound sentences and avoiding run-on sentences syntax (sentence structure): identifying the parts of a sentence, restructuring for accentuation, placement of modifiers register and synonym choice; use of verb phrase vs. noun phrase brevity and cohesion in a paragraph, use of linking and transition words, omission of unnessary words tense, aspect and voice; infinitive vs. gerund, clause constructions expression of statistical evidence objectivity vs. subjectivity editing quotation, referencing and how to avoid plagiarism presenting criticism bibliography In order to receive credit for this course you will be completing a series of individual writing assignments that will be handed in on the day of class. If you cannot attend this class regularly (80%), you will not be able to receive credit for this course. Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	English	F. Kregler	2/3*		none
W 009	Elective course	<b>Undoing Gender: and other conditions that make life unliveable</b> Contenido: La actual situación a nivel global se caracteriza por la suma de crisis, lo que algunos autores denominan crisis múltiple: guerras, turbulencias financieras y catástrofes climáticas. Esta situación allana en gran medida el camino a procesos autoritarios impulsados por partidos y sectores de la derecha cada vez más hegemónicos. En algunos territorios del sur global se podría hablar de un laboratorio de la «nueva» derecha, como es el caso de Argentina. Al mismo tiempo, desde esos territorios, especialmente desde América Latina, se han dado en el pasado respuestas a las crisis con un marcado carácter emancipatorio, ya que en los últimos años las diversas luchas y formas de organización social han alcanzado una masividad y profundidad sin precedentes. El movimiento feminista a favor del derecho al aborto y las protestas en distintas regiones de América Latina contra los efectos de la catástrofe climática son ejemplos destacados. Estos procesos de disputa sobre quién debe asumir los costes de las distintas crisis han influido notablemente en la configuración de la política social, especialmente en Sudamérica, ya que esta ha sido en gran medida el resultado de luchas colectivas. Las «nuevas» derechas, con sus políticas neoliberales y sus retóricas reaccionarias, discriminatorias y racistas, vienen a destruir esas conquistas sociales e imponerlas como un modelo ejemplificador. Por esa razón, es crucial observar y analizar estos procesos actuales para entender las estrategias de estas nuevas derechas y, sobre todo, para aprender de las formas de confrontación y resistencia contra ellas. El análisis y la discusión de este escenario, así como el papel del trabajador social en este contexto y la construcción de hegemonía desde una perspectiva emancipadora serán los ejes centrales del seminario. Metodología: El seminario está dirigido a estudiantes de Trabajo Social que tengan conocimientos de español.ya que el seminario se impartirá principalmente en este idioma. Un eje metodológico central es el intercambio de saberes y experiencias entre estudiantes y actores del ámbito social y político de América Latina y el Caribe. Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term	Spanish	P. Maether	2/3*		none
Note: All elective courses belong to the same module. If you attend two courses, you can only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for two courses, there will be 6 ECTS in total.							