COURSE INFORMATION SHEET

University: Catholic University in Ružomberok	

Faculty: Faculty of Education

Course code: KSP/Sc-BD109B/22	**Course title:** Digital social work

Type and range of planned learning activities and teaching methods:
   Form of instruction: Lecture / Seminar
   Recommended study range:
      hours weekly: 1 / 1   **hours per semester:** 13 / 13
   Teaching method: on-site

Credits: 4	**Working load:** 100 hours

Recommended semester/trimester: 5.

Level of study: I.

Prerequisities:

Requirements for passing the course:
Within the implementation of the course are used methods of lecture, discussion, group work of students, independent work of students, work with computer and mobile applications, video and image, work with Internet resources.
Verification of the degree of acquisition of the relevant knowledge, skills and competences of the student is carried out on the basis of theoretical and practical examinations during the semester teaching of the subject and during the examination period.
The student is obliged to participate in the exercises. A maximum of 3 absences per semester are accepted. During the semester, students will solve assigned problems in the exercises. Ongoing assignments focus on identifying their level of digital literacy, creating web content about social work, and digital social work methods and techniques. External students will submit a written paper describing the implementation and results of the assignments.
The final assessment will be a closed-question test (ABCD). The test examines the extent to which knowledge and skills from the learning outcomes have been mastered.
20 points in the structure can be obtained for passing the course:
- 10 points for the final test
- 4 points for active participation
- 6 points for completing the tasks during the exercises.
The minimum number of points required to pass the course is 12.
Course evaluation:
A - 20-19 points
B - 18-17 points
C - 16-15 points
D - 14-13 points
E - 12 points
Fx - 11-0 points

Learning outcomes of the course:
Course Objective:
1. To introduce students to a range of assistive technologies, communication tools and online systems that social workers can use to deliver services.

2. Explore how information and communication technologies (ICTs) affect individuals, families and communities.

3. Explain to clients the technologies that are used in everyday life to meet their needs.

Learning outcomes:

After completing the course, the student will acquire the following knowledge, skills and competences:

Knowledge:

- Gain an overview of the technologies and applications that enable online social work
- Understanding the online and technology needs of people using services (clients/service users)
- Understanding communication tools and platforms
- Familiarity with online client protection
- Knowing how to safely share appropriate data with colleagues

Skills:

- Provision of services through digital technologies and online platforms
- Act in the best interests of clients when using technology
- Content creation on online platforms and social media
- Assessing the validity and reliability of information
- Strategies for obtaining information from the online environment

Competencies:

- By completing the course, the student will be able to use a wide range of digital tools to deliver social work interventions. The student will be able to analyse the digital needs of clients and support their digital competences.
- Prepare for ethical decision-making in the online world
- Will be able to encourage and instruct clients to perform everyday tasks online (e.g., posting a message on Facebook, applying for a job online, paying bills using an app, etc.)

Course contents:

1 Overview of digital technologies in social work 1

Electronic systems (software) to facilitate the day-to-day work of social workers (e.g. email, electronic case management systems, calendaring and team collaboration technologies such as SharePoint)

Online resources for professionals and people using social work services (e.g. apps and websites)

Assistive technologies for clients (e.g. communication aids and robots).

2 Overview of digital technologies in social work 2

Social media interfaces (e.g. Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat, Skype, WhatsApp) used by social workers and clients

Working with information - how information, including large files, is used and analysed, how data is used to determine aggregate need and to monitor and improve services

Data protection, privacy and the use of personal, identifiable data - e.g. how social workers hold and use information about people who contact services to improve their direct care or share information about them with professionals

3 Overview of digital technologies in social work 3

Information management (e.g. search, retrieval, online information, data security and access issues)

Hardware (e.g. smartphones and web-enabled laptops)

Online learning (e.g. professional e-learning, online courses, webinars, online communities of practice)

4 Digital literacy for social workers: instrumental skills, structural skills, strategic skills.

5 Understanding the online and technology needs of people using services (different client groups)

6 Service delivery through digital technologies (online social work interventions).

7 Ethical decision-making: ethical decisions, ethical mistakes

8 Online protection (risks associated with the use of digital technologies for children and adults)

Recommended or required literature:

Language of instruction:
 Slovak (English to read some publications)

Notes:

Course evaluation:
 Assessed students in total: 0

A	B	C	D	E	FX
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Name of lecturer(s): Mgr. Daniel Markovič, PhD.

Last modification: 22.08.2022

Supervisor(s):
People responsible for the delivery, development and quality of the study programme:
doc. PhDr. Markéta Rusnáková, PhD., PhDr. ThLic. Martin Taraj, PhD.