German Jordanian University  
School of Applied Humanities and Languages  
Department of Social Work

Professional Diploma in Social Work: Migration and Refugees

Justification

Jordan with its location in the heart of the Middle East has hosted multiple influx of refugees and has been identified as a transitional country for migration. In general, the world is facing ever-increasing challenges in different domains related to migration and refugees such as health, social, political and economic dimensions.

The German Jordanian University (GJU) has identified a high demand for creating a specialized postgraduate program focusing on treating the challenges of refugees and migration. This program will have to bring together national, regional and international aspects and perspectives to encompass the current pressing problems of refugees.

This program offers an understanding of refugees and migrants in context of conflicts and socio-political change. It aims at providing information and practical knowledge in a limited and manageable period of time. Professional Diploma is a degree that is able to target not only social work practitioners but also professionals from other disciplines as well as fresh graduates. The courses respond to processionals’ needs and their perspectives shape the program that will offer a comprehensive understanding of human needs of displaced persons.

A workshop at GJU was conducted with 10 national and international governmental and non-governmental organizations that are working with refugees in Jordan. The professionals suggested the main areas and components of the Professional Diploma “Migration and Refugees” described in the objectives.

Course Objectives:

- Supporting professionalization of social work activities for migrants and refugees in Jordan, the region as well as in further countries.
- Establishing a program that can be operative at short notice (professional diploma/Zertifikatsstudium).

- Laying foundations for training staff already working or planning to work in the field of refugees and crisis intervention.

- Linking training and study in areas of origin and transit (Middle East) with target regions (Europe).

- Combining training programmes in Jordan with study programmes established at German or other European universities and universities of applied sciences.

**Career Prospect**

The professional Diploma Programme “Migration and Refugees” will provide graduates with proper qualifications for job opportunities in professional fields in social work with refugees.

Students will be qualified to engage in refugees and migration aspects. They will be able to address the impact of Professional Diploma with an interdisciplinary team, health, experts and policy maker and community development planners.

Students will be able to design interventions aiming at strengthening the resilience of refugees.

Graduates will be qualified to engage in development methods of intervention with mental health service user, disabled and vulnerable populations of migrants and refugees and will be able to conduct a research with people at risk.

By graduation, they will be qualified professionals prepared to contribute to improve life quality and integration of refugees on a local, regional as well as on an international level.

**Programme Structure**

The professional diploma programme comprises 15 credits hours.

The programme will have a total duration of 5 months:

4 month: lectures
1 month: field training/internship
**Lectures:**

4 compulsory lectures of 3 CH each

Each student will choose one of the lectures as his/her major course, for which he/she will develop a graduation research at the end of the programme.

**Field Training:**

120 hours of internship (3CH)
- 20 sessions of 6 hours each on Saturdays
or
- 20 days of 6 hours each in 1 month

Lectures will be taught on 4 days per week with 3 hours per day in the afternoon, i.e. 12 hours per week.

Classroom hours are contact hours of 45 minutes each.

**Language of Instruction:**

In order to develop international competences and enhance employability the main teaching language for lectures will be English.

**Venue:**

GJU location in Amman.

**Admission Requirements:**

Candidates must be holders of a Bachelor’s degree or of a two year diploma degree in social work, special education, social science, or other related disciplines.

English competency exam to be administered by the GJU.

**Required Documents:**

1. the original certificate of the Bachelor degree or two years diploma or a copy of the document translated by a certified office
2. a C.V.
3. a letter of motivation
4. a photocopy of the information page of the passport
5. three recent photographs

Schedule of the Diploma course:

The programme will be scheduled twice a year:

1. Spring Term: March - July.
2. Autumn Term: October - February.

Tuition Fee: 900 JOD

Grading:

- 1 major course: thesis and presentation*: 60/100
- 3 minors: written exam: 30/100
- Semester work: 10/100

*: Each student will choose one of the lectures as his/her major course, for which he/she will develop a graduation research at the end of the programme.

Passing grade: 75/100

Courses:

(15 CH)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>CH</th>
<th>Lecture Theory</th>
<th>Lecture Practice</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MR001</td>
<td>Mental Health and Psychosocial Support to Refugees</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MR002</td>
<td>Administration and Coordination of Humanitarian Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
and Sustainable Transition Building

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Description</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MR003</td>
<td>Social Work with Minors and Women in the Country of Origin or Transit</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MR004</td>
<td>Field Training Internship</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>120 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MR007</td>
<td>Conducting research with refugees</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Course descriptions.

The students will be introduced to different courses during the week, and the training will be parallel with the teaching programme. Each student will identify one of the lectures as his/her major course, for which he/she will develop a graduation research at the end of the programme.

(MR001)

**Mental Health and Psychosocial Support to Refugees.**

In this course, students learn and develop skills on working with trauma, identified cases and with different groups, i.e. disabled, unaccompanied minors, separation of family members and tortured survivors. The emphasis will be on engaging, assessing, understanding, intervening and evaluating cases, strengthening child protection approach and resilience with service users and their families.

Students will be introduced to the foundations and core values of social work, nationally and internationally.

Workers` skills such as counseling, self-care, self-reflection are further core objectives in this course. The theoretical course will be supported with practical sessions and site visits. Case studies will be presented by each student and discussed in class towards the end of the course. The case study can be with individuals, groups or communities.
(MR002)

Administration and Coordination of Humanitarian Systems and Sustainable Transition Building.

This module introduces the 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 evaluating outcomes in the context of humanitarian aid and disasters. The focus will be on how to create environment and networks, practices of resettlement, communication skills for safe sustainable transition. 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, i.e., social workers dealing with refugees after leaving care and to integrate them in urban places out of camp. The focus will be on critical examinations of managing sustainable development and transition. The students will learn about referral and connections, integration of volunteers into the organization in context of humanitarian aid conflict and how following up. Do no harm and a good well approach will be address in this case. Working will be in relation to participatory approaches with refugees, ensuring that they have a voice throughout the intervention. This will be discussed in the context of local and in a globalized world vision of sustainable transitions.

(MR003)

Social Work with minors and women in the Country of Origin or Transit.

Students in this course will be introduced to the social policy and method of intervention with vulnerable population, children and women. This course will be looking at specific models of working with vulnerable groups like separated children, unaccompanied refugee children, single parents, pregnant/breastfeeding women, women at risk of SGBV, specific needs related to young women (i.e. in relation to early marriage, transitions to marriage/ motherhood/employment). The students will learn to implement ethics, communication and advocacy skills with these vulnerable people. Modules will consider gender relations and also social/cultural/religious factors.
Field Training, Internship.

This part of the programme will allow the students to implement what they have learned in the course. The practical skills of the students will be observed by field practice assessors to supervise the practice skills. This is a key feature of this Professional Diploma that is designed to equip students with the core skills needed to practice in various roles across local, regional and global contexts.

The activities of the field training will take place at work placement if the students are working, otherwise the training will be at national and/or international institutions that are placed at local communities or at hospitals offering services to refugees or at camps. Assessing students’ abilities will be jointly done by university supervisors and the institutions. An intensive supervision and evaluation will be ensured through recording and documenting a portfolio.

Conducting Research with Refugees.

This course is a foundation course where students will be introduced to the most common methods of research that are used researching refugees’ society. The students will learn about negotiating access, ethical issues, researcher self-awareness, reflexivity. The objective of the course is to help the students to develop their skills in using qualitative approach methods, interpretations and disseminations, monitoring and evaluation. This course provides the opportunity for students to undertake independent research related to their own practice or interests. Each student will be asked to conduct a pilot research choosing from his/her organization if working or interest and will be asked to present an oral presentation.
Contact:

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