

INTRODUCTORY LETTER

University of Szeged Faculty of Health Sciences and Social Studies

Department of Social Work and Social Policy

The University of Szeged is one of the leading and internationally ranked higher institutions of Hungary. It comprises 12 faculties with more than 600 undergraduate programs and 23.000 students. Its institutional and intellectual history goes back to 1581 when the Academia was found in Cluj, contemporary Romania. Due to the political circumstances after the first WW, the University found a new home in Szeged in 1921.

Szeged, situated on the banks of the River Tisza, is a thriving university town and the cultural and economic centre of South-Eastern Hungary. The town of Szeged and the University offer a perfect platform for our students to become not only highly skilled professionals during their years in higher education, but also to live a diverse community life. The University attracts international students from around the globe. The faculties host approximately 1400 international students studying in the international programs

BA Social Work – Social Worker specialization

The training has eight semesters, works on a regular full-time basis or as a correspondence course and ends with a degree.

The goal is to train professionals who are capable of effectively contribute to social changes and to the well-being of people. Our aim is to train social workers who are prepared to perform professional social work based on the principles of human rights and social justice, strengthening social integration and democratic conditions, by applying the theories of human behaviour and social systems. Social workers work for an effective cooperation between individuals, families, groups, communities and their environment and promote social integration.

Within the BA programme, students can follow their studies in social work specialization. The period of training is 6 theoretical and 1 practical semesters (the latter one is a continuous field practice at relevant institutions, the completion of

which is a required condition for the final exam), and the number credits to accumulate is 210.

The training provides theoretical knowledge, develops professional competences, promotes values, and develops practical skills. Theoretical training still continues to cover six subject groups: sociology and social studies, social sciences and social policy, health knowledge, psychology, legal studies and the theory and practice of social work. Integral parts of the education are self-knowledge and professional skills training, including: communication skills development, conflict management, job search techniques and team management skills. The external practices take place in practice stations developed across the country. The regional institutions of the industry and excellent professionals actively participate in the training.

The training adopts the most advanced methods (small groups, problem-centred learning).

Social Policy MA Programme

Our goal is to train social policy specialists who are capable of taking part in the shaping of policies in the field of social policy, who contribute to operate the social welfare system, who represent the social interests effectively, and who are involved in research and education as well. We pay special attention to the spatial dimension of social policy and the relations with spatial development during the training, in which several university teaching faculties collaborate with an interdisciplinary approach. Due to the characteristics of the Southern Plains Region, we devote a great deal of attention to cross-border relations, in addition to regional disparities.

- period of training: four semesters
- forms of training: regular and correspondent courses

Erasmus coordinator:

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