# Ph.D. in Social Work

# Syllabus- 2020 onwards

# Central University of Kerala

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**Ph.D. in Social Work**

**Syllabus- 2020 onwards**

**CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KERALA**

**Department of Social Work,** School of Social Sciences

*Established by the Parliament of India vide the Central University Act, 2009 (No.25 of 2009)*

**Tejaswini Hills, Periye P.O., Kasaragod District, Kerala, INDIA – 671 320**

WWW.cukerala.ac.in

**GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THE PHD STUDENTS**

## 1. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

The Department of Social Work was started with a Master Programme in 2012. It was started as one among the department initiated at the university during its inception. The department hopes to become a center of excellence in developing social work professionals for promoting justice and empowerment. With a judicious mix of theory and practice, the department has geared itself to be strong in teaching, research and learning. In the year 2016 the Ph. D programme is initiated at the department. In 2018 department has established Centre for Gerontology.

### 1.1 VISION
· To become a center of excellence of learning, experience, research, training and services

### 1.2 MISSION
· To provide a conducive environment for participatory learning
· To promote a just and equitable society through research and provisioning of professional services

### 1.3 PROGRAMME OUTCOME
The learners completing the Ph.D Programme in Social Work of the Central University of Kerala will be able to obtain knowledge and skills in theory and practicum. The programme emphasises on learning the contemporary social work practices, research methods and statistical applications, research ethics and plagiarism. As it is a practicing method the programme gives more importance to experiential learning through action research and intervention studies. The programme helps to conduct research on social work methods and prepare modules to bring social change and transformation in the society. It makes the students an independent researcher to work on the societal problems at large. As an outcome of the programme it helps to achieve a just and equitable society and provide appropriate policy interventions.

### 1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME
The syllabus of Ph.D in Social Work is developed in consultation with national and international experts in the subject and with the feedback from the stakeholders and academicians from other universities across India. The objectives of the programme are

1. To provide knowledge on social work research and statistical applications to enhance the experiential learning through action research and intervention studies.

2. To acquire knowledge on the contemporary social work methods and theories.
3. To enable the students to understand the current social issues/problems, identify the specific area of research to bring positive required changes in the society.
4. To enable the students to understand the importance on the research ethics, integrity, values, principles of practice, plagiarism and publication ethics.

## 1.5. PROGRAMME-SPECIFIC OUTCOMES

On completion of the programme, students should be able to achieve the following programme specific outcomes:

1. Learners are enabled to apply the research concepts, design, sampling techniques, tools and approaches for further research work.
2. Design and develop research methods to study specific research problem.
3. Enabled to use the experimental research design prepare modules and provide policy implications in their research work.
4. Capable to predict and apply the appropriate statistical tools and techniques to get significant results.
5. Able to employ the Social Work Methods and demonstrate practice in the various relevant areas and settings
6. Enable to apply the knowledge of various theories and Models of Social Work education to deal with problems
7. Construct critical understanding on the use of various methods for identifying, assessing and dealing with social problems so as to bring social change and development.
8. Learners will develop an in-depth knowledge in their chosen area of research.
9. Capable to apply analytical skill to critically review the literature and policies documents to identify the gap, scope and need in the research area.
10. Have knowledge on the basics philosophy of science, ethics, research integrity, and publication ethics.
11. Have knowledge to identify the research misconduct and predatory publications.
12. Able to understand journal indexing, citation databases, research metrics and plagiarism tools.

**Course structure and credit allocation:**

*Basic courses of PhD in Social Work includes*:

| Couse Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---|---|

| PHDSW101 | Social Work Research and Statistical Applications | 4 |
|---|---|---|
| PHDSW102 | Contemporary Social Work | 6 |
| PHDSW103 | Course on Specific Research ** | 4 |
| PHDSW104 | Research and Publication Ethics | 2 |
| | Total | 16 |

**Couse code will change according to specific area of the research of student

The aim of these paper is to get a thorough understanding of the theoretical a n d methodological aspects of Social Work and specific area of the research. Based on these papers, the researcher can sharpen their knowledge and skills. During the course work the research scholars will be enabled towards specific area of research.

All other matters not referred specifically in these regulations shall be governed as per the regulations of the University as revised from time to time.

## Scheme of Examination Semester I

| Code No | Credits | Title | Duration of Exam (Hours) | Maximum Marks (End of semester Exam) | Internal assessment | Total Mrksa |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PHDSW101 | 4 | Social Work Research and Statistical Application | 03 | 60 | 40 | 100 |
| PHDW102 | 6 | Contemporary Social Work | 03 | 60 | 40 | 100 |
| PHDW103* | 4 | Course on Specific Research | 03 | 60 | 40 | 100 |
| PHDSW104 | 2 | Research and Publication Ethics | 03 | 60 | 40 | 100 |
| | | | Total | 240 | 160 | 400 |

* Course code PHDSW103 Final exam will be conducted through presentation and interaction with Subject experts.

**SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH & STATISTICAL APPLICATIONS**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- To acquaint learners about the research concepts and ethics of Social Work Research.
- To gain the knowledge on research methodology and approaches.
- To develop the knowledge and skills of using different methods in conducting the quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods of research.
- To understand the statistical tools and techniques in Social Work Research and its application

**COURSE CONTENT:**

**Unit I: Social Science Research: An Introduction**
Meaning, Definition, and Scope
Scientific Method: Use of Scientific Method in Social Science
Research. Approaches to Social Science Research:
Quantitative, Qualitative and Integrated Concepts,
Constructs, Variables, Hypothesis and Testing Hypothesis,
Cause and Effect Relationship.
Research Problem, Identification, and
Formulation. Review of Literature, Citation
and Referring Styles. Ethical consideration in
Social Work Research
Difference between Social Research and Social Work
Research Process of Social Work Research and Format of
Research Proposal

**Unit II: Research Design and Types:**
Meaning and definition, Need for Research Design in Social
Work Research
Types: Explanatory Research Designs, Exploratory Research
Designs, Descriptive Research Designs, Experimental
Research Designs, Survey Research Designs, Action Research
Evaluation Research.

**Unit III: Sampling and Data Collection:**

Meaning, Definition, and advantages of Sampling
The universe, Population, Sample unit, Determination of Sample
Size & Sampling error.

Types of Sampling: Probability sampling & Non probability
sampling. Sources of data: Primary and secondary, online
journals and resources, Methods and Tools of Data
Collection: Interview, Guide, Observation Questionnaire, Case
Study and Focus Group Discussion
Scaling techniques and its types
Need for Pre-testing and Pilot Study and its advantages

**Unit IV: Data Processing & Analysis:**
Data coding, Master Sheet, Editing, and Tabulation
Data types, summation, organization, and presentation of data, frequency
Testing parametric and non- parametric tests.
Data Analysis: Univariate, Bivariate and Multivariate Data
Analysis, Software for Social Research Analysis
Reporting: Meaning, Principles of reporting and Format of Good
Report

**Unit V: Application of Statistics in Social Work Research:**
Meaning, definition, Scope. Uses of Statistics in Social Work
Basic Statistical Application: Mean, Median, Mode and
standard Deviation
Parametric: t- test, Z-test ANOVA, Pearson coefficient of correlation
Non- Parametric Test: One sample tests, 1-sample Wilcoxon
signed rank test. Spearman Rank Correlation
Uses of SPSS in Social Work Research

**COURSE OUTCOMES:**

- Learners are enabled to apply the research concepts and
  ethics of Social Work Research in undertaking research.
- Design and develop research methods to study specific
  research problem.
- Apply different methods quantitative, qualitative and mixed
  methods in conducting research.
- Predict and apply the appropriate statistical tools and
  techniques to get significant results.

**References:**
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18. Wilkinson & Bandarker (1984) Methodology and Techniques of Social Research, Himalaya, Bombay
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21. Sharma, S.R.2003. Effective classroom teaching modern methods, tools and techniques. Mangal Deep publishers, Jaipur.
22. Vedanayagam, E.G.1989. Teaching technology for college Teachers, Sterling publishers, New York.

**Course Code: PHDSW102**

## Contemporary Social Work

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**
- Understand the Social Work Practice and its importance in the current scenario
- To enhance knowledge on the application of various theories and Models of Social Work
- To enrich the knowledge on contemporary and advanced social work
- To enhance critical understanding of the models and strategies for community organization and social action

**COURSE CONTENT**:

**Unit I: Social Work Profession:**
Social Work Profession: History and Ideologies, Values and Principles, Ethics in social work and Code of Ethics for social workers,
Social Work Education and practice, Challenges of professional Social Work
Social Work Profession in changing contexts, Micro, Meso and Macro level contexts.
Concepts related to Social Work – Charity & Philanthropy, Voluntary Action, Social
Service, Social Welfare, Social Reform, Social Security, Social Policy,
Social Justice
and Human Rights

**Unit II: Theories and Models of Social Work:**

Theories of Social Work: Systems theory, Social learning theory, Psychosocial development theory, Psychodynamic theory, Transpersonal theory, Rational choice theory, Marxist Theory, Feminist theory, Cognitive-behavioral theory, Ecosystem theory, Gestalt theory, Attachment theory and Social relationship.

Models of Social Work: Problem-solving, Task-centered, Crisis intervention, Solution Focused, Narrative, Cognitive-Behavioral, Psycho-social therapy, Functional, Holistic
The Afrocentric and Chinese Model

Bharatyakaran of Social Work, Vivekananda, Gandhi, Ambedkar, Aurobindo, Mother Teresa and their contribution

**Unit III: Emerging Trends in Social Work**:
Interdependence, Reciprocity, Citizenship and social justice.
Radical social work, roots, radical social work diaspora, feminist social work practice and issues.
Intervention paradigms: The four forces of social work:
Psychodynamic Paradigms,
Cognitive/Behavioral/Communication Paradigms,
Experiential/Humanistic/Existential/Paradigm,
Transpersonal Paradigms

**Unit IV: Approaches to Social Work Practice and Analysis:**
Guidelines for strength assessment process: Defining the problem situation, framework for assessment, the strength model - Approach with the individual, group and community.
Evidence-based Social Work Practice, Generalist Social Work Practice, Strengths-based social work practice, Empowerment based social work practice
GANT Chart, Web Chart Force filed Analysis, Felt Need Analysis, Situation Analysis, Snapshot Analysis

**Unit V: Social Action and Advocacy:**
Concepts of Social Action and Advocacy
Understanding Community Power
Structure Principles of Social Action
Western Models of Social Action: Saul Alinsky and Paulo Friere Methods and Strategies in Indian Models of Social Action: Birsa Munda,  M.K.Gandhi,Ambedkar,Vinoba Bhave,JayaPrakash Narayan, Medha Patkar, Daya  Bhai

**COURSE OUTCOMES:**
- Employ the Social Work Methods and demonstrate practice in the various relevant areas and  settings
- Apply the knowledge of various theories and Models of Social Work to deal with  problems
- Construct critical understanding on the use of various methods for identifying, assessing and dealing with social problems so as to bring social change and  development.
- Create consciousness and empower the marginalized section to have a better standard of life and  well-being.

**References:**

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   California: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company.

**Course Code: PHDSW103**

## COURSE ON SPECIFIC AREA OF RESEARCH

The course involves the development of theoretical understanding in a specialized area of interest. This course will be prepared, monitored and conducted by the assigned research supervisor/Guide according to the chosen area of interest of the research scholar. The research scholars will be placed in chosen area to practice social work research and develop a firsthand understanding of the context and learn research skills through practice.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**
- To enhance the knowledge base of the research scholars in their chosen area of interest.
- To equip the scholars with skills in review of literature and policies relevant to the research area.
- To enhance their skills in application of qualitative, quantitative and participatory research methods in the area of interest.
- To acquire first hand field exposure on specific area of research

**Unit I: Theoretical Frameworks**
   Concepts Related to the Area of Study
   Theoretical Frameworks

**Unit II: Policies and Programmes**
   Appraisal of policies related to the topic of study.
   Review of Programme
   Social work practice in the related special area at Multilevel.

**Unit III: Formulation of Research Design**
   Review of literature related to the topic

Identification of Substantive, Theoretical, Conceptual and Methodological Issues.
Draft Research Proposal

**Unit IV: Application of Research Methods**
Understanding Social Context
Qualitative Methods: Participant Observation/ Interviews/FGDs
Quantitative Methods: Field Survey/ Content
Analysis/Analysis of Secondary Data
Participatory Methods: Time Related, Space Related and
Relational Methods.

**Unit V:**
Field work related to area of the study (Minimum of 15 days)

**COURSE OUTCOMES:**
- Learners will have in-depth knowledge in their chosen area of research.
- Analytical skill to critically review the literature and policies documents to identify the gap, scope and need in the research area.
- Skills to apply qualitative, quantitative and participatory research methods in the area of interest.
- Demonstrable knowledge and First hand field exposure on specific area of research.

**Reference:**
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**Course Code- PHDSW104**

### RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION ETHICS

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

To provide the basics philosophy of science and ethics, research integrity, publication ethics.

To give hands on experiences to access open access and online resources available

To identify research misconduct and predatory publications.

To learn about indexing and citation databases, research metrics (citations, h-index, impact factor, etc.) and plagiarism tools.

**UNIT I: Philosophy and Ethics**

1. Introduction to Philosophy: definition, nature and scope, concept, branches
2. Ethics: Definition, moral philosophy, nature of moral judgments and reactions.

**UNIT 2: Scientific Conduct**

1. Ethics with respect to science and research
2. Intellectual honesty and research integrity
3. Scientific misconducts: Falsification, Fabrication and Plagiarism (FFP)
4. Redundant publications: duplicate and overlapping publications, salami slicing
5. Selective reporting and misrepresentation of data

**UNIT 3: Publication Ethics**

1. Publication ethics: definition, introduction and importance
2. Best practices/standards setting initiatives and guidelines: The Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), World Association of Medical Editors (WAME) etc.
3. Conflicts of interest
4. Publication misconduct: Definition, concept, problems that lead to unethical behavior and vice versa, types
5. Violation of publication ethics, authorship and contributorship
6. Identification of publication misconduct, complaints and appeals
7. Predatory publishers and journals

**UNIT 4: Open Access Publishing Open access publications and initiatives**
1. SHERPA/RoMEO online resource to check publisher copyright & self- archiving policies
2. Software tool to identify predatory publications developed by Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU): UGC-CARE list of journals
3. Journal finder/journal suggestion tools viz. Journal Author Name Editor (JANE), Elsevier Journal Finder, Springer Journal Suggester, etc.

**UNIT 5: Publication Misconduct, Databases and research metrics**

1. Subject specific ethical issues, FFP, authorship
2. Conflicts of interest
3. Complaints and appeals: examples and fraud from India and abroad
4. Use of reference management software like Mendeley, Zotero etc. and anti-plagiarism software like Turnitin, Urkund
5. Indexing databases
6. Citation databases: Web of Science, Scopus etc.
7. Impact factor of journal as per Journal Citation Report, Source- normalized Impact per Paper (SNIP), The Impact per Publication (IPP), SCImago Journal Rank (SJR), CiteScore
8. Metrics: h-index, g-index,i-10 index, altmetrics

**COURSE OUTCOMES:**

- Have knowledge on the basics philosophy of science and ethics, research integrity, publication ethics.
- Trained in accessing the available open access and online resources
- Have knowledge to identify the research misconduct and predatory publications.
- Know indexing and citation databases, research metrics (citations, h- index, impact factor, etc.) and plagiarism tools.

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