

Master's Degree in Social Work: Counselling (MSW-C)



Welcome to Learnwise!

Hi!

We are thrilled that you have decided to join us.

At Learnwise, we believe that everyone has a right to live a life of dignity and quality. We strive to provide quality learning solutions to anyone who wishes to pursue higher education regardless of their previous academic track record. If you're looking for an environment that not only supports education but also helps you gear towards your career goals, you are at the right place!

With our emphasis on job-readiness training and up-skilling, we not only help you get a degree but also provide you with unparalleled exposure into the field and help you acquire field-relevant skill-sets. Through-out your journey with us, our qualified Academic Mentors and dedicated Career Coaches ensure that all your individual learning and career needs are taken care of. When we promise you personalized interventions, we mean nothing short of expert companionship and scaffolding that anyone could ask for.

We look forward to serving you!

Warm regards,

Muhammed A.

Founder, Learnwise

About us

We are a team of passionate individuals educated from premier institutes across India, who feel grateful for the educational and career opportunities we've got and earnestly wish to create a platform that opens up such possibilities to anyone, regardless of their socio-cultural backgrounds and previous academic track records!

Learnwise is an Online Platform for Higher Education, that provides personalized learning support for pursuing UG and PG degrees from reputed universities through a consistent Mentorship program, all through a mobile application. Alongside learning, the program also takes care of the individuals' career needs through individually tailored Career Coaching, Job-Readiness Training and industry relevant add-on Up-Skilling programs.



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About IGNOU

For the present program, we have chosen IGNOU (Indira Gandhi National Open University) as the Institute we enroll our students with for obtaining their degrees. Along with registration with our learning program, the student enrolls with IGNOU as anyone would normally do. The difference here being that Learnwise will be supporting the student's learning whilst pursuing their degree from IGNOU.

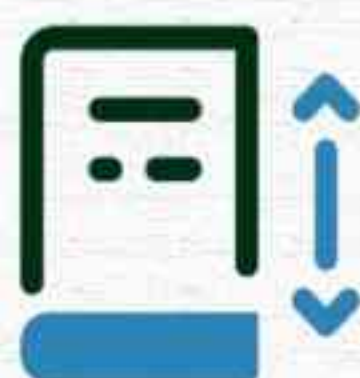
The Indira Gandhi National Open University is the world's largest University imparting education through open and distance mode. Established in 1985, IGNOU is an internationally awarded Central University which aims to provide quality higher education opportunities to all segments of the society. It is a University that constantly strives to raise the standards of distance education and actively researches best practices in open education. Currently, it has 21 schools of studies, 67 regional centers, 3500 study centres, 12 overseas study centers, and offers 200+ programs, ranging from certificate courses, diplomas, bachelors, masters to doctoral programs.



The Learnwise Edge



Recorded
Live Lectures



Value
Added Notes



Objective
Tests



Topic-wise
Assignments



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& Assistance



Performance
Tracking &
Personalized
Interventions



Provisions to
Connect with
Batchmates



Career
Assessment
& Guidance
Service



Upskilling
Programs



Job-Readiness
Training

Master's Degree in Social Work: Counselling (MSW-C)

Affiliated to: IGNOU

Program Code: MSW-C

Minimum age: No bar

Maximum age: No bar

Eligibility: Bachelor's Degree or a higher degree from a recognized University.

Course Duration: 2

Session starts: January & July of every year

The School of Social Work (SOSW) at IGNOU was established in 2007 with the objective of providing quality education in the fields of social work, HIV/AIDS, counselling, and family studies. The school offers a range of academic programmes that lead to the award of Certificates, Diplomas, and Degrees in these areas.

The vision of SOSW is to deliver inclusive and high-quality education in social work not just across India but also beyond its borders. The school is committed to expanding access to social work education, especially for those in remote and underserved areas.

The mission of SOSW is centered on providing quality education through open and distance learning (ODL). It adopts multi-pronged strategies and services to ensure that education reaches the unreached, while emphasizing the core values and ethics of social work. This mission supports the enhancement of services within the social welfare sectors.

Significantly, the SOSW at IGNOU holds the distinction of being the first School of Social Work in India to offer social work programmes through both the ODL mode and the conventional system via the convergence scheme. It is also the first in the country to extend social work education to all States and Union Territories, making it a pioneer in democratizing access to this important field of study.

The School of Social Work (SOSW) at IGNOU has indigenously developed high-quality Self-Instructional Materials (SIM) to support its learners. It adopts a multi-media approach for delivering social work education and training, utilizing IGNOU's own TV and Radio channels available in both English and Hindi. This ensures that learning is accessible and engaging, catering to a wide audience across linguistic backgrounds.

The school also offers programmes specifically designed for in-service candidates, making it easier for working professionals to enhance their qualifications. Furthermore, it involves a large number of field practitioners to provide supervision and mentoring during practical training, thereby strengthening the fieldwork component of social work education.

At present, SOSW offers twelve academic programmes:

- Certificate in Social Work and Criminal Justice System (CSWCJS)
- Certificate in HIV and Family Education (CAFÉ)
- Diploma in HIV and Family Education (DAFE)
- Bachelor in Social Work (BSW)
- Post Graduate Diploma in Social Work among Tribals (PGDSWT)
- Master in Social Work (MSW – Generic)
- Master in Social Work – Counselling (MSW-C)

These programmes are designed to address various aspects of social work practice and theory, offering learners a robust and flexible education pathway in the field.

SALIENT FEATURES OF MSW(C) PROGRAMME

The Master of Social Work (MSW) programme offered by the School of Social Work (SOSW) at IGNOU is unique and innovative when compared with MSW programmes offered by other Indian universities. It stands out due to its inclusive admission policy, learner-friendly structure, and its strong emphasis on practice-based learning.

One of the most distinctive features is the flexible eligibility criteria—even students with 10+2/BPP qualifications and a 3-year graduation are eligible to apply. The programme is designed to accommodate diverse learners, enabling them to study at their own pace and convenience over a duration of 2 to 5 years, without the requirement of attending regular classroom sessions.

To support self-paced learning, indigenously developed self-instructional print materials are provided. These are supplemented with audio and video programmes, forming a comprehensive multi-media package that enriches the learning experience. This combination of resources allows students from varied backgrounds and locations to access quality education in social work.

A key strength of the programme lies in its fieldwork component. Every student enrolled in the MSW: Counselling programme is placed under the supervision of a professionally qualified social worker, typically someone holding an MSW or M.A. in Social Work, to ensure robust practical training and mentorship.

MSW-C Programme Structure

The Master's Degree Programme in Social Work (MSW) at IGNOU is structured around the credit system, which allows for flexible, self-paced learning. In this system, one credit is equivalent to 30 hours of study, which includes all types of learning activities such as reading, viewing audio-video materials, attending counselling sessions, participating in teleconferences, and completing assignments. Accordingly:

- A 4-credit course requires approximately 120 hours of study,
- A 6-credit course involves about 180 hours, and
- A 10-credit course demands 300 hours of study engagement.

To earn the MSW degree, students must complete a total of 72 credits, which can be spread over a minimum of 2 years and a maximum of 5 years, offering maximum flexibility to accommodate the diverse needs and schedules of learners.

The MSW programme comprises two major components:

Theory Courses – 40 Credits

These include foundational and advanced courses covering various areas of social work practice and specialization in counselling.

Field Work – 32 Credits

This hands-on component ensures students gain practical exposure under the supervision of qualified social work professionals, translating theoretical knowledge into real-world practice.

Together, these components provide a balanced, comprehensive education in social work, enabling students to develop both intellectual understanding and field-level competence.

Programme Details:

Course Code	Title of the Course	Credits
I Year		
MSW 1	Origin and Development of Social Work	4
MSW 2	Professional Social Work: Indian Perspectives	4
MSW 5	Social Work Practicum and Supervision	4
MSW 8	Social Group Work: Working with Groups	4
MSW 9	Community Organisation Management for Community Development	4
MSWL46	Social Work Practicum-I	8
MSWL47	Block Placement	8
II Year		
MSW 12	Introduction to Life Characteristics and Challenges	4
MSW 13	Introduction to Psychological Basis of Counselling	4
MSW 14	Relevance of Social Case Work in Counselling	4
MSW 15	Basics of Counselling	4
MSW 16	Fields of Counselling	4
MSWL48	Social Work Practicum-II	8
MSWL49	Internship	8
Total Credits		72

Field Work Components in MSW: Counselling Programme

The Field Work Practicum forms the third and a crucial component of the MSW: Counselling programme at IGNOU. To ensure a structured and practical learning experience, the University has designed two Field Work Journals, one each for the first and second year of the programme.

Every student is required to successfully complete 16 credits of Field Work Practicum each year, totaling 32 credits over the two-year programme. This includes concurrent field visits and a block placement, both of which must be carried out under the supervision of a professionally qualified Social Worker with a post-graduate degree (MSW or M.A. in Social Work).

It is mandatory that your field work supervisor holds a formal post-graduate qualification in social work. The Study Centre Coordinator will assist in assigning an approved guide, and students are advised to verify the supervisor's qualifications before beginning their practicum.

Importantly, completion of Field Work Practicum in the first year is a prerequisite for beginning the field work in the second year.



Learn. Up-Skill. Flourish.