

Subject card

Subject name and code	Ethical Dilemmas of Social Work, PG_00151073						
Field of study	Social Work						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject			2025/2026	
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group			Obligatory subject group in the field of study Humanistic-social subject group	
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery			e-learning	
Year of study	1		Language of instruction			Polish	
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits			2.0	
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form			credit	
Conducting unit							
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Karolina Starego				
	Teachers		dr Karolina Starego				
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 30.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		0.0		20.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to provide students with a theoretical repertoire in the field of axiology and deontology to independently solve ethical dilemmas in the area of professional social work practice. This means making students aware of, on the one hand, the dilemmas of social work itself from an ethical perspective, and on the other hand, the existence of the multitude of solutions resulting from the adopted ethical paradigm and normative system.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[PRACSOCMU2_W07] knows and has understanding and identifies the regularities that govern them; legal, organisational, professional, moral and ethical systems of norms and rules organising structures and institutions functioning in the field of social work, knows the regularities that govern them, their sources, nature, changes and methods of operation;	The student knows and understands the legal, organizational, professional, moral and ethical systems of norms and rules organizing structures and institutions operating in the field of social work, knows the regularities governing them, knows and understands in-depth their sources, nature, changes and ways of acting in accordance with the code of social workers and normative codes.	[SW3] text preparation/written work
	[PRACSOCMU2_K04] is willing to based on a reliable diagnosis, identify problems of an individual, family and community; is aware of the ethical dilemmas related to the profession of a social worker, family assistant, and local community organiser; is ready to master the skill of resolving dilemmas concerning work for the sake of people and communities	The student is ready, based on a reliable diagnosis, to identify problems of an individual, family and community; is aware of ethical dilemmas related to performing the profession of a social worker, family assistant, and local community organizer; improves resolution of related dilemmas with performing work for the benefit of people and environments	[SK3] text preparation/written work
	[PRACSOCMU2_U05] is able to using normative systems and ethical rules, solve numerous ethical dilemmas that appear in the practice of social work when activities are undertaken in the work with the client, with colleagues, with institutional limitations, and also understand and use knowledge about the paradoxes of professional activity, make use of skills and support in supervisory activities, autobiographies	The student is able to use normative systems and ethical rules, solve numerous ethical dilemmas that arise in the practice of social work at the level of working with clients, with colleagues, with institutional limitations, and also understands and is able to use knowledge about the paradoxes of professional activity, uses skills and support within supervision activities, autobiographies	[SU3] text preparation/written work
Subject contents	1. Ideology as an axiological frame of reference for formulating the goals of social policy and aid institutions. 2. Ideological dilemmas (between public and private ethics). 3. Paradigms of ethical systems in social work. 4. The ethics of meeting the other as other. 5. Professional code of ethics in the light of the arbitrariness of normative systems. 6. Power relations and hierarchical social relations in aid institutions, and the professionalization and ethics of the social worker profession. 7. Axiological identification of social workers in the perspective of current social problems. 8. Egalitarian ethics and social change as a reference point for the activities of a social worker. 9. Selected issues of ethics of research carried out in social work.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	essay	50.0%	100.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	nie dotyczy	
	Supplementary literature	nie dotyczy	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	Analysis of selected dilemmas in social work based on selected axiological systems		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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