



# UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

<b>Course Code:</b> SOWK- 420	<b>Course Title</b> Social Work in Educational Settings	<b>ECTS Credits</b> 6
<b>Department</b> Social Sciences/Social Work Programme	<b>Semester</b> Spring	<b>Prerequisites</b>
<b>Type of Course</b>	<b>Field</b> Social Work	<b>Language of Instruction</b> Greek
<b>Level of Course</b>	<b>Year of Study</b> 3rd	<b>Lecturer (s)</b>
<b>Mode of Delivery</b>	<b>Work Placement</b> N/A	<b>Co-requisites</b> None

## Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- Make students aware of social work practice in the school setting
- Cover in detail all aspects of social work practice in the school setting
- Examine the role and the function of the social workers within the family complex, school and community system.
- Thoroughly discuss the complexity of relationships between these systems and the impact they have on the child's behavior.
- Introduce the skills and techniques applied in school settings
- Acquaint students with the specificities of the school as an ecosystem.
- Introduce the role of the social worker in different levels of education (primary, secondary and higher)
- Acquaint students with practices applied in other countries which could serve as models

**Learning Outcomes:**

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Acquire knowledge on the development of Social Work in the educational settings
2. Understand the role of the social worker within the educational setting in order to be able to help children on an individual, group and system level.
3. Recognize the main personal problems (emotional and behavioral) encountered by pupils
4. To carry out individual, group and systemic assessment with the use of suitable tools
5. Understand the role of the teachers in order to be able to cooperate with them.
6. To work in partnership with other professionals (educational psychologists, teachers, counselors etc)
7. Identify the main problems the Cyprus educational system is encountering today and to create approaches for preventing them.
8. To design and implement preventive programs

**Course Content:**

The history of School Social Work is over a century's old. Various practices have been developed across the world depending on the specificities and needs of the corresponding country. Cyprus, being a small country, has its own specifications, and its educational system has its own characteristics. It is not until the last academic year that Social Work has been embraced in schools as a piloting practice. Due to expected changes, the field calls forth the need for specialized social work professionals. Aiming for that, the course lectures cover the following topics.

1. The historical development of school social work
2. The Cyprus Educational System: Structure and Organization
3. The School as a system: positions and roles within the school system and their effect on children
4. The role of the social worker in the school
5. Principles and values of School Social Work
6. Models of practicing social work in schools
7. Working in a inter-professional team in schools: roles, responsibilities and limits
8. Social Work approaches and methods in schools: individual and group treatment for the problems of children
9. Eco-systemic approach
10. Prevention: Designing and implementing preventive programs
11. Relations between school, family and community
12. Special education and the integration/inclusion of children with special needs in the mainstream of education
13. Violence and bullying among students
14. Inter-cultural education
15. Zones of Educational Priority

**Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:**

Lectures, discussion/interaction, role play
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**Assessment Methods:**

Participation, Mid-Term Exam, Final Exam
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**Required Textbooks/Readings:**

Copies of Lecture material "The Social Work practice in educational settings", Lecturer: <u>C h a r a l a m b o s T z i o g o u r o s</u>
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**Recommended Textbooks/Reading:**

<b>Authors</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>ISBN</b>
Allen-Mears, P.	Social Work Services in Schools	Pearson	2004	0-205-38109-X
Weare, K.	Promoting mental, emotional and social health	Routledge.	2000	0-415-16876-7
Harpine Clanton, E.	Group Interventions in Schools	Springer	2008	978-387-77317-9