

SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION IN SPAIN

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DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

- **1932 The first school of social work was established in Barcelona, as a subsidiary of the Belgium Catholic Social Work School.**
- **1939 these School will depend first of Catholic Action and, after the bishopric.**
- **Religion had influence on the subsequent history of Spanish social work.**
- **Teaching was impregnated with the ideas of National Catholicism**
- **From 1932 to 1960 we could call the initiation of Social Work in Spain.**

DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

- During the sixties expansion of social work schools.
- Official recognition of the studies in 1964, first official curriculum
- The Spanish Constitution of 1978 brought again the democracy and with it very important changes in the social policy, inspired from then in the European social model of welfare state.
- 1983 social work education arrived at the universities with significant improvements of the curricula. Other meaning factor was the official recognition of Professional Association of Social Workers in 1982

The Bologna process

- Three cycles: Bachelor Degree, Master Degree and PhD programs. Also the reform involved a change in teaching methodologies that link theory and practice as the central focus of university education.

- The Board of Directors of Departments and Schools of Social Work, representing all universities that offer degrees in Social Work approved a document ***Criteria for designing curriculum for bachelor degree in social work***

Degree Structure (240 ECTS)

Subjects
Basics (60 ECTS)

Subjects Compulsory
(144 ECTS)

Subjects
Optativs (36 ECTS)

Subjects
(90 ECTS)

(Ofert: 72 ECTS)

Practicum & Supervision
(42 ECTS)

Thesis Bach.
(12 ECTS)

4 years – 8 semester

Practicum & Supervision

The Social Work Practicum takes place in two complementary and coordinated scenarios: in an institution or social welfare organization, *field placement* and in the University with a *supervision*. In both scenarios the learning process provides a common content planned.

The Practicum consists of 42 credits (36 assigned to the practice field + 6 credits allocated to the educational supervision).

It is required a professional social work tutor in the practice field and a teacher as a supervisor in the university

SOME FIGURES

At present social work professionals are trained in **33** universities in different regions of the country and the total number of students are around **5,500 – 6,000**.

The number of Professional Association of social workers in Spain is 36 with different representative levels: local and regional. Of a total of approximately 47,000 professionals throughout the Spanish State by the end of 2008 roughly 60% (28,374)

Cultural diversity in Spain.

The number of immigrants in Spain has grown to become over 11% of the population. In big cities this number increases dramatically. The pressure of migration has created new demands and social challenges that require answers. Social work in the field of immigration is relatively new. Social interventions are made from the local government level and there are a large number of NGOs and immigrant associations.

Spain habitants 2008: 46.157.822

Year	immigrants
1961	148.000
1970	200.000
1999	740.000
2000	923.329
2005	3.730.932
2006	4.144.166
2008	5.220.600

Ethnic minorities

Spain has an ethnic minority, the Roma population or gypsy population, which has lived with native Spanish for centuries.

Roma population has always been discriminated , but in the last twenty years there have been major antidiscrimination actions, from government and social organizations of Gypsies and social work intervention has been implemented.