

**Name of university, Name of faculty:** Trnava University  
Faculty of Health Care and Social Work

### INFORMATION SHEET OF THE SUBJECT

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| <b>Code:</b> SPB32                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                    | <b>Name:</b> Clients at risk I |                                 |
| <b>Cover:</b> Department of Social Work                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                    |                                |                                 |
| <b>Type of educational activity:</b> Lecture, Seminar                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                    | <b>Number of credits:</b> 5    | <b>Recommended semester:</b> WT |
| <b>Scope of educational activity (in hours):</b><br><b>Weekly:</b> 1/1<br><b>For term of study:</b> ZS 23,23                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                    |                                | <b>Study grade:</b><br>Bachelor |
| <b>Method of educational activity:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                    |                                |                                 |
| Recommended semester                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Study programme                                    |                                |                                 |
| 3.year WT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Social Work (D1-SP-22)<br>Social Work (D1-SP-22-K) |                                |                                 |
| <b>Underlie subjects:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                    |                                |                                 |
| <b>Conditions for passing the course:</b><br><b>Method of evaluation:</b> Completion by taking an examination                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                    |                                |                                 |
| <b>Continuous evaluation:</b><br><b>Final evaluation:</b> Ongoing seminar assignments (60%) – weekly written reflections, case analyses, debates/discussions, and tasks.<br>Midterm group presentation (20%) – Week 6 debate or case presentation.<br>Final project & presentation (20%) – Comprehensive case study with risk assessment and intervention plan.<br>At least 95% must be obtained to obtain an A rating, at least 89% must be obtained to obtain a B rating, at least 83% must be obtained to obtain a C rating, at least 77% must be obtained to obtain a D rating, get at least 71%.<br><b>Finished:</b> The course will end with an exam.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                    |                                |                                 |
| <b>Learning outcomes:</b><br>After completing this course, the student should be able to:<br><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Characterize norms, normality, threats, risks, and social deviations.</li><li>2. Apply theories of social deviations and risk behavior in practice.</li><li>3. Identify and analyze different types of at-risk clients.</li><li>4. Recognize signs and manifestations of selected threats.</li><li>5. Understand causes and consequences of risk behaviors and social deviations.</li><li>6. Design intervention strategies for working with at-risk clients.</li></ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                    |                                |                                 |
| <b>Schedule of subject:</b><br>Standard and normality; tolerance limit, problematic, dissocial, antisocial, antisocial behavior;<br>Theories of social deviations;<br>Substance and non-substance addictions;<br>Human trafficking;<br>Sex business;<br>Aggressive behavior, partner violence;<br>Discrimination and extremism;<br>Delinquency, criminality, organized crime;<br>Bullying in the school and work environment; online bullying;<br>Self-harm and suicidal behavior;<br>Sects.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                    |                                |                                 |
| <b>Recommended reading:</b><br>Week 1 – Norm, Normality, and Risk<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parsons, T. (1951). The Social System (excerpts). Introduces norms and normality as foundations of social order.</li><li>• Jary, D., &amp; Jary, J. (2000). Sociology Dictionary (entry: Deviance). Clear definitions of deviation and normality.</li><li>• WHO (2009). Risk reduction and health. Explains risk as a public health concept relevant to social work.</li><li>• CrashCourse Sociology: Social Deviance (YouTube). Animated overview of deviance and norms.</li></ul> Week 2 – Theories of Social Deviations<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Merton, R. (1938). Social Structure and Anomie. Classic strain theory linking social structures to deviance.</li><li>• Becker, H. (1963). Outsiders (chapters 1–2). Labeling theory and how society creates deviance.</li><li>• Hirschi, T. (1969). Causes of Delinquency. Control theory explaining why people conform to norms.</li><li>• Theories of Deviance (Sociology Live!) (YouTube). Introductory breakdown of major theories.</li></ul> Week 3 – Theories of Risk Behavior<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jessor, R. (1991). Risk Behavior in Adolescence. Journal of Adolescent Health. Psychosocial model of risk and protective factors.</li><li>• Bronfenbrenner, U. (1979). Ecological Systems Theory (overview). Framework for understanding environmental influence on risk.</li><li>• UNICEF (2011). Adolescents: A Time of Opportunity. Global report on adolescent risk-taking.</li><li>• Risk and Protective Factors Explained (SAMHSA, YouTube). Simple explanation for practice.</li></ul> Week 4 – Aggressive Behavior and Domestic Violence<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bandura, A. (1977). Social Learning Theory (selections). How aggression is learned.</li><li>• Heise, L. (1998). Violence Against Women: An Integrated Ecological Framework. Influential model explaining domestic violence.</li><li>• CDC (2021). Intimate Partner Violence: Facts and Prevention. Practical overview for practitioners.</li><li>• Power and Control: Domestic Violence (Duluth Model, YouTube). Short training video on coercive control.</li></ul> |                                                    |                                |                                 |

- Week 5 – Discrimination and Extremism**
- Allport, G. (1954). The Nature of Prejudice (chapter 1). Classic foundation of discrimination studies.
  - European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (2018). Fundamental Rights Report (excerpts). Current examples of discrimination in Europe.
  - Borum, R. (2011). Radicalization into Violent Extremism. Explains pathways to extremism.
  - What is Discrimination? (BBC Teach). Short educational explainer for students.
- Week 6 – Pre-delinquent and Delinquent Behavior**
- Glueck, S. & Glueck, E. (1950). Unraveling Juvenile Delinquency (excerpts). Early research on delinquent pathways.
  - Bartollas, C. (2014). Juvenile Delinquency (open chapter). Modern overview of youth offending and prevention.
  - UNODC (2020). Juvenile Justice Handbook. Practical guide for social workers in youth justice.
  - Juvenile Delinquency Explained (Sociology Guide, YouTube).
- Week 7 – Crime and Organized Crime**
- Sutherland, E. (1947). Principles of Criminology (differential association theory).
  - Europol (2021). Serious and Organized Crime Threat Assessment. Real-world patterns of organized crime in Europe.
  - UNODC (2010). The Globalization of Crime. Trends and challenges of transnational crime.
  - Organized Crime Explained (VICE News). Introductory documentary clip.
- Week 8 – Bullying in School and Workplace**
- Olweus, D. (1993). Bullying at School. Foundational research on school bullying.
  - Einarsen, S. et al. (2011). Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace. Workplace bullying theory.
  - UNESCO (2019). Behind the Numbers: Ending School Violence and Bullying.
  - Understanding Bullying (StopBullying.gov).
- Week 9 – Cyberbullying and Online Risks**
- Livingstone, S. & Haddon, L. (2009). EU Kids Online. Research on digital risks.
  - Patchin, J. W. & Hinduja, S. (2015). Cyberbullying Research Summary.
  - UNICEF (2019). Online Safety for Children and Adolescents.
  - What is Cyberbullying? (Common Sense Education, YouTube).
- Week 10 – Sects and Cults**
- Lalich, J. & Langone, M. (2006). Characteristics of Cultic Groups.
  - Richardson, J. (2014). New Religious Movements. Neutral sociological perspective.
  - \*ICSA (International Cultic Studies Association). Open-access resources on cult involvement.
  - How Cults Work (BBC Ideas, YouTube).
- Week 11 – Integrated Risk Assessment**
- Morgan, J. (2007). The Concept of Risk in Social Work. Defines risk assessment tools.
  - Stanford, S. (2010). Speaking Back to Fear: Responding to Risk in Child Protection.
  - UK Department of Health (2014). Risk Assessment Framework.
  - Risk Assessment in Social Work (Community Care Inform, YouTube).
- Week 12 – Final Presentations & Integration**
- Payne, M. (2016). Modern Social Work Theory (conclusion). How theories integrate into practice.
  - Teater, B. (2014). An Introduction to Applying Social Work Theories and Methods (chapters on practice integration).
  - IFSW (2014). Global Definition of Social Work. Core values for practice.
  - What is Social Work? (IFSW official video).

**Language requirements:** Slovak, English

**Notes:**

**Course evaluation:**

Assessed students in total: 59

| A   | B   | C   | D   | E  | FX |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| 46% | 19% | 19% | 12% | 2% | 3% |

**Lecturers:**

doc. PhDr. Martina Žáková, PhD., lecturer, examiner, instructor, seminary supervisor

**Date of last change:** 01.09.2026

**Approved by:** doc. PhDr. Martina Žáková, PhD.