

German Jordanian University

School of Applied Humanities and Social Sciences / Department of Social Work In cooperation with the Consultation and Training Center

Professional Training Certificate in Social Work: Migration and Refugees First Semester 2025/2026

Introduction

With the Professional Training Certificate in Social Work: Refugees & Migrants in Jordan, the German Jordanian University (GJU) has established a specialized postgraduate training program focused on the challenges of flight and forced migration. GJU's Department of Social Work offers this program at GJU's Consultation and Training Center (CTC). The program combines national, regional, and international aspects and perspectives to provide an understanding of current pressing refugee issues in the context of social and socio-political change.

It aims to provide practical knowledge in a limited and manageable period of time. The certificate is tailored to address not only social work practitioners but also professionals from other related disciplines. It is also an opportunity for incoming students from other countries, especially from the GJU's partner universities in Germany, to study at the GJU for a semester and get a condensed overview of the current situation in the country, humanitarian and social work services, and their practical approaches to implementation in the field.

The courses provide an understanding of the needs of displaced persons. It is their perspective that shapes the program to get a better understanding of their situation for those professionals working with them. In order to ensure a direct link between the field and the training certificate, during COVID 19 time, the field visits are replaced by online lectures by speakers on various topics and by stakeholders from the field in Jordan.

Aims of the courses

- to strengthen the professional foundations of individuals already working or wishing to work in the field of refugee and crisis intervention;
- contribute to the specialized training of students from Germany, as well as other European or non-European countries;
- contribute to national, regional, and international understanding aimed at professionalizing social work, with a special focus on migrants and refugees in Jordan.

Career Prospects

The Social Work: Migration and Refugees Training Certificate qualifies its graduates to work in the field of social work with refugees, as well as at the intersection of social work and the humanitarian sector.

Faculty members have extensive experience in social work and the humanitarian field, so that students will be familiarized with key concepts and methodological approaches, as well as psychosocial support services, and will receive a local orientation to the field.

Graduates will be able to work with interdisciplinary teams, health and psychosocial services, and experts, including policymakers and community development planners.

Students from other countries will have an overview of structures, focus areas, and service delivery patterns, as well as the implementation in a ME country.

Program Structure

The social work certificate-training program comprises of 15 credits hours within a 16 week period which follows the GJU academic calendar, and is distributed as follows:

Blended learning lectures (12 weekly hours for 16 weeks): Lectures take place four nights a week from Saturday to Wednesday, for three hours each, with an additional meeting for the field internship course. A detailed description of all the lectures and orientation to the field is provided below.

Language of Instruction

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

Schedule of the training course

The program is delivered twice a year:

1. First Semester
2. Second Semester

*Specific dates are according to the GJU academic calendar which can be found on the University website

The tuition fees are 900 JOD.

The tuition fees for local Jordanian students are 900 JD.

Tuition fees for international students depend on existing agreements between institutions.

Grading

The passing grade of each course and cumulatively is 70/100

Grading of each course typically consists of course work and attendance, a midterm and final grade. Details for grade distribution are provided in course syllabi by the individual lecturer.

Compulsory Courses: 12CH

Course Code	Course Title	CH	Lecture Theory	Lecture Practice
MR001	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support to Refugees	3	2	1
MR002	Politics and Social Change in the Middle East	3	2	1
MR003	Social Work with Minors and Women in the Country of Origin or Transit	3	2	1
MR004	Field Training Internship	3		120 hours
MR...	One elective course cf. list below	3	2	1
	Total	15		

Electives: 3CH

Course Code	Course Title	CH	lecture	Practical
MR005	Human Rights and Human Rights Education in the Arab Context	3	2	1
MR006	Protracted Displacement, Durable Solutions and Entrepreneurship	3	2	1
MR007	Conducting research with refugees	3	2	1
MR008	Administration and Coordination of Humanitarian Systems and Sustainable Transition Building	3	2	1

Course descriptions

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support to Refugees (MR001)

In this course, students develop skills for working with traumatized clients. It is about identifying cases and the various challenges that need to be recognized in order to be able to work specifically with the different groups, for instance with differently-abled persons, unaccompanied minors, and survivors of torture. The emphasis will be on engaging, assessing, understanding, intervening and evaluating cases, and promoting resilience with service users and their families, as well as working within a multi-disciplinary approach.

Politics and Social Change in the Middle East (MR002)

This course explores the political and social dynamics shaping the modern Middle East in recent years. The main focus of this course will be on historical events, socio-political movements, and external influences. The course aims to analyze how these factors contribute to political power shifts, social change, and the formation of modern Middle Eastern states. The course will tackle topics like colonialism, nationalism, religious movements, and external interventions. Additionally, it will explore the impact of social changes such as urbanization, gender dynamics, and youth movements on political processes.

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand the historical foundations of contemporary Middle Eastern politics.
- Analyze the key social and political movements that have shaped the region.
- Critically assess the role of external actors in Middle Eastern politics.
- Discuss the impacts of socio-economic factors, including oil wealth and economic reforms, on political development.
- Evaluate the prospects for political reform and democratization in various Middle Eastern states.
- Understand the intersection of religion, politics, and society in shaping the region's political landscape.

Social Work with Minors and Women in the Country of Origin or Transit (MR003)

Students in this course will be introduced to the social policy and methods of intervention with particularly vulnerable populations; children and women. This course looks at specific models of working with vulnerable groups such as separated children, unaccompanied minors, single parents, pregnant/breastfeeding women, and women at risk of sexual and gender-based violence, specific needs related to young women, i.e. in relation to early marriage, transitions to marriage, motherhood and employment. The students will learn to implement ethics and advocacy skills with these vulnerable people. The module also introduces students to gender relations and as well as social, cultural, and religious factors, which can support resilience.

Orientation to the Field (MR004)

This is a key feature of the certificate program. Orienting students to the field provide students with opportunities to connect course work with the field. The course is designed to introduce students to key core skills and knowledge needed for practice.

Orienting students to the field consist of a combination of hosting experts, and conducting field visits where relevant.

In addition to increasing student's familiarity with various services and interventions available to different population groups in Jordan, students will learn basic aspects of the practice. They will be introduced to assistance process and basic skills that form the basis of case management, which is very common in Jordan. The lectures support students in linking theories to practice (e.g. Systems Theory, Human Rights and Organisational Theory). Moreover, students also learn about reflective practice and organisational analysis.

Taken further, a range of experts will be invited to speak to students from various national and international institutions (UN, international and local non-governmental organisations or NGOs) that provide a range of services. Where possible, field visits will also be planned. The combination of hosting experts, organisation representatives as well as field visits will provide insights into the provision of services in a developing-economy context in addition to learning about specialised services. Some non-governmental organizations are well resourced, while others are in disadvantaged communities and survive on very little human and other resources. Being exposed to the various, types of institutions provide students with a great opportunity to understand the landscape of the field and the context, particularly as it is a developing-economy. The Department of Social Work established many connections with various types of organizations.

Human Rights and Human Rights Education in the Arab Context (MR005)

The course will help the students to develop their understanding of social justice and advocacy utilizing this foundation to develop their professional practice. In addition, they will be introduced to the national and international refugees' agreements and how these are interpreted within the Arab social context.

Students will be able to develop skills to advocate marginalized people and to help hearing the voices of the service user. Students will be required to present a case study outlining how they implement social justice and human rights.

Protracted Displacement, Durable Solutions and Entrepreneurship (MR006)

In this course, the students will discuss community development and protection. They will be introduced to the approach of social-political space with refugees. The objective of the course will stress on developing different skills in communication and networking, and on the practice of cultural competences. In addition, this course will discuss the UN and other international. National and civil society organizations, frameworks, mechanism and strategies for working with migration and refugees. Students will be able to use outreach methods and advocacy techniques. Theoretical lessons will be supported with practical sessions and placement visits.

Conducting Research with Refugees (MR007)

This course is a foundation course where students will be introduced to the most common methods of qualitative research that are employed with vulnerable populations such as refugees. This practical course takes students through the research process from identifying a topic and area of interest, to collecting and disseminating findings. In addition to learning the most widely used data collection methods, students are introduced to specific methods such as participatory methods with young people, and rapid appraisals. A specific focus is on research ethics. The objective of the course is to provide students with an opportunity to conduct research with vulnerable populations and in a developing-economy context. It helps students to develop their skills in writing proposals, which have increasingly

become a common requirement in social work and humanitarian aid. Typically, group research projects are carried out, which are presented orally and submitted in writing as research proposals.

Administration and Coordination of Humanitarian Systems and Sustainable Transition Building (MR008)

Students will be introduced to the main approaches of interagency working and co-ordination in humanitarian aid. It addresses the role of professionals in supervision and evaluating outcomes in the context of humanitarian aid and disasters. The focus is on how to create environments and networks, practices of resettlement, and communication skills for safe sustainable transition. The students will be introduced to national and international legal frameworks of resettlement.

Students will develop knowledge about the challenging contexts for social work, administrative and humanitarian aid professionals work in. The focus will be on critical examinations of managing sustainable development and transition.

Students identify issues concerning referrals and multidisciplinary work. They learn about the integration of volunteers into an organization in the context of humanitarian aid conflict. They use participatory approaches in the work with refugees, to ensure that they have a voice throughout the interventions. This is discussed in the context of the local situation but also in a globalized world vision of sustainable transitions.

Arabic as a foreign Language (AFL99)

This is an integrated Basic level course that develops students' receptive skills (reading and listening) and productive skills (writing and speaking), reviews basic knowledge and use of grammar and vocabulary, and encourages independent learning.

Registration & Admission Requirements

Candidates are required to 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.

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 curriculum vitae (CV) or resume
3. A letter of motivation
4. A photocopy of the information page of the passport
5. Application form
6. Proof of English Proficiency

Students are kindly requested to send their applications to social-work@gju.edu.jo . All students will receive a response about the status of their application. Those who are accepted will be invited to register and the coordinators will support this process with the Consultation and Training Center.

Exchange students from partner universities are encouraged to contact Ms. Rand Alqatawneh the incomings coordinator at our International Affairs Department: rand.alqatawneh@gju.edu.jo.

Orientation

The students will be invited to an orientation session before all the courses start. They will meet the instructors and coordinators who will answer questions and provide guidance.

Venue

GJU campus in Jabal Amman

Contact information, Registration and Orientation

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