



German Jordanian University

Deanship of Graduate Studies

Master of Social Work/Migration and Refugees – Comprehensive Track

Study Plan

Academic Year 2017/2018

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## Introduction

The world is facing an ever-increasing spectrum of challenges emanating from displaced persons who are fleeing from their countries and are striving for shelter in their neighborhood or heading for more remote destinations of hope.

The Kingdom of Jordan with its location in the heart of the Middle East has hosted multiple influxes of refugees. Jordan has become a target country as well as a transitional country for forced migration. Central challenges in this framework refer to issues of political, economic, cultural as well as medical and social issues.

Jordan and many European countries (e. g. Germany) are sharing the strong belief that the challenges in the fields of politics, economy, culture, health and social welfare cannot be mastered by one country individually, but that steps have to be undertaken jointly by the countries concerned.

The German Jordan University (GJU) has identified a high demand for creating a specialized postgraduate program of social work studies focusing on dealing with the challenges of refugees and migrants. This program will have to bring together national, regional and international aspects and perspectives to encompass the current pressing problems by approximately 5000 non-governmental organizations that serve refugees, the public sector and challenges faced by refugees and local communities.

To contribute to the sustainable professionalization of social work, both nationally and regionally, as well as simultaneously increasing the employability of social work professionals, this Master's program, will also target building capacities of paraprofessionals and those from affiliated disciplines.

This proposed program will be following the basic concept of linking theoretical study with field-oriented commitment. In addition to its interdisciplinary approach that offers an understanding of social work targeting forced migration in contexts of conflicts, development projects, natural disasters and environmental change the study program intends to be internationally recognized and therefore will have strong practical and research links with national, regional and international academic institutions. The 'Social Work / Migration and Refugees' (SWMR) is a Master's program that is designed to respond to the increasing need of specialized services in Jordan, and as stated, will advance and professionalize social work. It will certainly lead to an increase in the quality of services provided by both public and private sectors.

## **Programme Objectives**

Upon completion of the programme, the goal is to enhance the professional development of graduates by equipping them with both theoretical knowledge and the most-up-to-date applied skills in the field of social work that will advance the quality of practice in the field, increase and heighten their career prospects in working with refugees specifically and in the humanitarian sector more broadly. These goals will be achieved through the focus on the following main areas:

- The broad theoretical foundations of social work as well as those pertaining to refugees and forced migration
- Knowledge of international treaties that focus on refugees, social policies and legal contexts
- Knowledge of social policy and the legal context of practice.
- Applied skills to work individuals including children, youth, families and groups. The skills to work in multidisciplinary teams, as well as organizations in camp and host community settings.
- Applied skills to undertake original research projects in the field of social work
- Inter-cultural competency skills and knowledge pertaining to social work and refuge

## **Learning outcomes**

Upon completion of the programme, the goal is to equip graduates with both theoretical knowledge and applied skills to advance current practice and career with refugees and in humanitarian field as well as skills for continuing professional development.

The primary learning outcomes of the Master in Social Work / Migration and Refugees:

- Theoretical foundations of social work in general and with refugees.
- Skills in working with individuals including children and youth, families, groups, multidisciplinary work with other professionals as well as organizations and camps.
- Skills to undertake original research in the field of social work
- Develop intercultural competencies in social work and with refugees.

## Enrollment

### Admission Requirements:

Students applying for the program should have acquired a Bachelor`s degree in one of the following fields:

Social Work, Sociology, Anthropology, Medicine, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Psychology, Special Education.

Graduates holding certificates of other degrees should apply to the admissions committee, where their cases will be studied individually.

## Degree requirements – Comprehensive Track

Students must complete the following requirements to obtain the Master`s program Social Work / Migration and Refugees (SW)

- A. A total of 27 credit hours SW core courses at GJU.
- B. A total of 9 elective credit hours
- C. Comprehensive examination, after completing all the core and elective courses successfully and obtaining the department approval.

Classification	GJU semester credit Hours		
	Compulsory	Electives	Total
Social Work / Migration and Refugees Core Courses	27	-	27
Elective		9	
Comprehensive	0		0
Total =			36

**Core Courses:**

Core courses (27 credit hours) to be taken at GJU: SW711, SW712, SW713, SW714, SW721, SW722, SW723, SW731, SW732, SW733, SW734, SW799.

**1. Obligatory Courses (27 credit hours)**

Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours	Weekly credit hours		Prerequisites
			Theoretical	Practical	
SW711	Social Work for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	3	3	0	
SW712	Methods of Social Work	3	2	*1	
SW713	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for Refugees	3	2	1	
SW714	Introduction to Field Training	1	0	*18PH Weekly	
SW721	Community Based interventions in social work	3	2	1	SW712
SW722	Research in Social Work	3	2	1	SW721
SW723	Rotational Internship	1	1	1	
SW731	Social Work with Special Groups Countries of Transition	3	2	1	
SW732	Administration and Coordination of Humanitarian Systems and Sustainable Transition Building	3	2	1	
SW733	Social Work in Human Rights and Arab	3	2	1	
SW734	Specialized Internship	1	0	*24 PH	SW721
SW799	Comprehensive Examination	0			
		<b>27</b>			

- \*18PH Weekly Students have to go filed placements three days per week from 8-2pm for a whole semester.
- \*24PH weekly Students have to go filed placements three days per week from 8-4pm for a whole semester.
- \*1 Credit hour means 3 practical contact hours.

## 2. Elective Courses (9 credit hours)

Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours	Weekly Hours		Prerequisites
			Theoretical	Practical	
SW741	Volunteerism in Social Work and Humanitarian Contexts	3	1	2	
SW742	Gender in Conflict	3	2	1	
SW743	Protracted Displacement, Durable Solutions and Entrepreneurship	3	2	1	
SW744	Humanitarian Aid and Camp Management	3	2	1	
SW745	Special Topics in Social Work	3	1	2	
SW746	Internship in Germany	3	0	*24 PH weekly	SW714 SW733
SW747	Communicative and Intercultural Skills	3	2	1	

\*Students have to go field placements three days per week from 8-4pm for a whole semester



## Study Plan Guide (Comprehensive Track)

First Year / First Semester					
Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours	Weekly Hours		Prerequisites
			Theoretical	Practical	
SW711	Social Work for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	3	3	0	
SW 712	Methods of Social Work	3	2	*1	
SW713	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for Refugees Support for Refugees	3	2	1	
SW714	Introduction to Field Training	1	0	1	
Total		10			

First Year / Second Semester					
Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours	Theoretical	Practical	Prerequisites
SW721	Community Based interventions in Social work	3	2	1	SW712
SW722	Research in Social Work	3	2	1	SW712
SW723	Rotational Internship	1	0	18h/Week	
	Elective	3			
Total		10			

Second Year / Third Semester					
Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours	Theoretical	Practical	Prerequisites
SW731	Social Work with Special Groups in Countries of Transition	3	2	1	SW711
SW732	Administration and Coordination Of Humanitarian Systems and Sustainable Transition Building	3	2	1	
SW733	Social Work in Human Rights and Arab Context	3	2	1	
	Elective	3	2	1	
Total		12			

Second Year / Fourth Semester					
Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours	Theoretical	Practical	Prerequisites
SW734	Specialized Internship	1	0	24h/Week	SW731
	Elective	3	2	*1	
SW99	Comprehensive Examination	0			
Total		4			

\*Each 1 practical hour is equivalent to 3 contact hours.

## **Course Descriptions**

### **SW711 Social Work for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

This course provides the fundamental knowledge for social work practice. This entails history, principles, international and local ethics as well as codes of conduct in social work. The course will highlight the most salient social issues and movements such as race, class, culture, gender and sexuality. Particular attention will be paid to how processes of risk and resiliency, forced migration and immigration, citizenship and poverty impact developmental trajectories of people in Jordan and the region. Also, students will learn to conceptualize intercultural processes as well as the various communication skills utilized with individuals, families and groups, communities and the media. In addition, students will be trained to be culturally sensitive towards the context of refugees

### **SW712 Methods of Social Work**

Emphasis will be on learning and practicing core skills of social work on micro, meso and macro levels of practice including management in organizational settings. Focus is placed on the role of social workers in enhancing the well-being of children, youth, families and communities particularly through a concentration on developing skills to assess needs, manage cases and provide interventions with this population. This will include the processes of case management, multidisciplinary case conferences, structured decision-making, introduction to diagnosis of mental health disorders, providing interventions, the stages within these processes and the skills required within each stage. Students will learn about the various types of evidence-based interventions that can be applied with different populations such as parent management training and cognitive behavioral therapy. More specialized interventions such as play therapy will also be introduced.

### **SW713 Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for Refugees**

A main focus will be on the most prevalent mental health challenges experienced by refugees, their causes and the most prevalent and effective psychosocial support models. In this course, students learn and develop skills on working with trauma, and with different groups such as those with disabilities, unaccompanied minors, the elderly, and survivors of torture. The emphasis will be on engaging, assessing, understanding, intervening and evaluating cases, strengthening child protection approaches and promoting resilience of service users and their families within a refugee context.

### **SW714 Introduction to Field Training**

This placement is the basic placement where students will be introduced to various institutions in order to develop understanding of the diverse services provided to refugees.

### **SW721 Community Based Interventions in Social Work**

This course covers fundamental issues relating to community-based approaches in social work. Students will develop skills to identify significant needs, to gather information and strategies services based on participatory approach, to reach hard-to-reach sub-populations, and to work with host communities. The community-based approach will also sensitize students to work with special groups such as youth, the elderly and people with special needs. Students will be introduced to methods of working and implementing services with, individuals, groups and communities, and they will also learn to map and address gaps without duplicating services. While this course is focused on refugees, community-based work requires the consideration of resources and supports of the host community that has been shouldered with responsibilities. As such, in this course students will also learn how to consider sustainable development mechanisms, to advocate for less privileged people, and to strengthen social cohesion within host communities through various means such as improving livelihoods, entrepreneurship opportunities, particularly in light of protracted refugee situation.

### **SW722 Research in Social Work**

The aim of this module is to sensitize students to the importance of research, equip them with the core skills to both conduct and make use of the most up-to-date scientific knowledge. Students will be introduced to qualitative and quantitative research methods, with a particular focus on research with vulnerable populations and refugees. Students will learn the stages of research from selecting a topic to various data collection and analysis methods to writing, presenting and other dissemination forms.

### **SW723 Rotational Internship**

This placement is a more focused internship that will be split in two organizations in order to help students obtain concentrated experience in an area that they wish to specialize in. Reflective practice will be addressed and introduced to students in the field.

### **SW731 Social Work with Special Groups in Countries of Transition**

This course provides advanced skills in working with particular sub-groups of the refugee population. These vulnerable groups include children (separated children, unaccompanied minors), women, and the elderly, and those with disabilities and mental health challenges, survivors of trafficking and sexual exploitation. In addition to direct-practice skills, students will learn about specific policies and services relevant to each of these groups. The students will learn ethical practice, communication, and advocacy skills with these vulnerable people. Modules will consider gender relations and also social/cultural/religious factors.

### **SW732 Administration and Coordination of Humanitarian Systems and Sustainable Transition Building**

This module introduces students to the main approaches of interagency working and co-ordination in humanitarian aid. The course will address the role of professionals in supervision and to evaluate outcomes in the context of humanitarian aid and disasters. The focus will be on how to create environments and networks, practices of resettlement, communication skills for safe transitions. The students will be introduced to national and international legal frameworks of resettlement. Also, the students will develop knowledge about the challenging context of the social and administrative role of professionals. The focus will be on critical examinations of managing livelihoods and transition. The students will learn about referral and connections, integration of volunteers into the organization in context of humanitarian aid.

### **SW733 Social Work in Human Rights and Arab Context**

Through learning about international conventions, sustainable development goals, local and regional policies pertaining to refugees and vulnerable populations, the course will help the students to develop an understanding of social justice and advocacy utilizing these foundations to develop their professional practice. An emphasis will be on increasing knowledge of how international and regional conventions are translated in the Arab context, local policies and practice. Students will be able to develop skills to advocate for marginalized people. They will be required to present a case study outlining how their practice will implement principles of social justice and human rights.

### **SW734 Specialized Internship**

This internship will focus on supporting the students to gain knowledge and skills in a particular area to support them in developing specialized experience, and increase their chances of employability upon graduation. Students have to produce and address issues in their portfolio as evidence of their reflective practice.

### **SW741 Volunteerism in Social Work and Humanitarian Contexts**

Due to the magnitude of the global refugee crises, the humanitarian and social work sectors have to increasingly rely on volunteers to support services provisions. Students will learn to balance the sensitive needs of the refugee population while also working with volunteers and paraprofessionals to ensure quality and sustainability of services.

### **SW742 Gender in Conflict**

This course addresses issues of women and female children, who are amongst the most vulnerable within an already disadvantaged refugee population. As such, this course will sensitize students to the importance of gender mainstreaming in both policies and practices. This will be achieved by introducing the students to the most salient feminist theories, women and girl-child related conventions and protection mechanisms, as well as gender-sensitive practice.

### **SW743 Protracted Displacement, Durable Solutions and Entrepreneurship**

In this course, the students will study community development and protection. They will be introduced to the approach of social-political space with refugees. Resettlements and durable solution from UNHCR perspective and experience will be discussed. The objective of the course will stress on developing different skills in communication and networking, and on the practice of cultural competences. Students will be introduced to the spirit of entrepreneurship that is characterized by innovation and risk taking. They will be learning methods encouraging them to change and develop new ideas and opportunities within small and medium-sized as well as large and global business, enabling protracted displacement refugees to work in a competitive manner, to improve their profitability or to renew an existing business.

### **SW744 Humanitarian Aid and Camp Management**

This course unfolds through its themes that include implications of assisting refugees, the roles of refugee organizations in addressing the plight of refugees on a continuum, beginning with the onset of conflict threats, through to fleeing and seeking asylum. Students will also learn about political influences such as how and why numbers of refugees are at times manipulated, and how needs are presented to

the media and to donors. Accountability of service providers is studied in order to enable students to critically analyze policy reports and learn the articulated policy messages. Students will be able to evaluate how policies and decisions are shaped.

#### **SW745 Special Topics in Social Work**

Students will have the theoretical and practical knowledge of logistics, monitoring and evaluation, accountability in service delivery. They will also acquire knowledge and learn about contemporary issues pertaining to migrants and refugees. They will be encouraged to produce innovative tools in working with refugees.

#### **SW746 Internship in Germany**

This course will support students in gaining knowledge and skills of best practice with migrants and refugees issues on an international level. The course and international experience will further increase chances of employability. Internships will be offered with German and other international institutions working with refugee populations.

#### **SW747 Communicative and Intercultural Skills**

This course will focus on theories of communication. Students will learn to conceptualize intercultural processes as well as the various communication skills utilized with individuals, families and groups, communities and the media. In addition, students will be trained to be culturally sensitive towards the context of refugees.

#### **SW799 Comprehensive Examination**

The Comprehensive Exam is a four-hour written exam, which is held at the end of the fourth semester. It aims to measure the student's ability in understanding the fundamental and advanced notions and concepts of theoretical and practical issues of Social Work as studied in the Master's program. To pass, the student must have an overall grade of minimum 70%.

## Tuition and fees

The following table gives a breakdown of tuition and fees at GJU:

Fees	Jordan Dinars
Credit hour fee	120
Other Fees	
Admission/Acceptance Fees	120
Refundable Collateral Fees	150
Registration Fees\ per semester	120
Computer Fees\ per semester	60
Medical Insurance Fee\ per semester	50

## List of National and International Partner Universities

- University of Applied Science Würzburg – Schweinfurt (FHWS),  
<https://www.fhws.de/en/>
- Network on Humanitarian Action International of Universities (NOHA),  
<http://www.nohanet.org/>
- Al Balqa Applied University <http://www.bau.edu.jo/>



## Contact Information

For application and other enquiries, please contact:

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- URL: <http://www.gnu.edu.jo/content/graduate-programs-2459>
- URL; <http://www.gnu.edu.jo/content/deanship-graduate-studies-and-scientific-research-388>
- URL; <http://www.gnu.edu.jo/content/admission-and-registration-department-425>
- URL: <http://www.gnu.edu.jo/content/department-social-work-6494>