

## PROGRAM PROFILE

Educational Program	<b>COUNSELING AND ASSISTANCE IN SOCIAL SERVICES</b>
Degree Awarded	Master degree
Standard Length of Studies (Number of ECTS Credits)	130 ECTS Credits
Type of Study	Full-time study
Higher Education Institution	Babes-Bolyai University
Faculty/Department	Sociology and Social Work / Social Work Department
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Profile of the Degree Program	
Target Group/ Addresses	The enrollement may be attended by graduate students preferably with specialization in Psycho-sociology and Medicine, holding a diploma obtained on completion of long-term studies.
Entrance Conditions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Final exam average score and average score of the years of education (60% of final grade)</li> <li>2. Research project or synthesis of the undergraduate thesis.</li> <li>3. Letter of motivation (cumulative, 2 and 3 represents 40% of final grade)</li> </ol>
Further Education Possibilities	PhD.
Description of Study	<p>The aim of our guidance, in our view, is to offer our customers the opportunity to explore, discover and clarify the best ways to live their own lives and to maintain good quality of their lives. It aims to ensure optimum performance of the individual or of the group, a goal that can be achieved by discovering our own resources and the ones of the environment. Through counseling we ensure the promotion of health behavior.</p> <p>Counseling and social assistance applied in the two directions of approach of deviance: criminology offers extensive knowledge on the causes of criminality and on its strategies of prevention in time; adictology offers, in addition to general concepts about addictive behavior, knowledge of the main manifestations of this behavior, its causes and socio-economic impacts on the victims of this behavior and on both the family and society.</p> <p>The purpose of this specialization is not to create a new profession, but to be useful, both in theory and practice for those working in the field of deviance, by offering extra information</p>

through real case studies and casuistry. Thus, it provides students with both: a higher awareness of the social mission and increase their professionalism. The interdisciplinary feature used in explaining criminology and adictology to the students helps to create a panoramic view of the phenomenon of deviance and, on the other hand, the research methodology and intervention will help them to handle different issues in a more comprehensive and scientific manner.

The exercises focusing on the intervention and resocialization of people also provide a framework for testing the knowledge and practical skills of the students.

Part of adictology is addressed to all social workers and related professionals operating or wishing to work in counseling and in helping and assisting drug addict individuals. Core and optional subjects of this course aim the development of theoretical knowledge and that of practical abilities as well.

Courses will provide basic information in the field of adictology, will address various topics related to counseling, prevention and treatment of addictions and will facilitate an integrated practical application of theoretical knowledge acquired through research-intervention projects and through role plays. Also, during the training, participants will have access to the network of counseling and treatment services used for drug addicts in Romania and will have the opportunity to be involved in supervising the work of residential centers, outpatient and day departments for addicts. We will facilitate the collaboration of student with addiction counselors involved in case managements in treatment centers and rehabilitation centers for drug addicts.

This postgraduate specialization in gerontology counseling is a reply for the need to prepare professionals who are working or will be working in services - governmental or public – maintained for elderly people. Romania has a valuable tradition in the field of geriatrics and gerontology (Ana Aslan, 1952) which deserves to be continued. Population ageing is a reality in our country as well, the services offered for elderly people and the education, which prepares specialists in this area, should be prepared for these changes.

Activities included in the module of social gerontology will have a multidisciplinary character: socio-medical-demographic.

Starting with the theoretical and methodological perspectives of counseling, the different subjects will promote understanding the process of ageing and the development of counseling skills in order to improve quality of life of the elderly. The emphasis is placed on the side of social policy, research services and community potential. The program offers potential opportunities for practical application of knowledge, and also offers supervision

	<p>to practitioners working in social services for the elderly. Through the master's studies in the field of social gerontology, professionals can be trained to be specialists in assisting and responding to the specific needs of elderly people and their families.</p> <p>The program aims to train experts prepared to develop new strategies to manage the national effects of population ageing. The module "Assisting parents and children found at risk" aims to familiarize postgraduate students with the most important theoretical and practical perspectives concerning family and individual counseling for parents and children found at risk. According to the Action Plan of the Department for Child Protection made for the next four years, a special emphasis will be put on prevention activities and especially on the prevention of child separation from its family, an activity which requires for more and more specialists the knowledge of the methods and techniques of counseling.</p> <p>Professional preparation in child protection and family issues involves not only the familiarization with the theoretical and practical aspects of counseling and the knowledge of best practices in various areas (cases of abuse and neglect, children with disabilities, families with multiple problems, etc..), but also improving the knowledge in theory and in risk assessment methods, and in developing the decision making capacity regarding the gravity of the cases.</p> <p>An important objective of this master's is enriching the skills and developing practical skills as a child protection specialist in actual work and family assessment, intervention and counseling of the abused / neglected / exploited child (a / n / e) and its family, thus improving the quality of family and child protection. We consider, that is important for students to develop essential practical skills of counseling work with families and children in the event of a / n / e: systematic thinking, formulating circular questioning, consistency, keeping the limits, etc..</p>
<p>Purposes of the Program</p>	<p>The professional and interdisciplinary master's: <i>Counseling and assistance in social services</i> aims to provide students a high-level scientific and practical training. It is expected that the thesis prepared by each student to have the attributes of a real scientific research and have practical application as well. The need for a thorough and a high level of preparation, both in theory and methodology, is motivated by reducing the years of undergraduate education to three years, which assigns to this course the task of preparing young people in a particular specialty, which is possible through a program master focused on this goal.</p> <p>Another fundamental objective of the Master's is to prepare</p>

	<p>highly qualified young people – in theory and in practice - some of whom may move on to a higher form of professional preparation (doctoral studies) to pursue on one hand a successful academic career in higher educational institutions or in research, and, on the other hand to use the skills and knowledge to take advantage of highly advanced empirical research in order to meet the challenges posed by institutions and organizations which offer the possibility of developing a career in helping professions.</p> <p>The major objective of the master program: <b><i>Counseling and assistance in social services</i></b> is specified in Art. 3. of H.G. no. 404 of 29 March 2006, according to which the deepening of postgraduate studies, the development of scientific research capacity and building a compulsory basis for doctoral studies has to be ensured.</p>
Specialization / Area of Expertise	<i>Counseling and assistance in social services:</i> Addictology and criminology / Social gerontology / Assisting parents and children found at risk
Extra Peculiarities	<i>Counseling and assistance in social services</i> offers one year of common preparation for all students. Students will specialize to the originally chosen domain in the second year.
Practical Training	2 hour*35 week
Final Examinations	Final dissertation work
Gained Abilities and Skills	<p>On graduation, our students will have the following skills:</p> <p><b>MODULE: ADDICTOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY</b></p> <p>After graduation students will possess: the ability to identify concepts and issues specific to addiction counseling, the ability to describe the framework, the stages, structures, processes and general forms of anti - drug counseling and the ability to integrate the knowledge of theories, models and techniques of addiction counseling with the practice gained before professional formation or with immediate practical situations.</p> <p>Also, on graduation, students will be able to: acknowledge the fundamental principles of case management in the field of addictions and criminality; to develop and evaluate an individualized plans of assistance; to access to professional resources in the integrated assistance and treatment network of addictions in Romania and to demonstrate a capacity for implementing the administrative aspects specific to providing assistance in different areas.</p> <p>In addition, after graduation, participants will have: the ability to establish scientific correlations between drug abuse and its effects on the body, psychological, psychiatric and social effects; the ability to identify elements and influences on addiction counseling of specific aspects (ex. gender, age, legislation) and the ability to find appropriate solutions.</p>

On graduation, students will be able to:

- project research models;
- assess the practical usefulness of the knowledge acquired;
- build their own models to prevent deviance in communities
- develop social assistance programs.

#### MODULE: SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY

Students will have the knowledge of gerontological social work, based on an interdisciplinary approach.

They will be competent in understanding social processes that occur in medical and psychological lives of elderly people.

They will learn the legislation, the service system and social policy concerning the older generation.

They will have the capacity to execute a functional multidimensional assessment on different situations, problems and resources of the elderly people.

They will present non-discriminatory and supportive attitudes towards people of the older generation.

Will be competent to work in public services and NGOs of the elderly, increasing the quality of these services.

#### MODULE: ASSISTING PARENTS AND CHILDREN FOUND AT RISK

Cognitive:

- Knowledge of the main theoretical approaches and models of good practices in child protection;
- Knowledge of the role, responsibilities, of professional and legal boundaries, as well the knowledge of the ethical dilemmas of the social worker in assessment activities, prevention, intervention and models of good practice;
- Knowledge and understanding of good practices in legal intervention;
- Knowing the characteristics of parental behaviors and beliefs based on equality, they will be able to implement parental capacity building programs
- Knowledge and application of modeling methods of child behavior in order to prevent victimization or the risk of becoming abusive.
- Knowledge of community resources.

Instrumental - Applied:

- Development of complex psycho-social assessment, development and implementation of safety and protection plans;
- Improving the skills of interviewing and counseling of a minor

	<p>and his family according to the guidelines of good practices;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing the capacity to elaborate a psycho-sociological report according to the current legislation and the guidelines of good practice;</li> <li>• Developing the skills to mobilize the resources for the client and the community.</li> <li>• Developing the skills to approach the different groups found at risk and the communities in order to carry out educational and preventive activities.</li> <li>• Develop the ability to work together in teams, including multidisciplinary teams as well</li> </ul> <p>Attitude:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create an attitude of zero tolerance towards child abuse</li> <li>• Forming ethical attitudes according to the principles and standards of professional ethics, which are specific to aid relations</li> <li>• Deepening the professional and ethical principles, the aims and thus the limits of child counseling with the help of ANE experience and the help of the adults</li> <li>• Development of a systematic thinking in child protection both in prevention and intervention</li> <li>• Involvement in counseling- proving self-reflexive behavior, the capacity and desire for personal and professional development</li> <li>• Acknowledging the importance of promoting children's rights and teamwork</li> </ul>
<p>Job Placement, Potential Field of Professional Activity</p>	<p>As far as labor market is concerned, there is an increase in the demand as well in the supply of social services. This need may not be covered only with licensed graduates who are not yet sufficiently prepared in theory and practice to provide quality social service. This postgraduate course - because it puts emphasis on developing research skills - may be regarded as a starting point of a professional career which may continue with a doctorate and then with career in higher education or research. Since the undergraduate education was reduced to only three years through which one can acquire only a narrow set of skills in research, insufficient to address the doctorate, this postgraduate course is a mandatory point to be passed in this career line. The preparation combines theory, practice and methodology, which help students to develop skills in order to carry out studies and analyses on various issues, thus having the possibility for employment as a specialist in one of organizations and institutions.</p>

Date: 29.10.2010

Signature: Conf. Dr. Andrea Müller-Fabian