



UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
Development of Thought and Social Work Theory

Academic Year 2024/2025

1. Organic Unit

Higher Institute of Social Work

2. Course

SOCIAL WORK

3. Cycle

3rd

4. Course Unit

Development of Thought and Social Work Theory (I2103)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

1st

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

1st Semester



UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:

Practical classes:

Theoretical-Practical Classes

Tutorial Guidance:

9. ECTS Credits

10,00

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutora TERESA PAULA GARCIA RODRIGUES DA SILVA

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

Deepening of knowledge about the foundations of Social Work, the paradigms that influence the theoretical-methodological-ethic construction and professional behaviour.

15. Specific Objectives

Deepen knowledge of the social theories and paradigms that influence knowledge, practice and the production of knowledge in Social Work;

Debate current theoretical developments and their influence on Social Work: from adaptation to social reality to criticism and social change.

16. Skills to be acquired

- knowledge of the epistemology of Social Work and the paradigms of the Social and Human Sciences that influence Social Work;
- Ability to problematise social and professional issues and produce knowledge based on them;
- Developing an interest in Social Work research.

17. Teaching Methodology



UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

- Presentation of the contents of the programme by the lecturer by guest lecturers who are experts in the different influential currents in Social Work;
- Availability of texts by authors who are a reference in Social Work knowledge;
- Debate and analytical reflection on the contents of the programme and the establishment of links with issues related to professional practice and possible research topics for doctoral students.

18. Course Unit Program

- I. Development process of thought in Social Work
 - History of Ideas. The nature of Social Work
 - Construction of Social Work identity
 - Paradigms of Social Sciences and influences on Social Work: positivism-functionalism, structuralism, dialectical materialism
- II. Theoretical approaches and influence on professional action
 - The positivist-functionalist tradition and the adaptive and psychosocial rehabilitation perspective
 - Phenomenology and systemic interactionism
 - The critical tradition and the anti-oppressive perspective
- III. Reconfiguration of the theoretical field and professional action: the ethical-political project of Social Work and contribution to the development of Social Sciences

19. Assessment Methods

The course unit will be assessed on the basis of an individual written assignment (10 pages) on the development of thought and theoretical production of Social Work, based on a Social Work author indicated by the lecturer and/or proposed by the doctoral student. The work should emphasise the epistemological aspect of Social Work and the paradigm that guides the perspective defended by the author. It should contain a critical analysis by the doctoral student, supported by other authors.

20. Didactic Resources

Texts; information/key ideas in power point; open classes/conferences; be-on database.

21. Sustainability Objectives

- Objective 4 - Quality Education
- Objective 10 - Reduced Inequalities
- Objective 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

22. Keywords

Social Theory
Social Sciences Paradigms
Social Work
Critical thinking
Theory-practice



UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

23. Main Bibliography

Author(s): Soydan, Haluk
Title: La historia de las ideas en el trabajo social
Edition: Year: 2003
Local: Valencia
Publisher: Editorial Tirant lo Blanch

Author(s): Howe, David
Title: Dando sentido a la práctica: una introducción a la teoría del trabajo social
Edition: Year: 1999
Local: Granada
Publisher: Maristán

Author(s): Healy, Karen
Title: Social Work Theories in Context: Creating Frameworks for Practice
Edition: Year: 2014
Local:
Publisher: Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s): Fook, Jan e Fiona Gardner
Title: Practising critical reflection: a resource handbook
Edition: Year: 2007
Local:
Publisher: Open University Press

Author(s): Amaro, Maria Inês
Title: Urgências e Emergências do Serviço Social
Edition: 2^a Year: 2015
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: Universidade Católica



UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Ficha técnica MIP / MIP Datasheet	
Título / Title	Course Unit Program 'DESENVOLVIMENTO DO PENSAMENTO E DA TEORIA EM SERVIÇO SOCIAL': Academic Year
Autor / Author	Prof. Doutora TERESA PAULA GARCIA RODRIGUES DA SILVA
Classificação / Classification	-
Descritores / Descriptors	-
Colaborador(es) / Colaborator(s)	-
Data Hora / Date Time	
Formato de dados / Data Format	Texto / Text, PDF
Estatuto de utilização / Usage	Acesso público / Public Access
Relação / Relation	Version 1,0
(c) Universidade Lusíada, 2025	