

Course Unit	Option - Social Problems and Support Networks		Field of study	Educational Sciences/Social Sciences/Psychology	
Master in	Social Education – Education and Lifelong Intervention		School	School of Education	
Academic Year	2022/2023	Year of study	1	Level	2-1
Type	Semestral	Semester	2	ECTS credits	5.0
		Code	5017-629-1203-02-22		
Workload (hours)	135	Contact hours	T -	TP 30	PL -
			TC -	S -	E -
			OT 15	O -	

T - Lectures; TP - Lectures and problem-solving; PL - Problem-solving, project or laboratory; TC - Fieldwork; S - Seminar; E - Placement; OT - Tutorial; O - Other

Name(s) of lecturer(s) Cristina Maria Mesquita Gomes

Learning outcomes and competences

- At the end of the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:
1. Addressing social problems and sociological issues as interdependent dimensions in the process of interpretation of social reality
 2. Reviewing relevant scientific literature as a source of knowledge of social problems
 3. Relate the challenges of globalization with emerging social risks
 4. Define the support network within the social intervention
 5. Analyze different perspectives, typologies and structures of support networks
 6. Use case studies to designing supporting networks maps
 7. Discuss the role of social systems and supportive policies in solving social problems

Prerequisites

Not applicable

Course contents

- Social problems today - Social support networks - Social support and social policies

Course contents (extended version)

1. Social problems today
 - Scientific knowledge relating to social problems
 - Social problems and sociological issues
 - Challenges and risks of globalization: sociological explanations
 - The complexity of social reality and social inequality
2. Social support networks
 - Notions and perspectives
 - Levels of analysis: community level; social networks and private networks
 - Structure of social networks: functional and context
 - Theoretical models of social support
 - Maps of social supportive networks
 - Multi-disciplinary teams
3. Social support and social policies
 - The public social security system
 - System for social action

Recommended reading

1. Giddens, A. (2000). Sociologia. Lisboa: Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian.
2. Portugal, S. (2006). Novas famílias, modos antigos. As redes sociais na produção de bem-estar. Tese de Doutoramento em Sociologia, Coimbra: FEUC.
3. MTSS (2009). Carta social: rede de serviços e equipamentos - A dependência: o apoio informal, a rede de serviços e equipamentos e os cuidados continuados integrados. GEP/MTSS.
4. Silva, C. , Fialho, J. & Saragoça, J. (2013). Análise de redes sociais e sociologia da acção. Revista Angolana de Sociologia, 11, 96-106. [https://ras.revues.org].
5. White, L. (2002). Connection Matters: Exploring the implications of social capital and social networks for social policy: Systems research and behavioral science, 19, 255-269.

Teaching and learning methods

Research questions; Discussion; Debate; Group work; Lectures; Analyses of texts and documentaries.

Assessment methods

1. Continuous Evaluation - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary, Special)
 - Intermediate Oral Test - 60%
 - Development Topics - 40%
2. Exam - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary, Special)
 - Final Written Exam - 100%

Language of instruction

Portuguese, with additional English support for foreign students.

Electronic validation

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05-01-2023	15-01-2023	15-01-2023	20-01-2023