

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT WORK

Modules taught in English at the Department of Social Work in Aarhus,
VIA University College, Denmark



Contents

With a focus on development and social change in North and South contexts, the course gives students the opportunity to expand their professional profile and competencies by studying development work approaches and methods. Independently of the broad target group, the course content is anchored in social work.

The course contains a series of 3 modules over 3 months:

1. Conceptualising development.
2. Competencies of social community development – North and South.

3. Complex emergencies, conflict, conflict interventions and development.

These modules are integrated on the 6th semester of the International Bachelor of Social Work Programme in Aarhus. Incoming students are therefore studying alongside 3rd year students from Aarhus.

Incoming students who wish to spend a full semester in Aarhus may add a 2 months' module to their course:

4. Individual assignment.

Modules	Learning outcomes	Weeks	ECTS
1. Conceptualising development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competing theories of development • Strategies and policies of development • The relationship between theories of power relations, poverty, class, gender, ethnicity and the broader theories of development • Social work and development • Assignment 	Knowledge of concepts of development. Ability to identify the actors of development based upon a combination of theoretical knowledge and skills in applying the knowledge to contextual situations. Ability to reflect upon positions in development work and in social work and to describe and analyse development issues.	4	6
2. Competencies of social community development – North and South <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The value and normative base of development • Mapping tools and modelling situations and interventions • Forms of community intervention • Participation and tools for designing interventions • Assignment 	Knowledge of value bases and normative positions of development. Application of mapping tools and skills in modelling situations and interventions. Application of tools for designing interventions with participatory approaches. Application of knowledge and skills in relation to a given situation.	4	6
3. Complex emergencies, conflict, conflict interventions and development – threatened groups and communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understandings of conflicts, including the right to intervene • Understandings and models of conflict resolution • The continuum between conflict resolution and development • Assessment Relating development and conflict intervention to social work	Knowledge of the concept of conflicts and theories of conflict. Knowledge of forms of conflict resolution. Skills in conflict resolution. Critical reflection upon the roles of mediators and forms of conflict resolution. Knowledge of the interplay between conflict and development and the movement from humanitarian interventions towards sustainable development.	4	6
4. Individual assignment The additional module is in the form of project work: The student chooses a subject that s/he wishes to study in-depth. S/he studies the chosen subject and writes an assignment with the support of teachers who give individual tuition.	The specific learning outcomes are decided in agreement between the individual student, the home university and The Department of Social Work in Aarhus.	8	12

A mix of learning forms are applied, e.g.

- Introductory lectures supported by guided reading of text materials and articles.
- Case-related seminar discussions based upon short papers or other input produced by students and led by teaching lecturers.
- Short reflective assignments based upon a case study reader or other materials.

- Individual learning forms and group work with access to continuous tutoring during the learning process, especially in phases of acquiring applicatory skills.

Assessments are based on e.g. written assignments and participation in seminars and workshops.





Period

1 February – 30 April (modules 1 – 3) and 2 May – 30 June (module 4)

Place

Socialrådgiveruddannelsen i Århus
Department of Social Work, Aarhus
VIA University College
Nobelparken
Jens Chr. Schous Vej 2, Building 1485
DK - 8000 Aarhus C
Denmark

Entry requirements

3rd or 4th year Bachelor students.
Students must have sufficient oral and written English language skills.

Student profile

Students of Social Work and related professions, e.g. Nursing, Social Pedagogy, Social Education, Teaching, Law, Human Resource Management and Economics.
Students with a particular interest in cross-national and cross-disciplinary approaches to development work in western and non-western contexts.

Application

Students from partner universities:

A student application for exchange must be forwarded by the International Coordinator or The International Office of the student's home university. Prior to the student's arrival in Aarhus, the home institution must have approved the exchange visit, as well as reached a decision on credit transfer.

Free movers:

Students from other universities are strongly advised to seek approval within their home university before applying for entry to the course.

Application deadline: 1 November.

Contact persons:

Anke Beuck, International Coordinator: anbe@viauc.dk
Bolette Hansen, International Secretary: bhan@viauc.dk

Tuition fees

There are no tuition fees for students from partner universities of VIA University College within the framework of Erasmus, Nordplus or similar student mobility programmes.
For students from institutions without a bilateral partner agreement with VIA University College, the tuition fee is € 3200.

Other semesters taught in English

For other semesters within the fields of e.g. Social Education, Social Pedagogy, Social Entrepreneurship, Teaching and Animation, please visit the website of the Faculty of Education and Social Studies at www.viauc.com/programmes

