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TO THE ISSUE OF THEORETICAL TRAINING OF SOCIAL WORK BACHELORS IN GREAT BRITAIN

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Денні програми підготовки бакалаврів соціальної роботи є на сьогодні 3-річними в Англії, Північній Ірландії та Уельсі та 4-річними – в Шотландії. На 1-му році навчання на ступінь бакалавра соціальної роботи студенти вивчають історичний та міжнародний контексти соціальної роботи, тренують навички та вміння роботи з різними категоріями клієнтів та піклувальників. На 2-му році навчання студентам пропонують теми до вивчення, що стосуються анти-опресивної та анти-

расистської практики, соціальної роботи в організаціях різного типу, соціальної роботи з дітьми та сім'ями, соціальної роботи з дорослими, розуміння психічних хвороб, теорії особистості, процесу надання допомоги тощо. На 3-му році навчання студентам пропонують курси, що пов'язують теорію з практикою соціальної роботи. Особливо важливим вважається курс "Робота з різними типами клієнтів".

Ключові слова: бакалавр соціальної роботи, соціальний

працівник, навчальний план.

Social work is well developed in many western countries: the USA, Great Britain, Belgium and others. Nowadays educational services in Great Britain are provided by more than 160 universities and colleges [1], of those at least 70 educational establishments train social work specialists.

The problem of social workers training in Great Britain has been the subject of researches of foreign scientists (M.Barker, J.Lishman, B.Munday, S.Shardlow, E.Youngusband) and Ukrainian scientists (A.Kapska, I.Kozubovska, R.Kozubovsky, L.Mischyk, V.Polischuk, Y.Holostova, S.Shpenyk).

The purpose of this article is to consider the today's specificity of theoretical training of Social Work full-time bachelors in the Great Britain.

The structure of undergraduates training in Great Britain until 2001 has been determined by the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work, established in 1983. It was ceased on October 1, 2001. After the performed reform in early 2000 in Great Britain, its responsibilities were divided between the national councils for the provision of social services in correspondent regions. Thus were created: General Social Care Council in England, Care Council for Wales in Wales, Scottish Social Services Council in Scotland, Northern Ireland Social Care Council [2].

A rather interesting structure of training the social work professionals operates in Great Britain at present. It is represented by the multilevel system. Training of social workers is organized and provided by universities or colleges in collaboration with different types of social agencies. They assume overall responsibility for the selection of students, their teaching and assessment, also support their up to date training.

Daytime programmes of Social Work bachelors training are currently 3-year in England, Northern Ireland and Wales, and 4-year – in Scotland. Bachelor programmes introduce students to the theory, policy and practice of social work. After completing the programme students are to understand the theoretical foundations of social work, its relationship with psychology and sociology, the legal context of social work, social policy, public provision for the care of children and adults, mental health etc.

The programme pays much attention to teaching the skills of work with individuals, families, groups, collaboration with other professionals. Teaching methods provide the ability to: obtain fundamental knowledge on social work, develop analytical skills, make presentations and work in a team, improve communication skills.

1-year future Social Work bachelors study the historical and international context of social work, train skills and abilities to work with different groups of clients and carers.

1st and 2nd year students study in the form of lectures and practical classes. Students rarely prepare speeches at seminars, they are mainly given exercises for self-control. The process of their implementation and results are then discussed in groups.

In the 2nd year of study students are offered subject concerning anti-oppressive and anti-racist practice, social work in organizations of various types, social work with children and families, social work with adults, understanding mental illness, personality theory, the process of helping others.

For the 2nd year only the best students are selected who show a strong interest in social work and success in studying. Selection is based on interviews with the student and on the student questionnaire, which includes written work on the topic: "Why do I wish to study social work?".

In the interview, in addition to the student two people are involved: a representative from the university and a social worker who is invited from any social agency. Each of them prepares the report on the student giving scores (scale of assessment is chosen by arrangement). If the scores differ, those two people will discuss the following issues: 1) representative from the university – how will the student cope with study at university, and 2) a social worker from the agency – how will the student cope with the tasks on practice in a particular agency or work with certain types of clients.

3rd year students are offered training courses on linking theory and practice of social work. Of particular importance is considered to be the course "Working with Service Users". Classes are offered in the following forms: experimental workshops, writing the group projects, role play and simulation.

Seminars are held in the form of case study, which helps to clarify their role and tasks in a particular case, to determine the cause, purpose, procedure of intervention. If the cases are well chosen, using vivid life examples, the space opens for deep emotions and experiences. They help to integrate theory and practice because students have to assess the situation and take proper decision to intervene. Seminars can also take the form of scenarios where specific cases are given in the form of video, the students form their own recommendations on how to interfere by law.

Students – future bachelors to get a diploma need to gain 120 credits for each year of study. With each topic students listen 2 lectures and have 1 practical session (see tables 1, 2, 3, 4).

Table 1.

Programme of training the Social Work bachelors at the University of East Anglia, England [3]

Year of study	MODULE/SUBJECT	CREDITS
1	Early Childhood Development and Child Observation. This module is the introduction to the age and developmental psychology. It explores the world of children from the early age, focusing on the development of perception, motor and cognitive skills, emotions, gender socialization, affection and attachment. Lectures are focused on the development of students' opportunities to critically evaluate different theories of development, with an emphasis on understanding the use of different research methods in developmental psychology. Seminars provide an opportunity to explore the practical application of the theory.	40
	Introduction to Social Sciences for Social Work. This module provides an opportunity to understand, evaluate and compare the problems of psychology and sociology, which are the basis of social work.	40
	Preparing to Practice – 1 day per week. Students are introduced to the historical, political and social context in which social work is practiced. Central to the module are: client experience, the concept of professional identity, an understanding of the social significance of social work values, a place of reflection and personal development.	40
2	Human Growth and Behaviour. This module introduces the psychological models that offer an insight into the development of personality changes throughout the life cycle, as well as the possibilities of these models use in practice.	20
	Professional Theory and Practice I. The module develops skills and understanding of social work practice as a basis for the first placement. Assessment of modules takes place through the role play (with video recording), case study and essays.	20
	Professional Theory and Practice II. The module develops more specific and in-depth skills in practice compared with the discipline "Professional Theory and Practice I". It includes 80-day assessed placement and enables to integrate learning with practice for the further study of social theory and methods.	30
	Social Work and Society. Module develops the understanding of nature and functions of social work in a community, particularly in relation to other social services.	20

	Social Work Law. This module introduces the basic legal concepts, skills that allow to use the law of confidence in social work practice. Legislation is considered in details in three areas: child care, mental health and rights of communities. Students pass written exam.	30
3	Professional Development. This module develops skills in applying the theory to practice and allows students to complete their placement in accordance with requirements set out in the National Occupational Standards for Social Work [4; 5; 6; 7]. The placement lasts for 120 days, students pass the credit test.	40
	Working with Service Users. Students are to select at least 2 of the following courses for this module: social work with children and families, social work with mentally ill people, social work with the elderly, social work with adults and children with disabilities. The knowledge of the module is assessed through an exam where students have to comment on two specific case study from different areas.	40
	Dissertation. Students use a material gained during placement, conduct a critical review of scientific literature. The dissertation allows students to expand their knowledge and understanding of the theory and practice of social work. Students also come out with a report under the topic of the thesis.	40

Table 2

Programme of training the Social Work bachelors at the University of Ulster, Northern Ireland [8]

Year of study	MODULE/SUBJECT
1	Introduction to Social Work Practice
	Introduction to Service User Groups I
	Oppressed Groups
	Theories & Methods (A) Group Work
	Introduction to Social Enquiry and Return to Study Skills
	An Introduction to Lifespan Psychology
	Introduction to Service User Groups II
	Preparation for Practice
	Theories & Methods (B) Individual Methods
2	Social Work Law 1
	Anti-Oppressive Practice
	Assessment & Risk Assessment in Practice Settings
	Self Evaluation Report 1; Practice Analysis & Evaluation
3	Social Work Law II
	Evidence-Based Social Work Practice
	Service User Groups & Settings
	Self Evaluation Report 1; Practice Analysis & Evaluation
	Dissertation

Table 3

Programme of training the Social Work bachelors at the University of Glamorgan, Wels [9]

Year of study	MODULE/SUBJECT
1	Social Work Processes
	Social Science Applied to Social Work
	Foundations for Practice
	Law and Social Policy
	Communication Skills
	Health and Social Care Organisations
2	Law in Social Work
	Welfare Policy and Management of Resources
	Integrating Research
3	Assessing and Approaches to Solving Social Problems
	Competence in Social Work Practice
	Individuals, Families and Communities
	Integrating Research with Social Work and Social Care Practice
	Interprofessional and Multi-agency Working
Dissertation	

The specificity of training the social work specialists in Scotland is that the bachelor programme is a 4-year programme as opposed to 3 year in England, Northern Ireland and Wales (see table 4).

Table 4

Programme of training the Social Work bachelors at the University of Sterling, Scotland [10]

Year of study	MODULE/SUBJECT
1	Social Differentiation
	Social Problems
	Active Learning in the Community
	2 selective modules

2	Understanding Social Policy
	Introduction to Social Work
	Theory and Practice of Social Work
	Social Work Law & Policy
	Human Development and Family Contexts
3	Theory and Practice of Social Work: Health, Illness & Disability
	Theory and Practice of Social Work: Crime, Welfare and Justice
	Theory and Practice of SW: Children, Families and Society
4	Dissertation

As part of the bachelor programme students are taught the in-depth understanding of issues related to children and adolescents, the emphasis is on assessment and intervention in the lives of children and adolescents "at risk" in a variety of situations, understanding the impact of social, cultural and political issues for young people. Theoretical training programme is composed of modules and is assessed through the written works, projects, exams and individual case study, writing a dissertation.

Teaching students is also assessed through portfolio. The concept of "portfolio" has been developed for students to provide evidence of their competence [11], which is considered to be a collection of all written works of a student, the reports of tutors and teachers of practice including.

Placement is central for the bachelors and it comprises 50% of the course. 1-year placement lasts for 20 days, 2nd – 80, 3d – 100. Students work with at least two different groups of social work clients. The specificity of practical training of Social Work bachelors at a current stage will become the subject of our further research studies.

The conducted analysis of educational programmes and teaching plans on social work has given the following specificity – bachelor courses cover the issues of: the context of modern social work, the provision of social services to various categories of clients, social legislation, theories and methods of social work etc.

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Очные программы подготовки бакалавров социальной работы являются на сегодня 3-летними в Англии, Северной Ирландии и Уэльсе, также 4-летними – в Шотландии. На 1-м году обучения студенты изучают исторический и международный контексты социальной работы, тренируют навыки и умения работы с различными категориями клиентов и попечителей. На 2-м году обучения студентам предлагают темы для изучения, касающиеся анти-опрессивной и анти-расистской практики, социальной работы в организациях различного типа, социальной работы с детьми и семьями, социальной работы со взрослыми, понимание психических болезней, теории личности, процесса оказания помощи и т.д. На 3-м году обучения студентам предлагают курсы связывающие теорию с практикой социальной работы. Особенно важным считается курс "Работа с различными типами клиентов".

Ключевые слова: бакалавр социальной работы, социальный работник, учебный план.

The author of the article has considered the specificity of daytime social work bachelors training on the theoreticla level in Great Britain. The daytime programme for bachelor of Social Work training is currently a 3d year programme in England, Northern Ireland and Wales, and 4-year programme – in Scotland. Being the 1st year students future bachelors study the historical and international context of social work, skills of working with different groups of clients and careres. In the 2nd year of study students are offered to study the anti-oppressive and anti-racist practice of social work in organizations of various types, social work with children and families, social work with adults, understanding mental illness, personality theory, the process of helping others etc. In the 3d year the training courses offer to students the linking theory and practice of social work. The course "Social Work with different types of clients" is considered to be of particular importance. Students – future bachelors to get a diploma need to gain 120 credits for each year of study. Practice for the bachelor-to-be is considered to be central and comprises 50% of the course. 1st year students have 20 practice days, 2nd – 80, 3d – 100. Students work with at least two different groups of social services clients.

Key words: bachelor of social work, social worker, curriculum.