

Alice Salomon Hochschule (ASH) Berlin · Bachelor Social Work · International Curriculum: Courses offered in English and Spanish (*winter term 2019-20*)



Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin
University of Applied Sciences

This is an overview of the English- and Spanish-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/.

Course no.	Module	Course title and contents · Hours per week / Type / Length / Exam	Language of instruction	Teacher	ECTS credits	Semester	Requirements
S 12301	Areas, Target Groups and Organisations of Social Work	<p>Workshop I</p> <p>Cultural education in social fields as tool of empowerment. Workshop I focuses on approaches, field practice and projects of cultural education and on different target groups of this working field. Accompanied by field trips to cultural educational agencies in Berlin, as well as visiting youth theatre plays and exploring theatre in education practice. As a course we also visit a three day theatre experts forum (only in the winter term). Part of the curriculum is a final small group presentation reflecting topics, issues of the working area, approaches and practice of cultural education. Methods used: group work, adult education, team building exercises, theatre in education, Theatre of the Oppressed, Image theatre, visits, presentations.</p> <p>Hours per week: 3 / type of course: workshop / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	N. Gail	3/4*	1	none
S 15301	Society, Health and Social Work	<p>Foundations of Sociology</p> <p>Very often we see, hear or experience things that seem "strange" and incomprehensible to us. We wonder about the world around us, asking questions like: "How do certain people become billionaires when others are homeless? Why do humans worship Gods or form families? What makes killing in war acceptable but not in any other situation?" Searching for objective answers to similar questions by using scientific research is the goal of sociology. This course is designed to look critically and analytically through different sociological perspectives, and to help us realize the extent to which society guides our thoughts and actions. The course material provides a fresh, new look at societies and cultures— full of inquiry and analysis, striving towards social justice and change. Sociology urges us to draw connections between public issues and personal problems, to see the strange as familiar and the familiar as strange, and to examine biography in a historical and social context. Sociology could be inspirational, if you put the effort. You will think differently, and maybe act differently, as your sociological imagination develops. This is a promise. LEARNING OUTCOMES: Develop a sociological vocabulary. / Improve basic sociological skills such as the ability to conceptualize, to contextualize, to problematize and to gain awareness of social complexity. / Draw connections between the key sociological thoughts and contemporary social phenomena. / Develop sociological arguments based on theoretical and/or empirical materials. / Understand the concept of society in historical context, along with its variations and transformations.</p> <p>Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	S. Zeybek	3/5*	1	none

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S 31101	Diversity Studies	<p>Racism and Migration</p> <p>Almost every day we read or hear in the media about refugees and forced migration. This is not surprising as there are war, poverty and upheaval in many countries of the world which cause people to leave their homes in search of a safer, better life elsewhere. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR, presently more than 70 million people are on the move – and many of them want to come to Europe. Even though we don't hear and read as much about it anymore – still thousands of people are risking, and only too often losing, their lives while trying to reach the supposedly safe countries in Europe. At the same time we read about the rise of right wing parties in many countries and an increase of racist motivated violence against people who are perceived as different, "other", not belonging. In the seminar we will deal with historic, as well as the present aspects of racism and migration: What are the roots of racism? How did it historically develop? How does racism interact with other dimensions of difference such as gender, class or disability? Is there an "old" racism and a "new" racism and, if so, what are the differences? And last but not least: What can we as democratic societies - but also as individuals - do against racism? Please note: For confirmation of participation students are expected to make a short presentation.</p> <p>Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	S. Köbsell	2/3*	3	none
S 31202	Diversity Studies	<p>Gender and Queer Studies</p> <p>In this introductory course to Gender and Queer Studies we will look at basic concepts of this field, which can not be separated from the history of feminist and queer movements. We will read material that attempts to upset, oppose, or subvert ideas and practices of normality and challenges the ways heteronormativity structures and shapes institutions. In this course we will also look at the intersections of gender and sexuality and other axes of difference (race, dis_ability, class, nation, etc). To do this we will draw on concepts black feminism, black queer studies, queer crip studies, fat queer studies and trans studies. There will be also space to reflect on the impact of heteronormativity and other power structures within the profession of social work. No prior knowledge is required, but an active and regular attendance is expected. There will be reading material for each session, ranging from academic texts, activist's publications and audio-visual material. You are expected to prepare a seminar presentation (plus a short written reflection), or a longer written essay.</p> <p>Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	F. Seeck	2/3*	3	none
S 31201	Diversity Studies	<p>Estudios de Género y Queer</p> <p>El propósito principal de éste curso es proveer a lxs estudiantes con herramientas conceptuales y teóricas para acercarse a los conceptos de género y sexualidad. Se cuestionaran así conceptos fundamentales sobre el género: Cómo se origina el concepto de género? Cómo se construye el sexo? Cómo se reproducen, producen, crean y recrean las categorías de género? Cómo se producen diferencias conceptuales y reales sobre el género en el centro y la periferia? Cuales son los acercamientos centrales del feminismo Postcolonial? Se cubrirán diferentes temas sobre identidad, representación, sexualidad, feminismo, masculinidad, transexualidad, subjetividad, deseo, interseccionalidad.</p> <p>Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	Spanish	C. Tamayo Rojas	2/3*	3	none

Note: Both S 31101 Racism and Migration and S 31202 / S 31201 Gender and Queer Studies (English / Spanish) belong to the same module. If you attend both courses, you only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for both courses, there will be 5 ECTS in total.

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S 36101	Culture - Aesthetics - Media	<p>Exemplary Introduction in One Field of Cultural, Aesthetic or Media Social Work I: Circle Dances</p> <p>Circle dances offer us an easy way to get into contact with others and to be part of a group. Folk dances can be a bridge to another culture, but they can also link different cultures. These dances occur across all cultures. In some cultures they are still interwoven with everyday life, in other cultures they have lost their original purpose and become folklore or a spectacle performed for tourists. For some people folk dances regain importance the moment they start or have to start a new life in a foreign country, which is the reality for many refugees at the moment. For this reason we will start this seminar with "Dabke Community Dancing". I will introduce "Dabke" to you at the university and the Sunday after there will be a public workshop in Berlin on the 3th of November. Two Syrian artists - the professional dancer Medhat Aldaabal and the percussionist Ali Hasan - will be teaching this traditional circular dance to anyone in Berlin who is interested in learning it. It is very popular in the Middle East and has many variations. Meeting point: Sunday 3th of November, 16.30 pm, Radialsystem, Holzmarktstrasse 33, 10243 Berlin. The workshop starts at 17pm. The following Mondays at the university I will teach you a couple of mostly European circle dances. For our exam, you will research folk dances from your home country and teach everyone else an easy dance. I expect that we will have a lot of fun together.</p> <p>Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	B. Hägele	3/4*	3	none
S 44301	Culture - Aesthetics - Media	<p>Exemplary Introduction in One Field of Cultural, Aesthetic or Media Social Work II: Community Music, Social Work and Social Protest</p> <p>Over the last few years, 'Community Music' has gained popularity in Germany. Community Music is especially popular in the UK, Ireland, the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand and in Scandinavian countries. In the 1980s international networks were strengthened, and one of the strongest forces has been the funding of the Commission for Community Music Activity (CMA). Although the CMA encourages debate on community music and international cooperation, there is no nationally – much less internationally – consistent definition of Community Music. The term community music can be conceived of as „any type of informal music teaching and learning“ (Silverman), as „collaborative music-making, community development and personal growth“ (Koopmann). Social justice and empowerment are seen as a central components of Community Music (Higgins). This seminar will give an overview on theory and practice of Community music. In particular, we will reflect on music in Social Work/Youthwork in Germany, especially the concept of music in socio cultural work ("Soziale Kulturarbeit") which is represented at the Alice Salomon Hochschule. These fields of theory and practice seem to have many intersections with the concept of community music. Practical musical sessions will be an important part of the seminar. According to the concept of community music, everybody is invited to participate and shall be included regardless of preliminary musical experiences - beginners are explicitly welcome. In addition to weekly sessions (please check the LSF for the dates), students are expected to participate in the major part of the seminar, a musical session taking place during the "Blockwoche", Tuesday and Wednesday November 20th/21st from 10 am to 5 pm. Students are expected to read the required literature on community music, which will be discussed in class, and to do individual research on community music and social protest in either Berlin or their respective countries of origin exploring the ways in which music can serve as a vehicle for social change and empowerment. The course requirements will be outlined in the beginning of the semester.</p> <p>Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	E. Josties	3/4*	4	none
<p>Note: Both S 36101 Circle Dances and S 44301 Community Music belong to the same module. If you attend both courses, you only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for both courses, there will be 7 ECTS in total.</p>							

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S 45101	International Social Work	<p>International Social Work</p> <p>During the 1980s and 1990s when multiculturalism, politics of identity and the recognition of difference were globalized, several countries in Latin America modified their constitutions and legislation in order to recognize the African-descendant population as subjects of collective rights. These changes generated important demands, especially on territorial and identity. Following the Durban Conference in 2001, a new impetus was given to the international political committee regarding the elimination of all forms of discrimination but with the arrival of Obama as the President of the United States in 2009, this issues raised the topic of abolishment of all racial discrimination and brought an end to the era of discrimination in America. While the arrival of Trump to power is being accompanied by a strengthening of racist populism and extreme righties, as it is also observed in Europe. Although there is a significant progress in the world based on the level of policy and legislative to eradicate racism and discrimination, nevertheless there are still racist, xenophobic and discriminatory practices, which have a great impact on the reproduction of social inequalities. These Seminar will critically address the contemporary dynamics of racism in Latin America, The United States and Europe, in their social and political dimensions. We will be considering post-colonial theoretical tools that will allow us to analyze these topics (under a local, national and transnational approach) social inequalities, political dynamics, racist and antiracist practices at the level of civil society, legislation on the subject and discussion used on the media and social media.</p> <p>Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	R. Vera Santos	3/5*	4	none
S 46101	Introduction to Social Economics and Social Management	<p>Introducion to Social Economics and Social Management</p> <p>The seminar introduces students to theories of commons as a community-based form of social and economic resilience and empowerment. Drawing on key readings in the field, we explore different theoretical perspectives on the generation of commons through practices of producing, sharing and taking responsibility for economic, social and cultural resources. We also study empirical case studies of commons in Berlin and in the international context.</p> <p>Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	E. Erdem	2/5*	4	none
S 63401	Health, Illness and Social Work	<p>Health, Illness and Social Work</p> <p>In this course, we focus on the skills needed to provide social work in the health care sector, especially counselling and treatment to individuals (children, youth, and adults) or small groups (couples and families). Students are taught advanced assessment techniques, how to diagnose and treat psychosocial problems, and how to develop, promote, and restore mental health and social functioning. Examples of topics covered include mental health and/or substance abuse, dementia, disability and outpatient settings. Field trips Sessions with case work and group work are also part of the course. In addition, typical questions and intervention techniques in healthcare social work and clinical social work will be adressed. Important information: Excursion day on November 14th, participation is obligatory.</p> <p>Hours per week: 4 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	H. Dech	10	6	advanced students (60 ECTS completed at home university in the field of Social Work)

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S 62201	Social Work Theories and Methods	<p>Methods of Social Work Practice or Reconstructive-qualitative Methods of Research I: Methods of Social Work Practice I</p> <p>This seminar focuses on theories and methods of social work practice and the role of critical reflection. Building on students' practicum experiences and the 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, and critical analysis of texts, small group and full class discussions, and experiential approaches to learning always seeking multiple perspectives. Particular emphasis will be put on strengths-oriented, solution-focused methods and systems theories.</p> <p>Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	U. Walter	3/4*	6	advanced students (60 ECTS completed at home university in the field of Social Work)
S 72201	Social Work Theories and Methods	<p>Methods of Social Work Practice or Reconstructive-qualitative Methods of Research II: Methods of Social Work Practice II</p> <p>This seminar continues from the 6th Semester and focuses on theories and methods of social work practice and the role of critical reflection. Building on students' practicum experiences and the 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, and critical analysis of texts, small group and full class discussions, and experiential approaches to learning always seeking multiple perspectives.</p> <p>Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	U. Walter	3/4*	7	advanced students (60 ECTS completed at home university in the field of Social Work)
<p>Note: Both S 62201 Methods of Social Work Practice I and S 72201 Methods of Social Work Practice II belong to the same module. If you attend both courses, you only do one exam (you can choose in which course) and for both courses, there will be 7 ECTS in total.</p>							
S 73101	Legal Foundations of Social Work	<p>Selected Aspects of Law for Social Work</p> <p>Human rights and their significance in the practice of social work - the covenant of economic, social and cultural rights (ECS right). The economic, social and cultural rights (ESC rights) provide protection from intrusion upon a person's fundamental areas of life, such as nutrition, health, education and work. At the same time, the ESC rights entitle everyone to equal rights, i. e. discrimination free access to health care, education and to the labour market as well as to other elementary areas of social life. They thus contribute to dignified living conditions in compliance with freedom on the basis of equal justice and solidarity. The ESC rights form an indivisible unit with civil and political rights. As is typical of human rights, immediate and indirect state obligations derive from the ESC rights and in particular from their justiciable cores. In accordance with international human rights treaties, the Federal Republic of Germany is obliged to observe the ESC rights. The seminar focuses on the following issues and projects: The human right to social security / Social human rights of older people in care situations / Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.</p> <p>Hours per week: 3 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	C. Mahler	3/7*	7	advanced students (60 ECTS completed at home university in the field of Social Work)
W 005	Elective	<p>Qualitative Methods in Social Research</p> <p>This course aims to explain some of the qualitative instruments which is necessary for researching on Social Sciences as well as to guide students in the process of building a research project. The course will address both theoretical and practical aspect of research on the Social Sciences, through deepen the link between theory and methodological strategies from an applied perspective. The theoretical part will deal with topics such as the definition of the subject of the study, the relationship between qualitative and quantitative, as well as the scope on a social investigation. In the practical part, will be focused on the five basic steps in an investigation: a) the problem on ground, b) research strategy, c) the design and application of instruments, d) programming of activities and e) the processing of Information and writing. Emphasis will be placed on investigation work on social inequalities, urban segregations, migratory processes, discrimination, racism, identity construction, among others. Participants will be able to put the tools and techniques of qualitative research into practice, and also analyze in their own research papers, or in the elaboration of the methodological framework for their thesis.</p> <p>Hours per week: 2 / type of course: seminar / length: 1 term / exams: at least two types of exam options offered</p>	English	R. Vera Santos	2/3*	7	advanced students (60 ECTS completed at home university in the field of Social Work). Minimum English level: high B2.

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