

CURRICULUM

SOCIAL SERVICES

Social pedagogy and creative methods have special emphases in the Degree Programme in Social Welfare Work. You have a possibility to obtain the qualifications of a kindergarten teacher as part of your studies. You will take the degree of Bachelor of Social Services in multi-professional learning environments that are close to work and enhance your key and specialised competences. Multimodal study methods will be utilised in the studies, and you will have an opportunity to participate in North Karelia's social and health care service restructuring (Siun sote), a national pilot beginning in 2017. The teaching and project work of the education also works to serve the challenges posed by expertise in ageing in a restructuring of welfare services.

Degree

Degree TitleBachelor of Social ServicesExtent210 cr / 3.5 years

Typical Tasks for Graduates

Those who have graduated with a Bachelor of Social Services degree can find work in the public, private or the third sector. The degree gives you skills to work in the fields of, for example, child welfare and family work, mental health and intoxicant abuse, elderly care, rehabilitative work, working with the disabled, or multicultural work. The outlook for Bachelors of Social Services finding employment is good. After graduation you can work for example as a social adviser, a supervisor or leading supervisor in child welfare institutions, in social work among adults, in day-time activities for the mentally disabled, or in housing services. About one-third of Bachelors of Social Services get employment as kindergarten teachers. The degree gives students skills to work as immediate superiors and in development duties.

Implementation of Studies

Bachelor of Social Services studies are offered every year as two versions: contact teaching and multi-form learning. The studies have a strong connection to work. Each academic year, both the theoretical studies and the practical training will give you experience in how to act in various environments in the social field. Connections to work are based on long-term cooperation with working communities and networks of the area and on the key partnership agreements concluded. Research and development activity with working life is connected especially to the theme of the third academic year: Research-minded Development in the Social Field. During the studies, you will practise multi-professional cooperation with students of nursing, public health nursing and physiotherapy in the learning and service environment Voimala. The goal is that all students in social services and health care complete at least one practical training period in the Voimala environment. The studies are implemented in a variety of ways, for example in virtual and simulated learning environments. Part of your studies will consist of research and development projects that are implemented together with different organizations and companies. You have excellent possibilities in international activities through English language courses, projects, student exchange and practical training.



Structure and Content of Studies

The degree programme contains common core and complementary studies enhancing your key and specialised competences. The extent of basic studies is 180 cr and that of complementary studies 30 cr. The basic studies contain practical (47 cr) training and a thesis (15 cr). The thesis process is divided into three 5-credit courses. Each course can be completed at different stages of studies provided that the thesis plan has been accepted before the implementation phase.

Your degree gives you the qualifications to work as a kindergarten teacher if you take the required 60 credits of early childhood education and social pedagogy studies (Act on Qualification Requirements for Social Welfare Professionals L272/2005 and the Decree 608/2005 that complements it).

The Bachelor of Social Services studies are based on behavioural sciences and sociology and they are observed from a socio-pedagogical knowledge base as well as from practical activities. Socio-pedagogical activity means, for example, supporting and educating the client, giving motivation and promoting social changes. You work with individuals, groups and communities. The pedagogic starting point of your studies is a socio-constructive conception of learning that is based on communal learning and communal formation of knowledge. The starting point of the planning and implementation of the learning process are the methods of experiential and cooperative learning. The curriculum is penetrated by four central learning processes:

- 1. Professional growth: you learn to see, reflect on and evaluate your professional development and professional identity.
- 2. A reflective and developing approach: you learn to observe and inspect your future work, involve clients and develop services in the social field.
- 3. Creative process: you get experiential knowledge from the use of creative methods as a tool for self-expression and self-knowledge and learn to use creative and art-based methods in client work with individuals, groups and communities.
- 4. Client work process: you learn to support the clients' resources and to apply the methods of client work.

The core competence of your studies is built little by little. During the first year, you learn to understand societal connections and the multidisciplinary basis of social welfare work and also the place of a Bachelor of Social Services in the service system of social welfare and health care. During the second year of studies you will learn to understand the process of the socio-pedagogical client work and learn to plan, implement and evaluate target-oriented socio-pedagogical client work in practice. During the third year you will learn to structure how organisations work and how to develop them, and you also get skills to apply the methods of research and development to central societal questions. In the last phase of the studies you show what you have learned and analyse your own professional growth in the form of reflection, a thesis and different seminars.



The complementary studies mostly contain modules of 15 credits. The following modules suit especially well those who study in the Degree Programme in Social Welfare Work. If you want to receive the qualifications to work as a kindergarten teacher, you will need to take the Early Childhood Education Module.

- Child Welfare
- Early Childhood Education
- Developing Competence in Ageing
- e-services in Social Welfare and Healthcare
- Multi-professional Rehabilitation
- Special Know-how in Mental Health and Addiction Care
- Productisation and Innovation
- International Studies 1
- International Studies 2
- Expertise Pertaining to Russia
- Optional language studies (Spanish, Chinese, French, German, Russian)
- Refresher courses in languages (3-6 cr)
- Training programme of Joensuu Sports Academy (3-15 cr)
- Participation in peer tutoring and student union activities (3-15 cr)

If you already work as an entrepreneur or are planning to establish your own business, this can be part of your core and complementary studies, exchange abroad, work practice and thesis in cases which would develop your own business or business idea. You have the chance to get guidance and support in combining your studies with your entrepreneurship or you as an entrepreneur.

The complementary studies are scheduled to take place in the fifth and sixth semesters. Additionally, some complementary studies can be taken during summer months. Participation in Sports Academy training, peer tutoring or student union activities and optional language studies can be spread over several semesters. If the studies mentioned above do not match your professional objectives, you can discuss other alternatives with your teacher tutor or counsellor.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Bachelor of Social Services | 210 cr / 3,5 years



Ethical Competence | Client Work Competence | Competence in Social Service Systems | Critical and Inclusive Societal Competence | Competence in Research-based Development | Internationalisation Competence | Learning Skills | Innovation Competence | Working Community Competence

4 th year	PROFESSIONAL	. ACTIVIT	Y IN THE SOCIAL FIELD
Thesis		15 сг	
Art in the Community		3 сг	
Sociocultural Inspiration		2 сг	
Professional Development 3		1 сг	
Advanced Studies in the Social Field		6 сг	
How to Write a Thesis Report		1 сг	
The Method	s of Thesis Writing	2 сг	

3rd year **RESEARCH-MINDED DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOCIAL FIELD**

English for Social Services 2	2 сг
Civil Society and Participation Leadership and Development	2 сг
in Social Services and Health Care	5 сг
Group Counselling Practice	6 сг
Complementary studies	15 сг

Advanced Practice	15 сг
Complementary Studies	15 сг

2nd year **SOCIO-PEDAGOGICAL CLIENT WORK**

Resource-based Client Work	7 сг	Research-based Thesis Methods	2 сг
Swedish for Social Services 2	2 ор	Practice-based Thesis Methods	2 сг
Creative Methods in		Application of Research and	
Socio-pedagogical Client Work 1	2 сг	Development Methods	3 сг
Supporting Communication		Client Work Practice	11 сг
and Rehabilitation	5 cr	Group Guidance	2 сг
Basics of Medication	2 сг	Childhood Education	2 сг
First Aid	1 сг	Creative Methods in	
Client Work Process	5 сг	Socio-pedagogical Client Work 2	2 сг
Individual Client Practice	4 сг	Professional Development 2	2 сг
Finnish Lanquage:		·	
Oral Communication and Literature	2 сг		

SOCIAL WELFARE WORK IN THE SOCIETY

Service System Practice	7 сг	Basics of Client Work	5 сг
Basics of Sociology	3 сг	Basics of Socio-pedagogical Work	3 сг
The Service Systems of		Introduction to Early	
Social Services and Health Care	5 сг	Childhood Education	3 сг
Electronic Services in		Social Politics	3 сг
Social- and Health Care	1 сг	Social Legislation	4 сг
Introduction to Creative Methods	3 сг	Creative Methods in the Social Field	3 сг
Information and Communication		Swedish for Social Services 1	3 сг
Technology	2 сг	The Developing and Learning Human	5 сг
Reporting and Written Communication	2 сг	Social Philosophy and Professional Ethics	3 сг
English for Social Services 1	3 сг		
Professional Development 1	2 сг		

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Competence Requirements

Area of	Description of Competence
Competence	Bachelor of Social Services
Ethical Competence in the Social Field	 is able to work according to the principles of basic and human rights according to social values and the principles of the profession understands the significance of the human concept and values in case work is able to act ethically in situations where values conflict is able to promote equality and equitability is able to stand up for the rights of vulnerable individuals and groups in society
Client Work Competence	 is able to foster professional interaction and cooperative relationships as well as evaluate the needs of clients is able to support the growth and development of individuals and familial relationships and everyday life is able to participate in planning, implementing, and evaluating the service process of clients identifies the risk factors of well-being and knows how to apply preventative work and early intervention can knowingly target and resourcefully become involved with subsidies to guide clients, client groups, and communities is able to apply and evaluate the theoretical work orientations and methods of client work is able to act in a sensitive manner in regards to culture and diversity and promotes intercultural dialogue is able to provide guidance in different electronic environments and guide customers using electronic services is able to evaluate client work and can document it in a customer oriented manner
Competence in Service Systems of the Social Field	 is able to analyse the local and global challenges of well-being and sustainable development and their impact of social and health care knows the legal basis of the social field and is able to apply the central legislation manages the ways of organizing and producing social and health care, education and training services, and can guide and supervise them knows the social security and welfare systems in the public, private, and third sectors and can manage social security can be an active social expert and justify a client's interest in multi-professional and multi-sectoral cooperation



Critical and	- is capable of professional, critical reflection
Inclusive Societal	- is able to analyse inequalities and disadvantages and furthermore well-being
Competence	structures and processes that prevent exclusion
	- is able to defend the interests of the vulnerable and voiceless and to inform
	political decision makers and other responsible actors of prohibitive
	situations in life
	- knows the public administration decision-making system and knows how to
	act according to its principles
	- is able to promote citizens' participation and the opportunities to participate
	and engage in advocacy with different actors
Competence in	- is capable of innovative problem solving and networking in the development
Research-based	of the social sector
Development and	- is able to develop partner based approaches to client work methods, work
Innovation	practices and service processes
	- knows how to plan, implement, evaluate, and manage social welfare
	development projects
	- is able to apply research and development methods and develop operational
	practices
	- can produce and evaluate information in order to promote well-being
	- is able to act in accordance with the ethical principles of research and
	development
Learning Skills	- is able to assess and develop one's competences and learning methods
	- is able to search for, process and analyse information critically
	- can assume responsibility for team learning and knowledge sharing
Work	- is able to work cooperatively in a multidisciplinary team and work
Community,	community and in international environments
Leadership and	- is able to act as a leader in a work community
Entrepreneurship	 knows the core labour laws and promotes occupational safety
Competences	- is able to direct oneself and is able to promote the well-being of self and
	others at work
	- is able to evaluate the quality, results, and impacts of work