



**Savitribai Phule Pune
University**

Structure and Content of the Syllabus

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

B.S.W.Semester I & II

AS PER NEP 2020 NORMS

[To be implemented from 2024-25]

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1. Preamble of the syllabus:

Based on the new opportunities provided by the National Education Policy 2020, the adhoc Board of Studies of Social Work, under the faculty of interdisciplinary studies, proposes offering a four-year Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) programme from the academic year of 2024-25. The curriculum for the proposed BSW programme has been developed through a series of consultations and academic contributions from faculty members from the three colleges, BPHE,s CSRD Institute of Social Work and Research, Ahmednagar, Karve Institute of Social Sciences, Pune and MVPS, College of Social Work, Nasik. Suggestions were also sought from alumni, and eminent social work educators from other institutions.

As an academic discipline, social work in India has evolved quite distinctly from that in the West. The teaching learning methodology has strong component of field work organised with the affiliations to the voluntary sector, community extension programmes and social change issues. The Advoc board of studies in Social Work believe that designing and offering a robust undergraduate programme in social work with multi entry and multi exit options and as per the suggested structure of NEP 2020is essential in SPPU to create suitable foundations for mster level programmes as well as creating a cadre of personnel working at the beginning level and mid levels in the social sector.

2. Program Objectives: The first year will prepare the foundation in Social Work.

The overall goal of the BSW programme is to introduce students to social work as a human service profession by providing education that gives exposure to social realities, impart social work values of social justice, care, human rights, collective responsibility, and respect for diversity, and deepen their knowledge and skills to address challenges for the well-being of communities.

Programme Objectives

1. To introduce social work as an academic discipline and human service profession.
2. To build ability to critically analyse the interconnectedness of the historical, socio-economic, and political factors contributing to human well-being and development.
3. To develop practice skills of working together with people, communities, structures, and social systems to address exclusion, marginalisation, and development challenges.
4. To train social work professionals to work for promoting social development and change; social cohesion and community empowerment.
5. To prepare students for direct work in different organisational contexts –Multilateral and Bilateral Organisations, Government departments, NGO's, industries, hospitals, schools and different social and cultural organisations.

The proposed BSW programme has been developed with an emphasis on the theoretical understandings and practice dimensions for social work practice and research. The curriculum recognises that social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment of people. Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility, and respect for diversities are central to social work. It is based on the theories of social work, social sciences, humanities, and indigenous knowledge, social work engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance well-being.

The social work education is to develop trained cadres of social work professionals who promote social change and development, social cohesion and empowerment. It also prepares students for direct work in different sectoral contexts - Multilateral and Bilateral Organisations, Government departments and different social and cultural organisations.

In view of this the present structure is revised considering that BSW (Bachelor of Social Work) and MSW (Master of Social Work) programs differ in terms of their curricula and level of education. The BSW program is designed to provide a generalist foundation in social work practice, theory, and research, focusing on building foundational knowledge and skills. While the MSW program will provide a more specialised, offering students the opportunity to concentrate on a field of practice. The BOS members deliberated and agreed that the BSW program, with its multi exit points, should lead to entry-level positions in social work. Thus, the BSW curriculum aims to provide a broad-based foundation in social work and prepares them to explore the practice options before they move to a more specialised and advanced practice.

The framework of BSW curriculum is being developed in view of the National Education Policy 2020. The social development change mandate is based on the premise that social work intervention takes place when the person, family, small group, community or society, is deemed to require change and development. The overarching principles of social work are respect for human beings' inherent worth and dignity, doing no harm, respect for diversity, and upholding human rights and social justice. For the social work education, indigenous knowledge is a core source of knowledge, and social work draws on a wide array of theories and research (including theories from other human sciences, such as community development, social pedagogy, administration, anthropology, ecology, economics, education, management, nursing, psychiatry, psychology, public health, and sociology).

Towards developing a holistic Bachelor of Social Work (BSW), the curriculum requires carefully considering the values, knowledge, and skills necessary for social work practice. The BSW curriculum committee deliberated intensely on the key elements that should be included in a holistic BSW curriculum within the NEP mandate. Some of the key points are summarised below:

- i. **Social work theory and practice:** The curriculum is designed to expose the students to different theoretical frameworks and approaches to social work practice, including individual, family, group, and community-based interventions. This also includes the historical, social, and cultural contexts influencing social work practice.
- ii. **Social justice and human rights:** The social work profession is grounded in a commitment to social justice and human rights. Thus, the curriculum is designed to expose the students to the connections between power, privilege, and oppression in society and how these impact individuals and communities. The curriculum also has content to develop an understanding of how social work can be used to promote social justice and advocate for the rights of marginalised populations.
- iii. **Diversity and cultural competence:** Social workers must be able to work effectively with individuals and communities from diverse cultural backgrounds. Students should learn about the complexities of diversity and develop the knowledge and skills necessary to work with individuals and communities from various cultural backgrounds.
- iv. **Professional ethics for practice:** Social work requires adherence to a code of ethics and standards of professional practice. The curriculum should emphasise ethical decision-making and maintaining professional boundaries and confidentiality. It should also aid in understanding the ethical challenges that may arise in social work practice.
- v. **Field Work:** Social work is a practice based profession, and students must have opportunities to apply their knowledge and skills in real-world settings. Field work content in the curriculum provides students with an incremental opportunity to engage with issues, contexts and multiple identities of individuals and communities under the supervision of experienced practitioners.
- vi. **Self-reflection and self-care:** There is need for social workers to develop self awareness and learn the techniques of self reflection and self care. The students of social work

required to be equipped with skills to care for themselves, deal with own emotions and avoid burnout.

- vii. **Research and evaluation:** It is important for the social workers to use research and evaluation to inform their practice. The curriculum, thus, develops an understanding of research methods, engage students to evaluate research and apply it to social work practice critically.

In summation, it emerged that a holistic BSW curriculum should provide students with a comprehensive understanding of social work practice, including the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for effective and ethical practice.

The BSW Curriculum detailed encapsulates the core mandate of social work, i.e., enhance the well-being and quality of life of individuals, families, groups, and communities, particularly the vulnerable, marginalised, or oppressed. This involves promoting social justice, human rights, empowerment, and preventing and alleviating social problems.

The curriculum strengthens the core mandate by providing various skills such as counselling, advocacy, group work, community organising, policy analysis, and research. It emphasises on the diversity and circumstances, including those facing poverty, homelessness, discrimination, violence, abuse, addiction, mental illness, disability, and other challenges, that a trained social worker will be working with.

At the heart of the curriculum is the social work commitment to creating a trained personnel with adequate knowledge, skills and values for promoting social change. The process involves identifying and addressing the root causes of social problems, advocating for policies and practices that promote social justice and human rights, and empowering individuals and communities to take control of their lives and environments. This requires social workers to work collaboratively with clients, colleagues, organisations, and stakeholders and to draw on a range of theoretical perspectives, methods, and sources of knowledge.

The social work curricula is multidisciplinary and draws upon various fields of study such as psychology, sociology, anthropology, economics, political science, and law. It involves the application of social science theories and research methods to understand human behaviour, social systems, and the interactions between individuals, families, groups, and communities.

The social work curricula can be broadly categorised as:

- I. **Core Courses:** The courses that offer knowledge base that derives from social work and social science theories and models. Social workers use theoretical knowledge to understand the underlying causes of social problems, develop hypotheses about the effectiveness of interventions, and design and implement programs grounded in evidence-based practices. There are major courses providing subject knowledge to build strong foundation and minor courses to give options into specialised areas of social work practice.
- II. **Open Electives:** In order to provide knowledge from the interdisciplinary subjects students have option to choose from the elective courses offered in the Syllabus. Besides the subjects mentioned in the syllabus students will have option to choose with prior approval from the college any other related courses for the allotted credits.
- III. **Skill Enhancement Courses:** These are the courses specifically designed to enhance essential and desired skills for social work profession. The skill enhancement is done through the experience of working with clients and communities. Social workers use practice wisdom to make decisions, solve problems, and develop interventions that are appropriate for the unique needs of each client or community.
- IV. **Indian knowledge System:** The curricula include courses on Indian knowledge system. gained through understanding cultural norms, values, and beliefs. Social workers use cultural knowledge to provide culturally competent services to clients and communities from diverse backgrounds.
- V. **Research knowledge** is gained through systematic observation and scientific inquiry. Social workers use empirical knowledge to understand social problems, assess client needs, and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions.

Overall, the knowledge base of bachelor social work is aimed at engaging learners in an iterative curriculum to keep abreast with the latest research and best practices.

The **practice of social work** involves working with individuals, families, groups, and communities to address various social problems and improve people's well-being. Social workers use various methods and approaches to work with clients, including direct counselling, advocacy, community organising, and policy development. Building practice and skills in social work is a continuous process of learning, reflection, and application. Social workers need to develop various skills to be effective in their roles. Some critical skills for social work practice include:

1. **Communication Skills:** Social workers must communicate effectively with clients, colleagues, and other professionals. This includes active listening, effective questioning, and conveying complex information clearly and concisely.
2. **Empathy and Emotional Intelligence:** Social workers need to connect with clients emotionally, understand their perspectives, and respond with empathy and sensitivity.
3. **Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving:** Social workers need to be able to analyse complex situations, identify problems, and develop effective solutions. This requires strong critical thinking skills and the ability to think creatively.
4. **Collaboration and Teamwork:** Social work often involves working with other professionals and organisations to support clients. Social workers need to be able to collaborate effectively, build relationships, and work as part of a team.
5. **Cultural Competence:** Social workers must understand and respect their client's cultural backgrounds, beliefs, and values. This requires ongoing education and self-reflection to ensure that social workers provide culturally sensitive and appropriate services.
6. **Advocacy:** Social workers often advocate for their clients, promoting their rights and access to resources. Social workers need to be able to advocate effectively, build support networks, and work within the legal and policy frameworks that affect their clients.

This Social Work programme will open doors to many work opportunities with diverse populations in various settings. It prepares graduates to make a tangible difference in people's lives. With this degree, equipped with skills and supervised experience from the field, students can advance into positions of increasing responsibility, depending on their interests and track. Based on this bachelor's degree, students can further specialise in an area/issue that resonates with their interests and career aspirations. The programme trains students for professional social work practice. It will open opportunities for work across the civil society sector, networks, alliances, private philanthropic initiatives, entrepreneur start-ups, community empowerment groups, organised public-private initiatives, and government programmes. Students will have a versatile work environment with a scope for collaborative work. With this degree, students could opt for a diverse and fulfilling career path that will positively impact communities and societies.

Programme Outcomes

1. Proficiency in applying multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary social work theories and knowledge that promotes social change and development.
2. Critical appreciation of challenges of caste, class, gender, race, tribe, religion, disability, age, language, sexual orientation, and its intersectionalities towards social inclusion, empowerment, and liberation of peoples.
3. Ability to assess and develop context-specific strategic, segmental, and spatial interventions.
4. Enhanced capacity for knowledge production through practice and research.
5. Developing competency to work with government agencies and social and development organisations and initiate social innovations.
6. Ability to express and perform in adherence to social work ethics, values, and principles.

Pattern: Semester Pattern Credit System

Structure & Examination Pattern of First Year B.S.W. Programme

3. RuleNo.1:Eligibility and Admission

First Year (Semester I) Bachelor of Social Work

B.S.W – Semester I: Pass H.S.C. Examination or Equivalent Examination from any stream (Arts/Science/Commerce) with minimum 45% aggregate marks (40% for reserved category) and clear Entrance Exam conducted by College. The admissions shall be carried out by merit list prepared on the basis of marks obtained in the Common Entrance Test conducted by College.

Note: *Eligibility Criteria*: Students seeking admission to First year (Semester I) of Bachelors Degree Course in Social Work must fulfill the eligibility criteria laid down by Academic Council of SPPU as applicable from time to time.

4. RuleNo.2: Duration and stages of the course (as per UGC)

- The Bachelors of Social Work course shall be of minimum duration of 4 academic years (8 semesters) of approximately 15 working weeks or 90 days in each semester.
- The course contains theory and field work (practical) training and Internship of 2 months between the vacation of II and VIII semesters.

5. Rule No.3: Granting of Academic Term

Each semester shall comprise of 15 weeks (Minimum 90 working days).

The candidate will be permitted to appear for semester examination only if he/she has, 75% attendance in each course that constitute ahead of passing, prescribed by the university.

- Satisfactory completion of the 100% term work prescribed for each course.
- Satisfactory conduct as a bonafide student

The Principal/ Director of the college/institution shall have the right to withhold the student from appearing for examination of a specific course if the above requirements are not fulfilled.

6. RuleNo.4: Rules of ATKT

- 1) A student shall be allowed to get admitted to Second Year B.S.W. course if he/she has a backlog of not more than **Four Subjects** of passing at First year B.S.W. (semester I and II considered together). which may include theory/field work or both subject's.
- 2) A student shall be allowed to get admitted to Third Year B.S.W. course if he/she has a backlog of not more than **Three Subjects** of passing at Second year

- B.S.W.(semester III and IV considered together). Which may include theory/practical or both subjects. & cleared all subjects of First year B.S.W
- 3) A student shall be allowed to get admitted to Fourth Year B.S.W. course if he/she has a backlog of not more than **Two Subjects** of passing at Third year B.S.W. (semester V and VI considered together). which may include theory/practical or both subject's & cleared all subjects of First & Second year B.S.W.
- 4) **Class Improvement** – Make-up exam jury within 2 months (Only for Final Year-VII & VIII Semesters)

7. Rule No 5: Examinations

Conduct of Examinations

The university examinations for all the 8 semesters shall be conducted at the end of each semester by the University.

Pattern of Examination: *The evaluation scheme for B.S.W. comprises of University Examination (UE) and Internal Assessment (IA)*

University Examination

UE will be conducted by the University and will be based on the entire syllabus. UE will be based on two parts 'Academic Class work & Presentation of the same in front of examiners'. Assessment would be undertaken by the panel of internal and external examiners (Jury) jointly in equal weightage.

The nature of assessment will vary depending upon the subject and its delivery and whether it is practical-based field work or theory based. Refer to detailed syllabus on the format of UE for individual subjects.

50% of total marks are reserved for University examination 50% of total marks are reserved for Internal Assessment

To pass the candidate must obtain at least 40% in individual subjects, in University examination each in all theory subjects and field work.

Structure of Examination

A. Compulsory Paper

All papers are compulsory.

B. Optional papers

V, VI, VII, VIII Semesters have a choice/option in elective subjects as well as in Skill Based Subjects and field work.

C. Question paper

Theory subject: Written Exam

Total five question having equal marks (5 marks each question) (5 Question X 5 = 25*)

Question1– Objectives (Fill in the Blanks/Answer in One sentence/Match the following) Question 2 – Short Notes (Word Limit: 200-300)

Question3
Question 4 } Descriptive Questions (500-700 words)
Question 5 }

Field Work Practical: Jury Pattern by Faculty supervisor and external

5.1: Internal Assessment

IA will be conducted by the college/Institution imparting B.S.W. course. IA will be done by the teacher teaching the course through a continuous assessment system that is spread through the duration of course.

50% marks reserved for internal assessment.

To pass the candidate must obtain at least 40% in individual subjects, in internal assessment each in all theory and practical subjects.

Abided by all ATKT rules mentioned in rule no. 5, if a student fails in IE at least **two** and a maximum **four** of the below mentioned components of continuous assessment can be used for re-assessment.

Individual faculty member shall have the flexibility to design the continuous assessment in a manner so as to evaluate students' capabilities across knowledge, skills and attitudes. IA may be undertaken through any or combination of the methods stated below:

- Written Test/Open Book
- Essays/ Tutorials
- Short answer questions
- Multiple choice questions/Quiz
- Dissertation/Research Project
- Report writings
- Practical Projects/Group projects
- Reflective Practical assignments/Industry work/Fieldwork
- Drawing Portfolios
- Learning logs/diaries
- Seminar/Workshop/Exhibition
- Reviews/presentation
- Study of best practices

The faculty shall announce in advance the units based on which continuous assessment shall be conducted. This progressive assessment for the IA must be communicated by the Institute to the university as per the schedule declared by the university. Detailed records of final assessment shall be maintained by the Institute/College. The student does not have facility of grade improvement, if

he/she does not pass at IA in a course. (Applicable only for VII and VIII Semester)

5.2: Verification/Revaluation

- Verification will be done by panel appointed by University. Revaluation will be done only for theory papers by panel appointed by University. Revaluation system is not applicable to field work.

5.3: Assessment of Termwork

- In respect of term work, "due date" shall be fixed for the completion of each assignment and the same shall be collected on the mentioned date.
- At the end of the semester term work shall be assessed by the internal and external examiners from amongst the panel approved by the University.
- Performance of a candidate in jury shall be assessed on basis of the depth of understanding of the principles involved.
- An examiner for any of the subjects of examinations shall have a minimum of 3 years teaching/professional experience in his/her field of study.

8. Rule No.6: Criteria for Passing

To pass in every semester examination and earn the assigned credits, a candidate must obtain minimum 40% marks in each head of passing.

- a) For all courses, both UE and IA constitute separate heads of passing. In order to pass in such courses and earn the assigned credits.

The student must obtain minimum grade point of 5.0 (40% marks) at UE and also minimum grade point of 5.0 (40%) marks at IA.

Or

If he/she fails in IA, the student passes in the course provided he/she obtains a minimum of 25% in IA and grade point average (GPA) for course is at least 6.0 (50% in aggregate) the GPA for a course will be calculated only if student passes at UE.

- b) A student who fails at UE in a course has to reappear at UE as a backlog candidate and clear the head of passing. Similarly, a student who fails in a course at IA has to reappear only at IA as a backlog and clear head of passing.
- c) Students with backlog in IA will have to present themselves and their work for progressive marking throughout the semester for which they intend to appear.

Rule No.7: Completion

Degree of Bachelors in Social Work shall be awarded only after successful completion of 4 years/8 semesters.

Earned credits: A candidate who has successfully completed all the Core courses and elective courses, not less than minimum number of credits prescribed shall be eligible to receive the degree.

Rule No.8: Medium of Instruction & Examination

- Medium of Instruction for the course will be English/Hindi/Marathi
- Medium of Examination for the course will be English/Marathi.

Table 1 BSW Curriculum Structure as per the NEP Framework

Semester	Category1 (Major Courses+FW)	Category 2(Minor)	Category 3 (OE)	Ability Enhancement Courses Category 4(VSC/SEC)	Skill Enhancement Courses Category 5(AEC/ IKS/VEC)	Category 6(OJT/ FP/CC/ CEP/RP)	Cum Cr./Sem
I	10 (4+6)	–	4	4	4	–	22
II	10 (4+6)	–	4	2	4	2	22
Exit Option : Award of UG Certificate in Social Work with 44credits Level 4.5, UG – Diploma in Social Work / UG Degree, Year-II]							
III	12 (6+6)	–	4	2	4	–	22
IV	10 (4+6)	8	–	2	–	2	22
Exit Option: Award of UG Diploma in Social Work with 88credits Level 4.5, UG in Social Work / UG Degree, Year-III]							
V	12 (6+6)	8	–		2	-	22
VI	10 (4+6)	8	–	–	2	2	22
Exit Option : Award of UG Degree in Social Work with 134 credits BSW (Honours with Research) Degree (CGPA 7.5 and above eligible)							
VII	08 (2+6)	8	–	2	4	–	22
VIII	10 (4+6)	2	–	2	2	6	22
Total	82 (34+48)	34	12	14	22	12	176
Total Credits: ONE SEVENTY-SIX Four Year UG Honors Degree in Social Work with 176 credits Level 4.5, UG - Certificate in Social Work / UG Degree, Year-I]							176

Abbreviations:

- 1) MC – Major Courses
- 2) GE/OE – General Elective / Open Elective
- 3) SEC - Skill Enhancement Course
- 4) IKS – Indian Knowledge System
- 5) AEC – Ability Enhancement Course
- 6) VEC – Value Education Course
- 7) CC - Co-curricular Course
- 8) T – Theory
- 9) FW – Field Work (Practical)

Table 2 Semester-wise Courses & Credit Distribution

Sem- ester	Major (SWK)	Minor Elective	Open Elective	Category 4(VSC/SEC)	Category 5(AEC/ IKS/VEC)	Category 6 (OJT/ FP/CC/ CEP/RP)	Total Credits
I	Introduction to Social Work (4) Fieldwork (6)	--	Introduction to Sociology (2) Introduction to Human Rights (2)	Computer Essentials (T) (2) Computer Essentials (P) (2)	Language & Communication Skills (2) Introduction to Indian Culture, Society and Social Work (2)		22
II	Introduction to Methods and Fields of Social Work Practice (4) Fieldwork (6)	--	Introduction to Economics (2) Introduction to Psychology (2)	Basics of Media for Social Work practice (2)	Life skills (2) Environmental Studies (2)	OJT (2)	22
III	Social Group Work (2) Community Organisation (2) Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families (2) Fieldwork (6)	--	Human Growth and Development (2) Social Entrepreneursh ip (2)	Creative Arts (2)	Values and Ethics for Social Work Practice (2) Understanding Self and Society (2)		22
IV	Legislation for Social Work Practice (2) Advocacy and Social Action (2) Fieldwork (6)	(Any four courses of 2 credits each from the list) (8)		Participatory Training Methodology (2)		Field Project (2)	22

Semester-wise listing of courses and other components

Table 3 . The semester-wise listing of courses with other critical components.

Table 3: Semester-wise listing of courses

Semester	Course Category	Course Code	Course Title	Credits
I	Core	BSW101	Introduction to Social Work	4
	Multidisciplinary	OE 01	Introduction to Sociology	2
		OE 02	Introduction to Human Rights	2
	Ability Enhancement Courses	AEC 01	Computer Essentials (T)	2
		AEC 02	Computer Essentials (P)	2
	Skill Enhancement Courses	SEC 01	Language and Communication Skills	2
		IKS 01	Introduction to Indian Culture, Society and Social Work	2
	Common Value-Added Courses	----	-----	-
	Core	FW 01	Field Work	6
		Total		22
II	Core	BSW102	Introduction to Methods and Fields of Social Work Practice (4)	4
	Multidisciplinary	OE 03	Introduction to Economics	2
	Multidisciplinary	OE 04	Introduction to Psychology	2
	Ability Enhancement Courses	AEC 03	Basics of Media for Social Work practice	2
	Skill Enhancement Courses	SEC 02	Life skills	2
	Common Value-Added Courses	IKS 04	Ecology and Society	2
		OJT 01	OJT	2
	Core	FW 02	Field Work	6
		Total		22