

CURRICULUM

Valid from academic year **2023-2025**

Faculty:	Faculty of Sociology and Psychology
Undergraduate studies:	Master's degree
Name of the Master's degree programme:	Value-based social work practice
Name of the qualification¹ acquired on completion of the study programme:	Specialist in values-based social work practice
Duration of studies (in years):	2
Education form²:	Full-time education (IF)
Teaching language:	Romanian
Geographical location of studies:	Timisoara
Classification of the study programme in fields of science	
Fundamental field:	Social sciences
Branch of science:	Sociology
Master's degree field of study:	Social assistance
Name of the <u>broad</u> field of study (according to DL-ISCED F-2013):	09 - Health and social work
Name of the <u>narrow</u> field of study (according to DR-ISCED F-2013):	092 - Social care and work
Name of the <u>detailed</u> field of study (according to DDS-ISCED F-2013):	0923 - Social work and counselling

¹ *Qualification* is the formal outcome of an assessment and validation process, which is obtained when a competent body/authority determines that a person has achieved learning outcomes corresponding to pre-established standards. Qualifications acquired by graduates of higher education study programmes are attested by diplomas, certificates and other academic documents issued only by accredited higher education institutions.

² Full-time education (IF), part-time education (IFR) or distance learning (ID)

OVERVIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY STUDIES PROGRAMME

1. Mission of the study programme³

The mission and objectives of the Master's degree program in *Value-Centered Social Work Practice* and of the Master's degree program are integrated in the mission and objectives of the West University of Timisoara, assumed by the *University Charter*, to be a catalyst for the development of Romanian society by creating an innovative and participatory environment for scientific research, learning, transferring skills and knowledge to the community through education, research and consulting services it offers to partners in the economic and socio-cultural environment.

The objectives of the Master's degree program in *Value-Centered Social Work Practice*, Social Work field, are:

- (i) training of professionals capable of providing social and spiritual care in an integrative way;
- (ii) the development of professional skills in the areas of social work, theology and counseling;

³ *The mission and objectives of the degree programme are in line with the mission of the West University of Timisoara and the requirements identified on the labour market.*

According to [University Charter](#) (Article 5), the **general mission of UVT is advanced scientific research and education, generating and transferring knowledge to society** through:

- a) scientific research, development, innovation and technology transfer, through individual and collective creation, in the fields of science, engineering, literature and the arts, by ensuring physical and sports performance and development, and the exploitation and dissemination of their results;
- b) initial and continuing training at university level, with a view to personal development, the professional integration of the individual and meeting the skills needs of the socio-economic environment.

UVT assumes its mission as a catalyst for the development of Romanian society by creating an innovative and participatory environment for scientific research, learning, cultural-artistic creation and sports performance, transferring skills and knowledge to the community through the education, research and consultancy services it offers to partners in the economic and socio-cultural environment.

The realisation of the UVT mission is concretised in (*Article 6 of the UVT Charter*):

- promoting scientific research, literary and artistic creation and sporting performance;
- initial and continuous training of qualified and highly qualified human resources;
- development of critical thinking and creative potential of members of the university community;
- creating, storing and spreading the values of human culture and civilisation;
- promoting multicultural, multilingual and interfaith interference;
- the affirmation of Romanian culture and science in the world circuit of values;
- the development of Romanian society within the framework of a free and democratic state governed by the rule of law.

- (iii) the training of professional skills focused on the spiritual needs and sensitivities of social service beneficiaries;
- (iv) the training specialists in value-based social work practice, supporting sustainable community development processes, including marginalized communities.

The *Value-Centered Social Work Practice* Master's degree program is intended for university graduates who wish to develop professional skills in social work, theology and counseling, with a focus on the relationship between social work and spirituality.

2. Competences and expected learning outcomes formed in the study programme

A. COMPETENCES⁴

Key competences⁵:

CC1. Personal, social and learning to learn competences

CC2. Science competences

CC3. Digital competences

Professional competencies⁶:

CP1. Working with fundamental theories and concepts in the sphere of value-centred social work, in academic contexts and in specific social and community activities.

CP2. Critical use of ideas, concepts and theories in the field of value-centred social work to address problematic issues encountered in professional practice.

CP3. Diagnosis of the organizational environment in the field of religion and social work.

CP4. Design and coordinate research to identify community development needs using quantitative and qualitative methodologies.

CP5. Assumption of social work principles and values in personal and professional work.

⁴ *Competence* is the proven ability to select, combine and use appropriately personal, social and/or methodological knowledge, skills and abilities and other acquisitions consisting of values and attitudes, for the successful resolution of a given category of work or learning situations and for professional or personal development in an effective and efficient manner.

⁵ *Key competences for lifelong learning* are those competences that all citizens need for personal fulfilment and development, employment, social inclusion and active citizenship, and are developed in the perspective of lifelong learning, from early childhood and throughout adult life, through formal, non-formal and informal learning.

⁶ *Professional competences* is the ability to perform the activities required in the workplace to the quality level specified in the occupational standard. They are acquired formally, i.e. by completing a programme organised by an accredited institution.

⁷ *Cross-competences* represent value and attitudinal acquisitions that go beyond a specific field/programme of study and are expressed through the following descriptors: autonomy and responsibility, social interaction, personal and professional development.

Cross competencies⁷:

a) Personal competencies:

- CT1. Application of the principles, rules and values of the code of professional ethics in different social and professional contexts;
CT2. Identification and make effective use of information sources and resources for communication and assisted training (Internet portals, specialized software applications, databases, online courses, etc.) both in Romanian and in an international language.

b) Interpersonal skills:

- CT3. Assuming specific roles and functions in the work of professional groups or institutions.
CT4. Social empathy and positive relationships with community members.

c) Global citizenship skills:

- CT5. Ability to observe and understand points of view from different cultural contexts.

B. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES⁸

a) **Knowledge⁹** - According to *the European Qualifications Framework (EQF)*, the learning outcomes at **level 7 of qualification**, corresponding to Master's degree studies, involve *highly specialized knowledge and critical awareness of it, some of which is at the forefront of knowledge in a field of work or study as a basis for original thinking and/or research:*

⁸ *Learning outcomes* are statements that refer to what a learner knows, understands and is able to do at the end of a learning process and are defined as knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy.

⁹ *Knowledge* is the result of assimilating information through learning. Knowledge is the body of facts, principles, theories and practices related to a particular field of work or study. Knowledge is described as theoretical and/or factual. Knowledge is expressed through the following descriptors: knowledge, understanding and use of specific language, explanation and interpretation.

¹⁰ *Skill* is the ability to apply and use knowledge to accomplish tasks and solve problems. Skills are described as cognitive (involving the use of logical, intuitive and creative thinking) or practical (involving manual dexterity and the use of methods, materials, tools and instruments). Skills are expressed by the following descriptors: application, transfer and problem solving, critical and constructive reflection, creativity and innovation.

- R1. Knowledge of social work and its relationship with religion and spirituality;
- R2. Knowledge of the social concepts of the major religions;
- R3. Knowledge of the significance of religion and spirituality in various branches of social work (family, child, elderly protection, etc.);
- R4. Knowledge of the main Christian doctrines and their social relevance;
- R5. Knowledge of qualitative and quantitative methodologies in social needs analysis or organizational diagnosis.

b) Skills¹⁰ - According to *the European Qualifications Framework (EQF)*, the learning outcomes at **level 7 of the qualification**, corresponding to Master's degree studies, involve *specialist skills for problem-solving in research and/or innovation, for developing new knowledge and procedures and for integrating knowledge from different fields*:

- R6. Critical and constructive reflection on the relationship between social work values and spiritual values;
- R7. Creative and innovative application of assessment and intervention methods in social work;
- R8. Application of specific social needs identification tools - social diagnosis in different community, social and organizational contexts;
- R9. Comparative analysis of the relationship between spiritual and professional values in social work practice;
- R10. Development of a funding strategy for the establishment and support of social work projects, taking into account spiritual needs, values and resources.

c) Responsibility and autonomy¹¹ - According to *the European Qualifications Framework (EQF)*, the learning outcomes related to **level 7 qualifications**, corresponding to Master's degree studies, involve *managing and transforming work or study situations that are complex, unpredictable and require new strategic approaches, by taking responsibility for contributing to professional knowledge and practice and/or reviewing the strategic performance of teams*:

- R11. Autonomous and responsible application of knowledge and skills in the field of social work and spirituality for the support of beneficiaries of social work services;

¹¹ *Responsibility and autonomy* means the learner's ability to apply his/her knowledge and skills autonomously and responsibly.

- R12. Applying knowledge of social work and spirituality to develop effective partnerships between social work agencies and religious institutions;
- R13. Using specific social work skills to identify and overcome social problems faced by certain categories of individuals, families or communities.

3. Occupations that can be practiced on the labor market

- *Social worker - COR Code 263501*
- *Social inspector - COR Code 263512*

4. Providing flexible learning pathways within the study programme

In the Master's programme *Value-Centred Social Work Practice*, students have the opportunity to get involved in voluntary work, which is recognized by the department.

5. Professional activity and student assessment

The rights, obligations and conditions for the professional activity of students at the West University of Timisoara are regulated by the *Code of Students' Rights and Obligations and the Regulation on the professional activity of students in undergraduate and master's degree courses at the West University of Timisoara*, approved by the Senate of the West University of Timisoara.

The form and methods of evaluation/examination for each subject in the curriculum are set out in the subject descriptions.

6. Final examination

In accordance with the *Regulations on the organization and conduct of the examinations for the completion of undergraduate and master's degree studies at the West University of Timisoara*, approved by the UVT Senate, the examination for the completion of master's degree studies in any master's degree programme organized at UVT consists of a dissertation examination, for which **10 credits** are awarded.

The topics and bibliography corresponding to the final exams are published on the website of each faculty and/or on the UVT website before the beginning of each academic year.

Registration for the final examination is subject to the student's choice of the subject of the final thesis within 60 days of the beginning of academic year of the final year of study.

Submission of the final version of the final paper on the e-learning platform must be achieved at least 5 working days before the scheduled starting date of the exam.

Each graduation thesis will be accompanied, at the time of submission, by the *Similarity Report* resulting from the verification of originality of the graduation thesis through a specialized software on the UVT e-learning platform.

According to the structure of the academic year, at UVT the final exams for the completion of the university studies can be organized in 3 sessions, usually in July, September and February.

7. Preparation for the teaching profession (*if applicable*)

The students wishing to opt for a teaching career in pre-university education must also complete the *Psycho-pedagogical Training Programme* (complementary to the present study programme) in *order to certify their competences for the teaching profession* and obtain the Certificate of Completion of this programme. In the West University of Timisoara, this programme is organized through the Department for the Preparation of Teaching Staff (DPPD) and can be followed in parallel with university studies or in a postgraduate regime. For more information, go to the link: <https://dppd.uvt.ro>.

LIST OF SUBJECTS STUDIED, GROUPED BY YEAR AND SEMESTER OF STUDY

Year of study I
Academic year 2023-2024

It. no.	Subject	C1	C2	Subject code	Semester I				Semester II					
					Number of hours/week				No. of credits	Number of hours/week				No. of credits
					C	S	L	P		C	S	L	P	
1.	Spiritual social work	DA	DO	PAS1101	2				6					
2.	Human rights and human dignity	Dsi	DO	PAS 1102	1	1			6					
3.	Sociology of Religion	DA	DO	PAS 1103	1	1			5					
4.	Research ethics	DA	DO	PAS 1104	1	1			2					
5.	Advanced Methods in Social Work	DA	DO	PAS 1105	2	1			6					
6.	Professional Practice 1	Dsi	DO	PAS 1106				2	5					
7.	Religious and professional values	Dsi	DO	PAS 1201						1	1		5	
8.	Protection of children's rights in Romania	Dsi	DO	PAS 1202						1	1		5	
9.	Social and spiritual counseling	Dsi	DO	PAS 1203						2	1		5	
10.	Social policies in Romania	Dsi	DO	PAS 1204						1	1		5	
11.	History of Christian religion	DA	DO	PAS 1205						1	1		5	

12.	Professional practice 2	Dsi	DO	PAS 1206							2	5	
Total					7	4		2	30	6	5	2	30
Total teaching hours per week					13					13			

Caption

C1	content criterion
C2	mandatory criterion
DF	core subjects
DD	field subjects (where applicable)
DS	specialist subjects
DC	complementary subjects
DO	compulsory (required) subjects
DOP	elective subjects
DFAC	optional subjects
CP	professional competence
CT	cross-competence
C	course-type teaching activity
S	seminar-type teaching activity
L	practical laboratory-type teaching activity
P	teaching activity as an internship

Subject code: <faculty><department><subject no.>

Year of study II

Academic year 2024-2025

It. no.	Subject	C1	C2	Subject code	Semester I				No. of credits	Semester II				
					Number of hours/week					C	S	L	P	
					C	S	L	P						
1.	Communication and conflict management*	DA	DOP	PAS2101	1	1			6					
2.	Introduction to mentoring	DA	DOP	PAS2101										
3.	Research methods in social work	DA	DO	PAS2102	1	1			6					
4.	Social conceptions of major religious texts	DA	DO	PAS2103	2	2			6					
5.	Applied social and spiritual psychology	Dsi	DO	PAS2104	1	1			6					
6.	Professional practice 3	DA	DO	PAS2105				2	6					
7.	Systematic theology	Dsi	DO	PAS2201						1	1		6	
8.	Substance abuse	Dsi	DO	PAS2202						1	1		6	
9.	Family social and spiritual care	DA	DO	PAS2203						2	1		7	
10.	Social care of the elderly	Dsi	DO	PAS2204						1	1		6	
11.	Dissertation Practice	Dsi	DO	PAS2205								3	5	
Total					5	5		2		30	5	4	3	30
Total teaching hours per week					12						12			

*Note: Choose 1 of the 2 elective subjects offered.

Caption

C1	content criterion
C2	mandatory criterion
DF	core subjects
DD	field subjects (where applicable)
DS	specialist subjects
DC	complementary subjects
DO	compulsory (required) subjects
DOP	elective subjects
DFAC	optional subjects
CP	professional competence
CT	cross-competence
C	course-type teaching activity
S	seminar-type teaching activity
L	practical laboratory-type teaching activity
P	teaching activity as an internship

Subject code: <faculty><department><subject no.>

GENERAL ASSESSMENT I

(by content criterion)

It. no.	Subject type	Total number of hours				Total	
		1st year		2nd year		Hours	% din total
		Course	S/L	Course	S/L		
1.	Compulsory (required)	6	9	4	7	26	52%
2	Elective	7	4	6	7	24	48%
TOTAL		13	13	10	14	50	100%

GENERAL ASSESSMENT II

(according to the mandatory criterion)

It. no.	Subject type	Total number of hours				Total	
		1st year		2nd year		Hours	% of total
		Course	S/L	Course	S/L		
1.	Mandatory	13	13	9	13	48	96%
2	Elective	-	-	1	1	2	4%
TOTAL		13	13	10	14	50	100%

CORRELATION BETWEEN COMPETENCES, EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES AND SUBJECTS STUDIED

Correlation of expected learning outcomes with subjects studied

Expected learning outcomes	Spiritual social work	Human rights and human	Sociology of Religion	Ethics, integrity and	Advanced Methods in Social Work	Professional Practice 1	Religious and professional values	Protection of children's rights	Social and spiritual	Social policies in Romania	History of Christian religion	Professional practice 2	Communication and conflict	Research methods in social	Social conceptions of major religious texts	Applied social and spiritual psychology	Professional practice 3	Systematic theology	Substance abuse	Family social and spiritual care	Social care of the elderly	Dissertation writing Practice
Knowledge																						
R1. Knowledge of social work and its relationship with religion and spirituality;	x		x			x	x		x				x	x			x	x				
R2. Knowledge of the social concepts of the major religions;				x			x			x	x				x			x				x
R3. Knowledge of the significance of religion and spirituality in various branches of social work (family, child, elderly protection, etc.);	x			x		x		x		x					x				x	x		
R4. Knowledge of the main Christian doctrines and their social relevance;	x						x								x			x				
R5. Knowledge of qualitative and quantitative methodologies in social needs analysis or organizational diagnosis		x		x	x									x				x				x
Skills																						

Expected learning outcomes	Spiritual social work	Human rights and human	Sociology of Religion	Ethics, integrity and	Advanced Methods in Social Work	Professional Practice 1	Religious and professional values	Protection of children's rights	Social and spiritual	Social policies in Romania	History of Christian religion	Professional practice 2	Communication and conflict	Research methods in social	Social conceptions of major religious texts	Applied social and spiritual psychology	Professional practice 3	Systematic theology	Substance abuse	Family social and spiritual care	Social care of the elderly	Dissertation writing Practice
R6. Critical and constructive reflection on the relationship between social work values and spiritual values;	X		X			X	X		X		X				X					X		
R7. Creative and innovative application of assessment and intervention methods in social work;		X	X		X	X			X			X	X			X	X		X	X	X	
R8. Application of specific social needs identification tools - social diagnosis in different community, social and organizational contexts;		X	X			X			X			X	X	X		X	X		X	X		X
R9. Comparative analysis of the relationship between spiritual and professional values in social work practice;	X	X	X											X		X				X	X	
R10. Development of a funding strategy for the establishment and support of social work projects, taking into account spiritual needs, values and resources.	X				X					X				X								X
Responsibility and autonomy																						
R11. Autonomous and responsible application of knowledge and skills in the field of social work and spirituality for the support of beneficiaries of social work services;	X	X		X	X											X						
R12. Applying knowledge of social work and spirituality to develop effective	X					X				X							X					X

Expected learning outcomes	Spiritual social work	Human rights and human	Sociology of Religion	Ethics, integrity and	Advanced Methods in Social Work	Professional Practice 1	Religious and professional values	Protection of children's rights	Social and spiritual	Social policies in Romania	History of Christian religion	Professional practice 2	Communication and conflict	Research methods in social	Social conceptions of major religious texts	Applied social and spiritual psychology	Professional practice 3	Systematic theology	Substance abuse	Family social and spiritual care	Social care of the elderly	Dissertation writing Practice
partnerships between social work agencies and religious institutions;																						
R13. Using specific social work skills to identify and overcome social problems faced by certain categories of individuals, families or communities.					x			x												x	x	x

Correlation of expected learning outcomes to key, professional and transversal competences

Expected learning outcomes	Key competences			Professional competences					Cross competences				
	Science competences	Personal, social and learning to learn competences	Digital competences	Working with fundamental theories and concepts in the sphere of value-centred social work, in academic contexts and in specific social and community activities	Critical use of ideas, concepts and theories in the field of value-centred social work to address problematic issues encountered in professional practice	Diagnosis of the organizational environment in the field of	Design and coordinate research to identify community development needs using quantitative and qualitative methodologies.	Assumption of social work principles and values in personal and professional work	Application of the principles, rules and values of the code of professional ethics in different social and professional contexts	Identification and make effective use of information sources and resources for communication and assisted training (Internet portals, specialized software applications, databases, online courses, etc.) both in Romanian and in an international language	Assuming specific roles and functions in the work of professional groups or institutions	Social empathy and positive relationships with community members	Ability to observe and understand points of view from different cultural contexts
Knowledge													
R1. Knowledge of social work and its relationship with religion and spirituality;		X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
R2. Knowledge of the social concepts of the major religions;		X	X	X	X	X	X			X			X
R3. Knowledge of the significance of religion and spirituality in various branches of social work (family, child, elderly protection, etc.);	X	X		X	X					X		X	X
R4. Knowledge of the main Christian doctrines and their social relevance;	X							X		X		X	
R5. Knowledge of qualitative and quantitative methodologies in social needs analysis or organizational diagnosis	X	X	X	X				X		X	X		X
Skills													
R6. Critical and constructive reflection on the relationship between social work values and spiritual values;	X		X			X		X	X		X		X
R7. Creative and innovative application of assessment and intervention methods in social work;			X			X	X		X		X		X
R8. Application of specific social needs identification tools - social diagnosis in different community, social and organizational contexts;	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X			
R9. Comparative analysis of the relationship between spiritual and professional values in social work practice;					X		X		X				

R10. Development of a funding strategy for the establishment and support of social work projects, taking into account spiritual needs, values and resources.	X	X	X			X	X		X		X	X	X
Responsibility and autonomy													
R11. Autonomous and responsible application of knowledge and skills in the field of social work and spirituality for the support of beneficiaries of social work services;	X		X		X			X	X			X	
R12. Applying knowledge of social work and spirituality to develop effective partnerships between social work agencies and religious institutions;	X	X	X			X	X	X				X	X
R13. Using specific social work skills to identify and overcome social problems faced by certain categories of individuals, families or communities.	X	X			X			X	X		X		X

