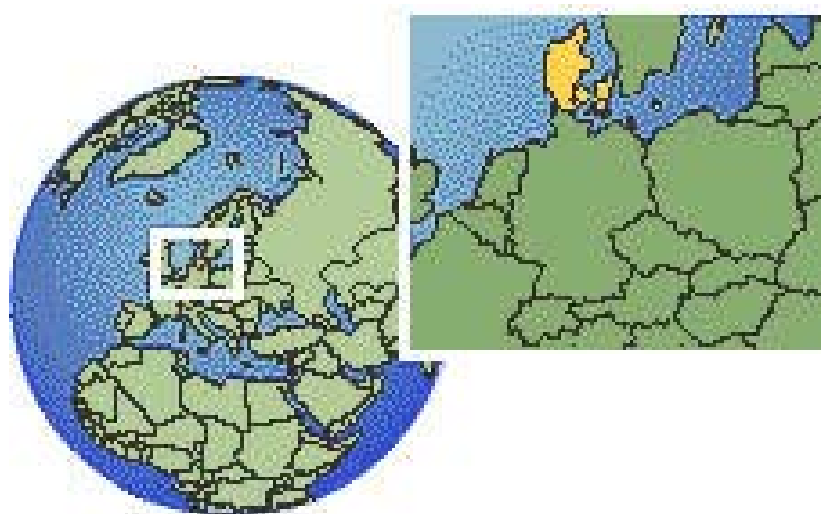


## Social Work Bachelor Programmes Four Examples from Denmark



ECTS Information Package  
2009



## Contents

What is ECTS? .....	4
1. The Departments/Schools of Social Work .....	7
1.1.    Addresses .....	7
1.2.    Social Work Programmes.....	7
1.3.    Academic Calendar .....	8
1.4.    International Co-ordinators .....	8
1.5.    Description of the Institutions .....	8
1.6.    Entry Requirements.....	9
1.6.1. For a Full Bachelor of Social Work Programme .....	9
1.6.2. For Exchange Students within the Erasmus and NORDPLUS Programmes .....	10
2. Practical Information.....	11
2.1.    Residence Permit .....	11
2.2.    Arrival .....	11
2.3.    Cost of Living.....	11
2.4.    Accommodation.....	11
2.5.    Health and Insurance.....	12
2.6.    Study Facilities at the Host Institution .....	12
2.7.    Leisure Activities.....	12
3. The Social Work Programmes .....	13
3.1.    Plans of Tuition .....	13
3.2.    Index of Programme Structure and ECTS Credits.....	14
3.2.1. Metropolitan University College, Copenhagen College of Social Work – The Classical Programme .....	14
3.2.2. VIA University College, The Department of Social Work in Aarhus .....	15
3.2.3. University College Lillebaelt, Odense School of Social Work.....	16
3.2.4. University College Vest, Department of Social Work.....	17
3.3.    The Objective of the Bachelor of Social Work Programme .....	17
3.4.    The Four Subject Areas .....	18
3.4.1. Subject Area 1: Social Work.....	18
3.4.2. Subject Area 2: Psychology and Psychiatry.....	19
3.4.3. Subject Area 3: Law.....	19
3.4.4. Subject Area 4: Applied Social Sciences.....	19
3.5.    Modules Taught in English.....	19
3.5.1. Social Development Work.....	19
3.5.2. Other Semesters Taught in English at VIA University College .....	23
3.5.3. International Course in Social Work, Copenhagen.....	23
3.6.    Methods of Study .....	24
3.7.    Lecturers .....	24
3.8.    Workload .....	24
3.9.    Assessment.....	24
3.9.1. Course Modules.....	25
3.9.2. Assessed Practice Placement.....	26
3.9.3. Project Work.....	26
3.10.   Language(s) .....	26
3.11.   ECTS .....	26

## What is ECTS?

The European Credit Transfer System is a system based on the principle of mutual trust and confidence between the participating institutions of higher education. It is a system of merit transfers, which has been developed under the Erasmus programme, as a method of improving the conditions for academic recognition of studies abroad. It is an absolute requirement for exchanges through the Erasmus programme that full merit or full academic recognition is given, which in turn means that the study period, inclusive of examinations taken abroad, takes the place of an equivalent study period at home.

ECTS credits are a value between 1 and 60 allocated to course units to describe the students workload required to complete them. They reflect the quantity of work each course requires in relation to the total quantity of work required to complete a full year of academic study at the host institution.

It is up to the participating institution to subdivide the credits for the different courses. Credits are awarded only when the course has been completed and all required examinations have been successfully taken.

A full Bachelor of Social Work Programme gives in total 210 ECTS credits, or 30 credits for each semester.

This information package has been devised in cooperation between Departments/Schools of Social Work at four University Colleges in Denmark in support of the implementation of ECTS.

### Some Facts about Denmark

Inhabitants:	5.5 million
Total area:	43,093 square kilometres
Capital:	Copenhagen
Language:	Danish
National Currency:	Danish Crown
Telephone code:	+ 45

Denmark is situated in Northern Europe and is one of the five Nordic countries. It consists of a mainland peninsula (Jutland/Jylland) and 406 islands. Denmark is a monarchy, ruled by Queen Margrethe II, through Parliament.

7 % of the population is of foreign origins. English and German are spoken widely at a high standard. Copenhagen is situated on the island of Zealand (Sjælland) connected with Sweden by a bridge.

The social system acts as a fine meshed safety net under Danes from birth to death. The many individual benefits include maternity and parent leave, which the parents may choose to share. It is regarded as an advantage if people weakened by illness or age remain in their own homes as long as possible. Here, elderly people can receive home help from the local authority. If that is not sufficient, they are offered protected housing or nursing home accommodation.

If you are interested in more information on Denmark you may find the following web sites relevant:

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs at [www.um.dk](http://www.um.dk)
- The Ministry of The Interior and Social Affairs at [www.ism.dk](http://www.ism.dk)
- The Ministry of Employment at [www.bm.dk](http://www.bm.dk)
- Denmark's Tourist Board at [www.visitdenmark.com](http://www.visitdenmark.com)

## **Copenhagen**

The population of Copenhagen is about 1.7 million people. Copenhagen was founded in 1167 and has been Denmark's capital since 1417. The beauty of Copenhagen is that the town centre is largely traffic free, which, coupled with the fact that most of the streets and buildings are laid out according to the medieval street plan, makes its sights and attractions very accessible on foot. A multitude of world-class museums and galleries, streets full of specialist shops, dozens of restaurants, and a tempting array of nightlife, all lie within a few minutes' walk.

Copenhagen has several Universities and schools of further education and daily life is much influenced by all the young students.

Copenhagen can easily be reached from anywhere in Denmark and it is also a gateway city, for example to Stockholm, Oslo and Helsinki. For more information about Copenhagen: [www.visitcopenhagen.com](http://www.visitcopenhagen.com).

## **Aarhus**

Aarhus (Århus) is famous for its varied cultural life and its beautiful position close to the woods and the beach. Even though Aarhus is the second largest city in Denmark, its population is less than 300,000, so you will quickly be able to find your way around. The city's many students influence the cultural life of Aarhus. There are good theatres and a flourishing musical life. Also, the countless cafes, in the narrow streets of the city's charming Latin Quarter, are worth a visit. At the weekends there is often live music at these cafés. Wednesday is the cinemas' cut-price day - meaning that they offer tickets at half price and so the cinemas are filled to bursting point.

Finally it is also worth mentioning that Aarhus has an excellent student centre - Studenterhus Århus – with several weekly activities. Many of the events are planned for and by exchange students in Aarhus. The Department of Social Work will automatically enrol you as a member of the Studenterhus Århus and pay your membership fee. For more information on Aarhus, check

- VIA University College at: [www.viauc.com](http://www.viauc.com)
- The Studenterhus Århus at: [www.studenterhusaarhus.dk](http://www.studenterhusaarhus.dk)
- Tourist information at [www.visitaarhus.com](http://www.visitaarhus.com)

## **Odense**

With its 184,000 inhabitants, Odense is Denmark's third-largest city. Odense is not just a pivotal centre for students from all over the world; it is also visited every year by thousands of tourists, who wish to experience the atmosphere of the regional capital of Funen and to enjoy the rich nature of the island.

Odense is the regional capital of Funen. The city is more than a thousand years old and various museums recount the history of Odense and of Denmark. Odense lies within a short distance of beaches and many leisure activities are available.

In Odense, past and present merge together. The city has, throughout history, been an important centre and presents unique opportunities for sightseeing. Among notable sights are the childhood homes of the Funen writer and poet Hans Christian Andersen and of the Funen composer Carl Nielsen.

Strolling through the city's narrow, winding cobble stoned streets lined with charming, old houses is an experience in itself. Yet, at the same time, Odense is a modern city with a blossoming culture, which can be experienced in cultural centres such as the theatres, the Student Centre [www.studenterhus.dk](http://www.studenterhus.dk) and Brandts Klædefabrik, to mention just a few.

Swimming and fitness centres and skating stadiums, squash and tennis courts, bowling lanes - the variety is almost inexhaustible. Whether you would like to participate actively in sports or experience elite sporting events as a spectator, Odense offers you a wide choice.

### **Esbjerg**

Esbjerg is the fifth largest city in Denmark with a population in excess of 83,000; most people live in the city of Esbjerg itself. Esbjerg tends to call itself Denmark's Gateway to the West. Esbjerg has Denmark's undisputed number one offshore port due to its access to the North Sea, and has an industrial centre of international dimensions. Esbjerg has all necessary facilities for both local and international students. The city has many different educational institutions, including two universities. The wide range of educations means that the city is full of students. Copenhagen can be reached by train in less than 3 hours.

In comparison with the rest of Denmark, Esbjerg is a relatively new city. Prior to 1870, Esbjerg was just a few farms, but when the harbour was built it developed into the 5th largest city in Denmark, and has become the fastest-growing industrial city in Denmark.

## 1. The Departments/Schools of Social Work

Subject Area Code: 14.5 Social Work.

### 1.1. Addresses

Copenhagen College of Social Work  
Metropolitan University College  
Kronprinsesse Sofies Vej 35  
DK – 2000 Frederiksberg  
Ph: +45 3814 4600  
Fax: +45 3814 4601  
Erasmus Code: DK Kopenha 55  
International Coordinator:  
Johanne Gregersen  
e-mail: [jogr@dsh-k.dk](mailto:jogr@dsh-k.dk)  
website: [www.dsh-k.dk](http://www.dsh-k.dk)

Odense School of Social Work  
University College Lillebaelt  
Tolderlundsvej 5  
DK – 5000 Odense C  
Ph.: +45 6318 4700  
Fax: +45 6318 4702  
Erasmus Code: DK Vejle 06  
International Coordinator:  
Didde Auring  
e-mail: [diau@usl.dk](mailto:diau@usl.dk)  
website: [www.ucl.dk](http://www.ucl.dk)

The Department of Social Work, Aarhus  
VIA University College  
Faculty of Education and Social Studies  
Nobelparken  
Jens Chr. Skous Vej 2, Bld. 1485  
DK – 8000 Aarhus C  
Ph: +45 8755 3306  
Fax: +45 8755 3359  
Erasmus Code: DKRisskov06  
International Coordinator:  
Anke Beuck  
e-mail: [anbe@viauc.dk](mailto:anbe@viauc.dk)  
website: [www.viauc.com](http://www.viauc.com)

The Department of Social Work, Esbjerg  
University College Vest  
Faculty of Social Sciences  
Skolebakken 171  
Postbox 905  
DK – 6705 Esbjerg Ø  
Ph: +45 7215 7400  
website: [www.ucvest.dk](http://www.ucvest.dk)

### 1.2. Social Work Programmes

All programmes are taught in Danish.

#### Undergraduate level

- 3½ year Bachelor of Social Work Programme - 7 semesters - 210 ECTS credits (All schools)
- 3½ year Bachelor of Intercultural/International Social Work Programme - 7 semesters - 210 ECTS credits (Copenhagen)
- 3½ year Bachelor of International Social Work Programme - 7 semesters - 210 ECTS credits (Aarhus)
- 1 year Access Course for Refugees and Immigrants – 2 semesters (Aarhus)

#### Postgraduate Level

- A full Postgraduate Diploma in Social Work is equivalent to 60 ECTS credits (Odense, Copenhagen, Aarhus and Esbjerg)
- The 4-year (part-time) Master's Degree Programme in Social Sciences is equivalent to 120 ECTS credits (Copenhagen).

### **1.3. Academic Calendar**

The academic year consists of two semesters:

- The autumn semester runs from 1st September to 31st January.
- The spring semester runs from 1st February to 30th June.

### **Vacations and holidays**

- Summer vacation: 1st July to 31st August.
- Christmas vacation: 22nd December to 1st January.

### **1.4. International Co-ordinators**

See section 1.1.

### **1.5. Description of the Institutions**

As of 2008 approximately 100 individual medium-cycle further education institutions in Denmark were merged into 8 University Colleges, covering the entire country. The task of each University College is to develop and offer profession targeted further, continuing and higher education programmes in their respective regions.

University Colleges are state-financed and under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education.

Number of Social Work Bachelor students:

#### **Copenhagen**

- 750 students attend the Bachelor of Social Work Programme
- 225 students attend the Bachelor of Intercultural/International Social Work Programme
- 20 students attend the Bachelor of Labour Market Social Work Programme.

#### **Aarhus**

- 630 students attend the Bachelor of Social Work Programme in Aarhus
- 210 students attend the Bachelor of Social Work Programme in Holstebro
- 180 students attend the Bachelor of International Social Work Programme in Aarhus.

#### **Odense**

- 630 students attend the Bachelor of Social Work Programme in Odense
- 90 students at the school's distance learning Bachelor of Social Work Programme.

#### **Esbjerg**

- 325 students attend the Bachelor of Social Work Programme on a full time basis
- 120 students attend the Bachelor of Social Work Programme part-time.

## **1.6. Entry Requirements**

### **1.6.1. For a Full Bachelor of Social Work Programme**

#### **Language Requirements**

Applicants holding a foreign entry qualification must be proficient in Danish both orally and in writing. The Social Work Programmes require, that you have passed Studieprøven i dansk som andetsprog (the “Study Test in Danish as a Second Language”) or the former “Danish Test 2” in order to be admitted.

If you are a Danish citizen, you are not required to take a Danish test if you can document that Danish is your mother tongue or that you learnt Danish at school.

Applicants from the Nordic countries are not required to take a Danish test if Danish, Norwegian or Swedish has been studied as part of the entry qualification.

For a list of language schools, see: [www.vidar.dk](http://www.vidar.dk).

#### **Higher Preparatory Examination**

The Social Work Programmes admit students from within two different categories.

50 % of students are selected solely by their grade levels, in high school leaving exams (i.e. University Entrance examinations), or other recognised higher preparatory examinations.

The other 50 % admitted, are given credits for certain qualifications in addition to passing the prerequisite exams named above. The selection is made in accordance with the following qualification criteria:

#### **Work Experience**

- The work must have been paid work.
- The weekly work hours must have been at least 30 hours per week.
- The work has to be minimum 6 months in total.
- Study relevant work has to be a minimum 6 months continuous period.
- Work done while attending high school will not be considered.
- Only work experience prior to the 5. July of the year applying for admission will be considered.
- The work has to be documented entailing work hours and length of work.
- Only work within the last 10 years will be considered.
- Residence Abroad.
- Minimum 16 weeks’ continuous period.

#### **Folk High School Courses**

Minimum 16 weeks’ continuous period.

#### **Voluntary Work**

Voluntary and unpaid activities. For example within voluntary child and youth work, voluntary social work, cultural activities, political and trade union activities and work of a similar nature.

#### **Other Relevant Courses**

Courses in addition to the recognised higher preparatory examination. These must be courses at a higher preparatory level or at university level.

**Average Mark**

The average mark from the higher preparatory examination.

**Curriculum Vitae**

All applicants in this group must enclose a curriculum vitae.

**1.6.2. For Exchange Students within the Erasmus and NORDPLUS Programmes****Application deadline**

1st May for the autumn semester and 1st November for the spring semester.

**Length and type of study**

The period of the study must be minimum 3 months and maximum 12 months.

All course modules are taught in Danish, with the exception of two modules taught in English: "International Course in Social Work" in Copenhagen and "Social Development Work" in Aarhus. (See section 3.5. Modules taught in English)

In addition, exchange students can do their practice placements or project work (including fieldwork).

**Level**

Students are required to have completed minimum one year of full studies in their homecountry.

It is a requirement that the student has experience of independent study work.

It is a requirement that the student, prior to the exchange, has become conversant with the Scandinavian welfare model and studied relevant material concerning specific areas of social work.

**Application**

An application for an exchange may be made through the International Coordinator or The International Office of the home institution. In advance of the student's travel, the home institution must have approved the exchange visit, as well as reached a decision on merit and credit transfer.

## 2. Practical Information

### 2.1. Residence Permit

Full programme students and exchange students from outside Scandinavia and the European Union must apply for a residence permit before leaving home for Denmark.

The residence permit application must be lodged with a Danish Embassy or Consular representation in the student's home country. It may take up to three months to have the permit issued. For further details, please see the section called "Residence permit - Students" on the web site of The Danish Immigration Service - [www.udlst.dk](http://www.udlst.dk).

Students from Scandinavian countries need no residence permit.

Students from the European Union are entitled to stay in Denmark for three months. If they wish to stay longer, they must apply for a residence permit.

### 2.2. Arrival

The student must advise of her or his arrival (time and place) to the International Coordinator at the host institution. The student will, as far as it is possible, be met on arrival by student mentors, who will also introduce the student to the school. The student will, prior to arrival in Denmark, have received the names and addresses of the student mentors, as well as the time and place of the first meeting.

### 2.3. Cost of Living

Students in Denmark are expected to be able to live for approx. DKK 5000 per month. In reality expenses vary between € 650 and € 800 depending on life style and accommodation costs.

Monthly expenses (all amounts are in DKK)

Rent (including heating and electricity)	1900 - 2500
Food and other necessities	1700 - 2400
Telephone	200
Leisure	500 - 1500
Total	4300 - 6600

Find more information on [www.studyinDenmark.dk](http://www.studyinDenmark.dk).

### 2.4. Accommodation

The Schools will help, as far as they are able, in finding accommodation for the student in student halls (Aarhus, Odense and Esbjerg) or in private accommodation (Copenhagen). As it is extremely difficult to find rented accommodation in university cities in Denmark, the student must notify the school in good time, preferably minimum 3 months before arrival, if she or he requires help to find accommodation.

## **2.5. Health and Insurance**

All European Union citizens/residents are required to bring a EU Health insurance card (blue European health insurance card).

All students from non-EU countries are required to buy an international student health insurance.

All international students are required to buy private liability insurance that covers the insured persons' legal liability for: Bodily injuries, i.e. death, injury or other harm to people's health, property damage, i.e. damage to or the destruction or loss of property.

## **2.6. Study Facilities at the Host Institution**

Each school has an extensive library, with access to international periodicals and publications in English.

Students have access to computers, printers and Internet. Exchange students can establish a personal e-mail address.

Canteen facilities are available at all schools and here you can buy reasonably priced cold and warm dishes.

Students at the schools often form different groups where they, for example, arrange parties and Friday get-togethers at the schools. International students are very welcome to participate in these meetings and activities.

## **2.7. Leisure Activities**

The schools are all situated in relatively large cities with different cultural and sports activities in which the student can participate. Denmark is a country with relatively short distances between its cities, for example a train ride between Copenhagen and Aarhus only takes 3 hours. Sightseeing and visiting other parts of the country is thus relatively easy. Students will often be able to obtain discounts by showing their student card at cultural or sports arrangements. Some bookshops and travel agencies also offer special prices to students. Student mentors will show the student around on arrival and inform her or him about the different possibilities.

### **3. The Social Work Programmes**

#### **3.1. Plans of Tuition**

The plans of tuition of the schools, their curricula and reading lists comprise the complete content of the individual semesters. The semester plans vary depending on the choice of subjects and course elements in the actual semester.

Material will be forwarded when the exchange student has decided which line of study she or he will follow.

### 3.2. Index of Programme Structure and ECTS Credits

#### 3.2.1. Metropolitan University College, Copenhagen College of Social Work – The Classical Programme

Each of the 7 semesters is equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.

Semester	Study form	Assessment
1.	Introduction to Social Work as a profession Social problems concerning marginalization and exclusion	Study report
2.	The political, economic and organisational framework of the social sector 2 months observation practice within a local authority	Practice study report which functions as part of the 1st year exam - external assessment
3.	Social work with families and children The labour market and welfare benefits Group project work with the above named thematic areas	
4.	Preparation for practice placement period Practice placement of 4 months duration Evaluation of the practice period	Internal evaluation based on the practice tutors evaluation and the student's practice report
5.	The social worker and the private, public and voluntary social service agency or organisation Cross-disciplinary theme on vulnerable families and children Preparing a synopsis with focus on core area 2. Psychology and Psychiatry and core area 4. Social Sciences	Examinations in Core area 2: Psychology and Psychiatry and core area 4: Social Sciences - external assessment
6.	Scientific theory Anti-discriminatory social work with minority groups Project work in relation to theory and praxis work	The project work forms the basis for the exams in core area 1: Social Work and Counselling, and core area 3: Law - external assessment
7.	4 weeks preparation for writing the bachelor project/dissertation 12 weeks researching and writing the bachelor project	The bachelor project forms the basis for the final examination which is an individual external exam

### 3.2.2. VIA University College, The Department of Social Work in Aarhus

Each of the 7 semesters is equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.

Study themes	Semester	Study form	Assessment/-examinations
The context and practice of social work	1.	Tuition modules	- Practice studies report - First year examination
	2.	Tuition Project work: Social case-work within the public sector (local authorities), including 2 months' practice studies	
Different approaches to and types of social work in relation to social problems and social action	3.	Tuition modules	1 subject area examination
	4.	Practice placement (20 % tuition, 80 % practice placement)	Written placement assignment  Assessment of the practice placement
Elaboration of different aspects and types of social work; - emphasising the interaction between theoretical and empirical insight and social work action and competencies  Development, dissemination, evaluation and research in social work	5.	Studies based on In-depth modules	2 subject area examinations
	6.		2 subject area examinations
Bachelor project	7.	Project work within an area of social work	Project examination

### 3.2.3. University College Lillebaelt, Odense School of Social Work

Each of the 7 semesters is equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.

Semester	Study form	Assessment/ -examinations
1.	Introduction to Social Work history, ethics and values Tuition in the four subject areas 7 weeks of group project work concerning social problems and the labour market	
2.	Tuition in the four subject areas Project work: Social case work within the statutory sector (local authorities), including 2 months' practice studies	Practice studies report and external assessment (first year examination)
3.	Social work with families and children Project work: Models and methodical approach to social work	Internal assessment
4.	Practice placement (20 % tuition, 80 % practice placement) The practice placement may be conducted abroad	Assessment of the practice placement
5.	Individual project work: Elaboration of different aspects and types of social work with the emphasis on the interaction between theoretical and empirical insight. Tuition in the four subject areas	Internal assessment External examinations in subject area 2: Psychology and psychiatry and subject area 4: Social sciences
6.	Optional module (4 weeks) Tuition in the four subject areas	External examinations in subject area 1: Social work and counselling and subject area 3: Law
7.	Methods of evaluation and research in social work (4 weeks) Bachelor Project	Individual external examination

### 3.2.4. University College Vest, Department of Social Work

Each of the 7 semesters is equivalent to 30 ECTS credits.

Semester	Study form	Assessment/ -examinations
1.	Introduction to the study in general Scientific Theory Tuition in the four subject areas	
2.	Tuition in the four subject areas 2 month project work The political, economic, and organisational framework of the social sector 12 – 20 days practice period with observations and interviewing with the local authority	Practice study report. Internal evaluation First year external examination
3.	Tuition in the four subject areas	
4.	Preparation for practice placement and practice placement for 4 month duration. The practice placement may be conducted abroad	Internal evaluation
5.	Tuition in the four subject areas Cross-disciplinary theme on pain with students from other education's	External examination in psychology and psychiatry External examination in law
6.	Tuition in the four subject areas Optional modules	External examination in social science External examination in social work
7.	Bachelor project: Project work within a field of social work The project may be carried out abroad	External examination

### 3.3. The Objective of the Bachelor of Social Work Programme

The programme objective is stipulated in The Ministry of Education Executive Order No. 536 (28. June 2002) on The Bachelor of Social Work Programme:

#### Section 1, Subsection 1

The aim of the social work programme is to qualify the student professionally and personally to practice social work independently and in cross-disciplinary co-operation upon completion of the programme.

In accordance with the general development in society, and in the fields of social work and science, the programme must qualify the students to carry out theoretical and practical social work and counselling. The Social Work Programme must enable the students to identify, describe, analyse, evaluate and act according to different living conditions and social problems at an individual level, at group level and in relation to organisations and society as a whole. The students must acquire knowledge about and insight into the

situations of the target groups and environments enabling them to make changes and act as social workers both in a public and a private context.

### **Section 3**

Completion of the social work programme confers the title "Bachelor of Social Work".

### **Core Competencies**

#### **Section 1, Subsection 2**

Students must be qualified to

- practice and co-ordinate social work and plan social measures as well as providing guidance and counselling and implement preventive measures,
- obtain critical and analytic competence with a view to identifying, describing and evaluating social problems in their entity and choosing relevant methods and measures in relation to the actual situation,
- transfer theories and methods into practical measures and create changes in co-operation with the users and other involved parties,
- establish professional relations with users and be able to enter into dialogue with users and to see the users' resources and support them in utilising their resources,
- participate in organisational processes with a view to influencing and changing the framework and conditions and to act and negotiate in relation to conflicting requirements and expectations,
- carry out regulatory functions and make decisions while taking into account legal requirements, the actual situation of the users and the practice of the public administration and to be able to act according to the decisions made,
- develop social work on the basis of documentation and evaluation, implement quality control and to follow, apply and participate in research within the field of social work,
- continue post-graduate studies on completion of the programme.

### **3.4. The Four Subject Areas**

#### **Section 8, Subsection 2**

The programme covers theoretical tuition and practical training within the following subject areas:

- Social Work: 84 ECTS credits of which social counselling should represent at least 60 ECTS credits.
- Psychology and Psychiatry: 28 ECTS credits.
- Law: 28 ECTS credits.
- Applied Social Sciences: 34 ECTS credits.
- Practice Placements: 36 ECTS credits.

#### **Subsection 3**

The social work education is organised in such a way that the specific knowledge and the specific skills of all subject areas are related to practical social work, securing that the subject area Social Work integrates knowledge and skills from the other three subject areas, cf. Section 9.

#### **3.4.1. Subject Area 1: Social Work**

The objective of the subject area Social Work is that the students obtain skills from the subject area's own theoretical and research-based foundation with a view to understanding the conditions and possibilities of

social work including methods and choice of method. Furthermore, the subject area must gather and integrate skills from its own field and from the other subject areas so that the students obtain competence to support changes and act as professional social workers, cf. Section 1.

### **3.4.2. Subject Area 2: Psychology and Psychiatry**

The objective of the subject area Psychology and psychiatry is that the students obtain skills within the field of psychology and psychiatry with a view to understanding the human psyche and life, e.g. the dynamical development of the individual in interaction with the surrounding world, perspectives on relations between individual, group, organisation and society and an understanding of ones own learning process and development as a professional person.

### **3.4.3. Subject Area 3: Law**

The objective of the subject area Law is that the students obtain skills within the legal field and the field of public administration with a view to including relevant elements of common, substantive and procedural legal disciplines as a basis for the application of law in social work and for the counselling on the legal position of individuals.

### **3.4.4. Subject Area 4: Applied Social Sciences**

The objective of the subject area Applied Social Sciences is that the students obtain skills within the sociological and organisational field and the fields of political and economical science with a view to understanding the function, structure and development of society, the relations between human living conditions, health problems and social problems and the role and function of the social sector in terms of the conditions of the labour market policy.

## **3.5. Modules Taught in English**

### **3.5.1. Social Development Work**

Modules taught in English at the Department of Social Work in Aarhus, VIA University College, Denmark.

#### **Contents**

With a focus on development and social change in North and South contexts, the course gives students the opportunity to expand their professional profile and competencies by studying development work approaches and methods.

Independently of the broad target group, the course content is anchored in social work.

The course contains a series of 3 modules over 3 months:

1. Conceptualising development.
2. Competencies of social community development – North and South.
3. Complex emergencies, conflict, conflict interventions and development.

These modules are integrated in the 6th semester of the International Bachelor of Social Work Programme in Aarhus. Incoming students are therefore studying alongside 3rd year students from Aarhus.

Incoming students who wish to spend a full semester in Aarhus may add a 2 months' module to their course:

4. Individual assignment.

Modules	Learning outcomes	Weeks	ECTS
<p>1. Conceptualising development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Competing theories of development</li> <li>- Strategies and policies of development</li> <li>- The relationship between theories of power relations, poverty, class, gender, ethnicity and the broader theories of development</li> <li>- Social work and development</li> <li>- Assignment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Knowledge of concepts of development.</li> <li>- Ability to identify the actors of development based upon a combination of theoretical knowledge and skills in applying the knowledge to contextual situations.</li> <li>- Ability to reflect upon positions in development work and in social work and to describe and analyse development issues.</li> </ul>	4	6
<p>2. Competencies of social community development – North and South</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The value and normative base of development</li> <li>- Mapping tools and modelling situations and interventions</li> <li>- Forms of community intervention</li> <li>- Participation and tools for designing interventions</li> <li>- Assignment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Knowledge of value bases and normative positions of development.</li> <li>- Application of mapping tools and skills in modelling situations and interventions.</li> <li>- Application of tools for designing interventions with participatory approaches.</li> <li>- Application of knowledge and skills in relation to a given situation.</li> </ul>	4	6
<p>3. Complex emergencies, conflict, conflict interventions and development – threatened groups and communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understandings of conflicts, including the right to intervene</li> <li>- Understandings and models of conflict resolution</li> <li>- The continuum between conflict resolution and development</li> <li>- Assessment</li> <li>- Relating development and conflict intervention to social work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Knowledge of the concept of conflicts and theories of conflict.</li> <li>- Knowledge of forms of conflict resolution.</li> <li>- Skills in conflict resolution.</li> <li>- Critical reflection upon the roles of mediators and forms of conflict resolution.</li> <li>- Knowledge of the interplay between conflict and development and the movement from humanitarian interventions towards sustainable development.</li> </ul>	4	6
<p>4. Individual assignment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The additional module is in the form of project work: The student chooses a subject that s/he wishes to study in-depth. S/he studies the chosen subject and writes an assignment with the support of teachers who give individual tuition.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The specific learning outcomes are decided in agreement between the individual student, the home university and The Department of Social Work in Aarhus.</li> </ul>	8	12

**A mix of learning forms are applied, e.g.**

- Introductory lectures supported by guided reading of text materials and articles.
- Case-related seminar discussions based upon short papers or other input produced by students and led by teaching lecturers.
- Short reflective assignments based upon a case study reader or other materials.
- Individual learning forms and group work with access to continuous tutoring during the learning process, especially in phases of acquiring applicatory skills.

Assessments are based on e.g. written assignments and participation in seminars and workshops.

**Period**

1. February – 30. April (modules 1 – 3) and 2. May – 30. June (module 4).

**Place**

Socialrådgiveruddannelsen i Århus  
Department of Social Work, Aarhus  
VIA University College  
Nobelparken  
Jens Chr. Schous Vej 2, Building 1485  
DK - 8000 Aarhus C  
Denmark

**Entrance requirements**

- 3rd or 4th year Bachelor students.
- Students must have sufficient oral and written English language skills.

**Student profile**

Students of Social Work and related professions, e.g. Nursing, Social Pedagogy, Social Education, Teaching, Law, Human Resource Management and Economics.

Students with a particular interest in cross-national and cross-disciplinary approaches to development work in western and non-western contexts.

**Application****Students from partner universities**

A student application for exchange must be forwarded by the International Coordinator or The International Office of the student's home university. Prior to the student's arrival in Aarhus, the home institution must have approved the exchange visit, as well as reached a decision on credit transfer.

**Free movers**

Students from other universities are strongly advised to seek approval within their home university before applying for entry to the course.

Application deadline: 1. November.

**Contact persons**

- Anke Beuck, International Coordinator, [anbe@viauc.dk](mailto:anbe@viauc.dk)
- Bolette Hansen, International Secretary, [bhan@viauc.dk](mailto:bhan@viauc.dk)

### **Tuition fees**

There are no tuition fees for students from partner universities of VIA University College within the framework of Erasmus, Nordplus or similar student mobility programmes.

For students from institutions without a bilateral partner agreement with VIA University College, the tuition fee is € 3200.

### **Other semesters taught in English**

For semesters within the fields of e.g. Social Education, Social Pedagogy, Social Entrepreneurship, Teaching and Animation, please visit the website of the Faculty of Education and Social Studies at [www.viauc.com/programmes](http://www.viauc.com/programmes).

### **3.5.2. Other Semesters Taught in English at VIA University College**

For semesters within the fields of e.g. Social Education, Social Pedagogy, Social Entrepreneurship, Teaching and Animation, please see the website of the Faculty of Education and Social Studies at [www.viauc.com/programmes/Pages/Programmes.aspx](http://www.viauc.com/programmes/Pages/Programmes.aspx).

### **3.5.3. International Course in Social Work, Copenhagen**

Youth cultures in a globalised world – perspectives on social work with adolescents and young adults  
The main objective of the course is to give a general understanding and knowledge of social work with adolescents and young adults – a field that is now experiencing growing attention. The course also includes a general introduction to social work in Denmark.

In all, the course covers 20 weeks and consists of three sections.

#### **I The Danish welfare state in a comparative perspective**

This section includes a history of the Danish welfare state, legal rights, living conditions, social policy and integration debates. The students will furthermore share experiences about social work in a comparative perspective. Danish students will participate and offer guidance through field visits to institutions engaged in social practice.

#### **II Social problems related to youth, individuals and groups at risk of social exclusion**

This section includes learning about maturation, ethnicity, different family patterns, gender issues and subcultures. In the final week the students will be introduced to working on a problem-oriented project with a written report submitted at the end.

#### **III Project period: “Youth culture – perspectives related to social work”**

You will examine a set of problems of your own choice within the overall subject “Youth culture – perspectives related to social work”. During the project period you will carry out project work in study groups of three to five fellow students under the supervision of the teachers attached to the course. In the period the school offers “work in progress” seminars.

#### **Finishing and presenting the project**

You can either complete your project in Denmark or in your home country. The project will be evaluated according to the Danish 7-grade scale which is equivalent to the European ECTS scale.

### **3.6. Methods of Study**

The following didactic objectives are emphasised:

- The ability to work with one's own learning processes.
- The ability to apply different methods and strategies of learning.
- The ability to plan and organise the course of one's own learning.

The following forms of tuition can be involved:

- Tuition within the individual subject areas, thematised across the subject areas, in cross-disciplinary modules and in optional modules.
- The form of tuition can be lectures or seminars with a high degree of student involvement. Tuition often involves group work or exercises in the form of role-plays.

#### **Practice placements**

- Project work based on a chosen subject. Project work is interdisciplinary, with application of different subject areas and it involves fieldwork/reference environments.
- Study groups in relation to subjects which the students choose to work with.
- Independent study with assignments, cases and supplementary literature on the background of course tuition.
- Study visits to various agencies.
- Discussion groups.
- Exercises in social work practice.

Exchange students are assigned individual tutorage.

### **3.7. Lecturers**

The lecturers are recruited from within the fields of Social Work, The Humanities, Psychology, Law and Social Sciences.

### **3.8. Workload**

The social work programme is a full-time course.

Tuition is given to an extent equivalent to 12 - 20 hours weekly. To this, preparation time should be added.

During the practice placement working hours are 37 hours per week.

### **3.9. Assessment**

Unless an alternative agreement has been reached with the home institution, exchange students are assessed in accordance with the assessment procedures of the host institution for the specific study element that the student is taking, including project work and practice placements.

### 3.9.1. Course Modules

In cases where the student can not follow tuition in Danish, the form of assessment will be decided by the host institution and the home institution in conjunction with each other. If the student receives a grade, the grade will be converted via the ECTS scale.

#### The Danish Grading System

Danish Grade	Description	ECTS Grade
12	For an excellent performance displaying a high level of command of all aspects of the relevant material, with no or only a few minor weaknesses.	A
10	For a very good performance displaying a high level of command of most aspects of the relevant material, with only minor weaknesses.	B
7	For a good performance displaying good command of the relevant material but also some weaknesses.	C
4	For a fair performance displaying some command of the relevant material but also some major weaknesses.	D
02	For a performance meeting only the minimum requirements for acceptance.	E
Fail:		
00	For a performance which does not meet the minimum requirements for acceptance.	Fx
-3	For a performance which is unacceptable in all respects.	F

#### Comparison of grading scales

Below you will find a comparison the new Danish 7-point scale and the ECTS grading scale. The old 13-point Danish grading scale is added for the benefit of former students.

7-scale (new)		ECTS-scale			13-scale
Mark	Description	Mark	Description	% relative	Mark
12	Excellent	A	Excellent	10	11 (13)
10	Very good	B	Very good	25	10
7	Good	C	Good	30	8 - 9
4	Fair	D	Satisfactory	25	7
02	Adequate	E	Sufficient	10	6
00	Inadequate – fail	Fx	Fail		03 - 5
-3	Unacceptable	F	Fail		00

For some study activities the assessments "approved/not approved" or "passed/not passed" is used.

### **3.9.2. Assessed Practice Placement**

On completion of the placement period, approval will be given or withheld depending on whether the student has fulfilled the approval criteria.

The practice placement is assessed Approved or Not Approved.

The assessment is made by the placement supervisor in conjunction with the school's representative.

### **3.9.3. Project Work**

The aim of project work is that the student should gain a holistic understanding of social problems and social work on an individual, group, organisational and societal level.

The focus of the project work should be within the area of social work.

The student should, when working with the subject, incorporate both knowledge and experience from theory and practice.

Project work is disseminated in the form of a written report.

After submission of the written report, the project work is assessed either by the home institution or the host institution, depending on which prior agreement has been reached on the matter.

### **3.10. Language(s)**

The language of tuition at the schools of social work is Danish. Please see section 3.5 for modules taught in English.

Guest lectures by international teachers and tuition to exchange students may be carried out in English.

### **3.11. ECTS**

60 credits are equivalent to an academic year. 30 credits are equivalent to a full 5-month semester and 20 credits to a term.

Example 1: 3 months' practice placement equals 20 ECTS credits.

Example 2: Participation in a taught module of 3 weeks' workload is granted 3 x 1.5 credits = 4.5 ECTS credits.

The credit allocation is made and agreed upon on the basis of the specific plan of study for the individual student.