

Department of Social Work presents

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON

STRUCTURAL SOCIAL WORK



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Fr Riji P Kurian

Principal, St Berchmans College



SESSION 1

Dr. Filipe Durate

Assistant Professor,
School of Social Work,
University of Windsor, Ontario,
Canada



SESSION 3

Pradeep Jare

Assistant Professor,
CSRD-ISWR, (Centre for Studies
in Rural Development - Institute
of Social Work and Research),
Station Road, Ahmednagar,



SESSION 4

Baiju P. Vareed

Assistant Professor,
School of Social Work,
MacEwan University in Edmonton,
Alberta, Canada



SESSION 2

Dr. Aneesh T V

Assistant Professor (Adhoc),
Department of Social Work,
Aditi Mahavidyalaya,
University of Delhi



SESSION 4

Ajesh Parackal

Assistant Professor,
Marian College,
Kuttikkanam.
Idukki, Kottayam

22 & 23 NOVEMBER 2021

REGISTER NOW



Day 1

Session 1 - Time 8.00 – 9. 30 AM. (IST)

Topic: Understanding Theory and Practice of Structural Social Work

Dr. Filipe Durate, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada

Session 2 - Time 9.30 – 11.00 AM (IST)

Topic: Understanding Structural Social Work in Indian Context

Dr. Aneesh T.V., Assistant Professor (Adhoc), Department of Social Work, Aditi Mahavidyalaya, University of Delhi

Day 2

Session 3 - Time 8.00 – 9. 30 AM (IST)

Topic: Developing Practice Framework for Structural Social Work in Indian context

Pradeep Jare, Assistant Professor, CSRD-ISWR, (Centre for Studies in Rural Development - Institute of Social Work and Research), Station Road, Ahmednagar,

Session 4 - Time 9.30 – 11.00 AM

Topic: Practicing Structural Social Work in Indian Context

Ajesh Parackal, Assistant Professor, Marian College, Kuttikkanam.

Baiju P. Vareed, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, MacEwan University in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

About Structural Social Work

Structural social work is one of the social work practice methods, among progressive and radical social work approaches developed in the end of last century. Structural social work suggests that social problems are not caused by deficits in communication between individuals, but people suffer from social, economic, and psychological problems of institutional structures. It is not the individual's failure to adjust to the systems, but the oppressive structures in the society keep many people powerless, and unable to access resources for dignified life.

Conventional social work operates within existing social institutions to assist individuals to adjust and adapt to the status quo. In contrast, critical social work maintains that existing social institutions cannot adequately meet human needs and instead works towards fundamental structural transformation (Mullaly, 2007). Structural social work follows Marxist perspective and seeks to dismantle colonialist, patriarchal and capitalist domination, and focuses on contributing to a welfare and egalitarian state (Abramovitz, 2008). Structural social work demystifies notion of power based on social identities and seeks to minimize effect of power in relationships. The structural approach in social work seeks for alternatives in the existing system and proposes changes in societal structures, which requires longer time than many of the clinical approaches followed in social work.

Structural social work in Indian context requires special attention as many of the struggles Indian society go through are the direct results of social, economic, legal, religious, class and caste structures. Though they vary between states and within states and communities, the larger structural arches are the same. George (2005) argues that, despite the criticism of structural social work as idealistic theory, field experiences from social work agencies in India demonstrate that structural social work be practice but is also necessary for transformational change. This workshop hopes to share theoretical understanding and practice framework for such progressive change for social workers.

About St Berchmans College

St Berchmans College is the first higher education institution of the Archdiocese of Changanacherry. This institution was founded in 1922 by Venerable Mar Thomas Kurialacherry, Bishop of Changanassery diocese. It was started, with the noble aim of the Universal Catholic Church, to mould young men and women who will strive for excellence in every walks of life and human service. The College is recognized under section 2 (f) and 12 (B) of the UGC Act 1956. The College was first accredited with 'Five Star' in 1999 and reaccredited with 'A+' in 2006. In the third cycle of accreditation in 2012, the college was again graded at A. In 2017, the college was again reaccredited with 'A' grade. The University Grants Commission (UGC) and Government of Kerala granted autonomy to this college in the year 2014. In 1996 and 1997, it won the coveted "R Shan-kar Award" for the Best College in the State, instituted by the Government of Kerala. In 2004, the UGC identified the College under its "College with Potential for Excellence" scheme. The National Commission for Minority Educational Institution, New Delhi has granted minority status to the college in 2010. All the Science Departments are supported by the FIST of DST, Government of India. It has been ranked among the top 100 Indian colleges by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), MHRD, Government of India since 2018.

About Department of Social Work

The department of Social Work was established in 2014 with a vision of crafting professional social workers who are dedicated to the service of their fellow human beings and achieve excellence in their walks of life, through which the mission of St Berchmans College becomes more visibly accomplished. The department offers a 2 year full-time Master of Social Work (MSW) Programme with two specialisations viz. Community Development and Medical and Psychiatric Social Work. Our MSW aims to educate students for advanced social work practice and leadership roles. The department is instrumental in organising need-based, timely and relevant extension programmes ever since its inception by involving its faculty members and students. The involvement of students in these activities provides them with maximum opportunities to practice social work in a closely supervised environment in their student life itself.