UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS IN SOCIAL SERVICE

Academic Year 2025/2026

1. Organic Unit

Higher Institute of Social Work

2. Course

SOCIAL WORK

3. Cycle

1st

4. Course Unit

THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS IN SOCIAL SERVICE (L4507)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

1st

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

2nd Semester

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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:	30,00
Practical classes:	
Theoretical-Practical Classes	
Tutorial Guidance:	20,00

9. ECTS Credits

6,00

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutora TERESA PAULA GARCIA RODRIGUES DA SILVA

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

1.Problematize/understand the professional intervention of Social Work in today's society, considering its emergence and evolution theoretically and critically;
2. Analyze the theoretical foundations of global intervention in Social Work and its component elements with emphasis on the mediations of the institution/organization ? and the professional relationship established
3.Know/understand the global methodology of Social work intervention, working on it in individual and collective units:

15. Specific Objectives

- Establish the relationship between societal transformations and "social spaces" that enhance processes of Social Innovation within the framework of Social Service praxis
- Develop a reflective analysis on contemporary social issues through a transdisciplinary vision
- Identify key trends and social forces shaping Social Work.

16. Skills to be acquired

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- Apprehend the different ways of conceptualizing "Society", establishing a bridge with models of knowledge and intervention in Social Work.
- Identify structural dimensions of the ethical-political project of Social Work in contemporary society.
- Establish relationships between social change processes and Social Work
- Think the intervention in the localized management of social problems, based on a transdisciplinary point of view.

17. Teaching Methodology

Create "habitus" of reflective analysis and critical reading of the bibliography included in the Program and Syllabus.
Theoretical exposition of the subject, by the teacher, from reference authors;
Presentation of key ideas, by the students, based on reading the bibliography, followed by a debate by the class.

18. Course Unit Program

1. Nature and foundations of Social Work:
a) Definition, principles and values.
b) The relationship of help and empowerment
c) Social Service and Human Rights.

2. Philosophical and theoretical currents in Social Work.
a) Theoretical currents and paradigmatic fields
b) Object and Objectives of social intervention
c) Mediating component elements: Thematic/problematic; Social Policy, strategies and social movements; Institution/organization; The professional; The User, subject/object, social actor

3. The global methodology of intervention in Social Work.
a) Structure and methodological process
b) Logical structure organizing the action: Initial request/Problem Formulation; Study/ Analysis and diagnostic interpretation; Programming/action alternatives; Intervention/Execution; Assessment.
c) Intervention levels and units
d) The individual and collective approach
e) The ethical and deontological dimension of Social Work

19. Assessment Methods

- 2 individual tests with consultation
- 1 group work
- participation in extracurricular activities indicated as relevant

In accordance with the weighting defined by the General Regulation for the Assessment of Knowledge of the Lusíada University of Lisbon

20. Didactic Resources

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Power point
Documentary Videos
Supporting Texts from reference authors
Discussion of topics on the readings carried out

21. Sustainability Objectives

This C.U. aims to contribute to sustainability in the following areas:1-Substantially increase the number of young people and adults with relevant qualifications, including technical and professional skills, for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship.2-Ensuring equal opportunities in university education
3-Respect for cultural diversity. Social and environmental responsibility.4-Training capacities to put the SDGs 2023, UN into practrice.

22. Keywords

Theory
Methodology
Social work
Social Interventions
Social Innovation
Social Citizenship

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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s):	Idánez, Maria José Aguilar		
Title:	Trabajo Social : Concepto e metodologia.edicions Paraninfo y consejo general del trabajo social		
Edition:	1ª	Year:	2013
Local:	Madrid		
Publisher:	Edicions Paraninfo y consejo general del trabajo social		

Author(s):	Robertis, C		
Title:	Metodologia de intervenção em trabalho social		
Edition:	1ª	Year:	2011
Local:	Porto		
Publisher:	Porto Editora		

Author(s):	Dominelli, Lena		
Title:	Social Work in a Globalizing World		
Edition:	1ª	Year:	2010
Local:	Oxford		
Publisher:	Polity Press		

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s):	Wilson, Kate et alli		
Title:	Social Work. An Introduction to contemporary practice		
Edition:	2ª	Year:	2011
Local:	London		
Publisher:	Longman		

Author(s):	Davies, Martin		
Title:	The Blackwell Companion to Social Work		
Edition:	3ª	Year:	2008
Local:	London		
Publisher:	Blackwell Publishing		

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Ficha técnica MIP / MIP Datasheet	
Título / Title	Course Unit Program 'FUNDAMENTOS TEÓRICOS EM SERVIÇO SOCIAL': Academic Year 2025/2026
Autor / Author	Prof. Doutora TERESA PAULA GARCIA RODRIGUES DA SILVA
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