



School of Professional Studies

Netaji Subhas Open University

(Established by WB Act (XIX) of 1997, Recognized by UGC)

Accredited by NAAC with grade "A"

Guidelines for Dissertation (Paper-15) for MSW Part-II (old syllabus) **2022-23 session**

Dept. of Social Work under the aegis of School of Professional Studies has revised the guideline for conducting / writing Dissertation (Paper 15) for learners of **MSW Part II**.

Social Work is a profession as well as an academic discipline, which aims to enhance the social functioning of the Individual/Groups and Communities, by the application of some very scientifically developed methods. The discipline of Social Work is committed to work in the different levels Micro, Mezzo as well as Macro level, i.e. it works directly with the individuals and small group at the same time it works with large communities, and engages itself with in advocacy, networking as well as policy formulation.

According to the International Federation of Social Work (IFSW), 2014 "Social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people. Principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to social work. Underpinned by theories of social work, social sciences, humanities and indigenous knowledge, social work engages people and structures to address life challenges and enhance wellbeing".

Before going any further we must have to realise the fact that, human beings often fall easy prey to these social problems, from which they cannot come out of their own. Thus we first have to understand, why do people suffer from these problems, how does these problems arise, who are responsible for creating these problems, to what extent do these problem exist in our societies, how do we perceive such problems and how can we put an end to these problems. It is the duty of the Social Workers to answer these questions, and this can be done by understanding some theories and perspectives of Social Work which will help us to go deep into the matter and frame our views in this connection These theories help us to know why certain things happened and what may be its consequences in the future. Social Work Discipline, is to a great extent influenced by Sociology and Psychology. Thus most of the theories are borrowed from some allied disciplines while some theories are developed keeping in mind the core indigenous perspectives of Social Work also.

While understanding these social situations we may consider the following Theories which may help us to carry out our investigations

❖ Theories for Social Work (Borrowed from other discipline)

- Theories of Personality
- Learning Theory
- Behavioural theory
- Cognitive theory
- Theory of Social Disorganization
- Theory of Social Stratification
- Social Control Theories
- Theories of Social Deviances

- Anomie Theory
- Critical Theory
- Conflict Theory
- Social Choice Theory
- Differential Association Theory
- Labelling Theory
- Compensation Theory
- Feminist Theory
- Post Modern

❖ **Theory Theories of Social Work (Indigenous Theories)**

- Ecosystem Perspectives
- Strength Perspectives
- Anti-oppressive Theory
- Empowerment/Advocacy Theory/Model
- Crisis Intervention Theory
- Family life cycle theory

Social Work Research Methodologies-

Social Work must have its own indigenous methodologies to investigate cause and effects of the social problems. This is a discipline which explores, analyse, describes and understand the various social relationships and their impact on the lives of the human beings. Therefore, Social Work may adopt both Positivist as well as Heuristic epistemologies for carrying out its investigations. Positivist approach will help us to carry out an evidence-based Research, and the information thus gathered will be helpful in chalking out more effective problem solving practices. The Heuristic approach on the other hand helps to understand the problem from the respondent's own perspective and thus gives a rich detail to the problem and increases the scope for inclusion of marginalized segment also. Thus the Researcher must be innovative enough in planning a Research Methodology which would be in accordance with the area selected for carrying out the research.

Format for writing the Dissertation

The learners are expected to remember and incorporate the following points while writing their Dissertation

- ❖ **Section of the Topic-** The topic must be pertaining to Social Work issues or relevant social issues/problems and have enough Scopes for Social Work Intervention/practice.
- ❖ **Title of the Study-** The Title must highlight the Social Work Problem/issue along with the Target Group and Geographical Area where the study would be conducted.

CHAPTER 1

Introduction- A brief prelude about the problem/issue.

Significance of the Problem-

- Genesis of the Problems which should be substantiated with enough statistical data
- Contemporary problems
- Problem in International and National scenario
- Relation of the study with areas/ theories of Social Work

CHAPTER 2

Review of Literature

Review of Literature is a very important part of any Dissertation, as it helps us to understand the topic of research by reviewing the already existing secondary data. Thorough Literature Review enables us to plan our Research Design, frame our Objectives and chalk out Methodologies. As many as contemporary (may be within 10-years) Journals/Research Papers/ articles as possible to be reviewed with proper analysis. Following table may be used to give the analysis of the Literature Review.

Source/Author/Citation	Type of Study	Methodology Adopted	Data Collection Approach	Purpose	Limitation	Result

Based on the thorough Review of Literature, a researcher would be able to figure out the research gaps and thus frame the objectives of study and will find out the scope and need for further studies.

Rationale of the Study

Why the particular topic was selected by the learner must be specified here from the learner's own perspective. In this segment the Researcher would justify why she /he has taken up the given study and how will the study help in near future.

Objective of the study

The Researcher would give an idea about what is to be explored from the study. The Objectives can limit to 4-5 as per the requirement. Should avoid overlapping of the objectives.

CHAPTER 3

Methodology

What would be the relevant or pertinent methodology for your study and why is it important.

Research Approach

Research Approach to be specified as per Qualitative / Quantitative or Eclectic.

Universe and Sample of the study

Define the Universe and Sample. Logic for choosing sampling method and the sample size as per your study.

Research Design

Explain your Research Design as per your study. Whether the research is Explanatory or Exploratory or Descriptive type. Give your justification for choosing a particular Research Design.

Tools of Data Collection-

Chalk out specific data collection tools for Primary and Secondary Methods. Illustrate the process for Data compilation. Ethical Concern (Consent) if any must be taken from the concern stakeholders.

CHAPTER 4

Profile of Respondents-

Statistical analysis or the case studies/oral histories must be given and analyzed as per as the Qualitative/Quantitative or Eclectic Research Design.

CHAPTER 5

Major findings

Results of the data analysis based on the objective of the study must be given here systematically.

CHAPTER-6

Discussion and Conclusion

Summarization and drawing conclusion based on the findings. Your observations and suggestions about the study. Scope for Social work interventions must be given, along with the role of Social Workers, NGOs and Government organization if any.

References and Bibliography

Proper citation/references/bibliography should be given to avoid plagiarism in APA style with latest version.

SUGGESTIVES CONTENTS OF DISSERTATION REPORT (MSW PAPER-15)

- ❖ **Front Page / Cover Page (Should include Title of the Study, Name of the Study Centre with code, Enrollment No. and Roll No.)**
- ❖ **Introduction**
- ❖ **Review of Literature**
- ❖ **Objectives**
- ❖ **Methodology**
- ❖ **Data Analysis**
- ❖ **Major Findings**
- ❖ **Results and Discussions**
- ❖ **Suggestions / Recommendations**
- ❖ **Conclusion**
- ❖ **References / Bibliography**
- ❖ **Annexure (As applicable)**

Workshop Participation Certificate: Workshop Participation Certificate is mandatory to attach with the Dissertation Report ((Paper -15). Without this certificate, the Paper 15 will not be accepted for evaluation.

The learners may contact for their dissertation work with the internal faculties of Social Work through email / tele-phone or any other mode of online communication as preferred.

- ❖ **Sri Kalyan Kr. Sanyal** may supervise the learners from Study Centres under the jurisdiction of *Durgapur Regional Centres*.
- ❖ **Smt Kasturi Sinha Ghosh** may supervise the learners from Study Centres under the jurisdiction of *Kalyani Regional Centres* and remaining study centres under *HQs*.
- ❖ **Sri Monojit Garai** may supervise the learners from Study Centres under the jurisdiction of *Jalpaiguri Regional Centres*.

Attn.: We are preparing a panel of dissertation guides which will be published soon on the website. The students are advised to contact the above faculties or the empanelled guides. One guide may take maximum 10 students for the purpose.

Kindly follow the CHECK LIST:

Kindly strictly follow the guideline for preparing the Dissertation and before final submission.

Do's	Don'ts
The E-Certificate of 'Online Workshop on Dissertation' must be attached with the Dissertation (Report) otherwise dissertation will not be accepted.	Do not copy / photocopy / duplicate dissertation of others, otherwise your reports will not be considered for evaluation.
Should prepare the Report by strictly following the guidelines. Should be neat, clean & easily readable, sequence is correct.	Pages not blurred and not dim; should not change between portrait and landscape.
It should be original report.	Similar title, data, writing in report should be avoided.
Dissertation must be typed either in English or Bengali .	No handwritten / scanned report will be accepted.
The report must be completed within 31/10/2022.	

For academic support you are free to write:

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Please go to the following link to know the list of study centres under the three Regional Centres and the remaining centres come under the Headquarters.

1. Jurisdiction of Kalyani

RC: http://www.wbnsou.ac.in/about_us/regional_centres_kalyani.shtml#active_kalyani

2. Jurisdiction of Durgapur

RC: http://www.wbnsou.ac.in/about_us/regional_centres_durgapur.shtml#active_durgapur

3. Jurisdiction of Jalpaiguri RC:

http://www.wbnsou.ac.in/about_us/regional_centres_jalpaiguri.shtml#active_jalpaiguri

4. Consolidated list of Study Centres

http://www.wbnsou.ac.in/study_centres/20211208_LSC_2021-22.pdf

The learners are advised to be cautious not to fall in any traps of unauthorised persons or not to allure by any illegal and unauthorised persons for preparing dissertation, assignments, and examination related matters in lieu of money.

Students are also advised not to share their Enrolment No., Roll No. Date of Birth etc. on social media like Facebook or WhatsApp or Telegram etc. All the students are requested to maintain their own e-mail ID and registered Mobile No. (As have been recorded in NSOU) till the end of their completion of course.

For updated and authentic source of information kindly visit the following web portals only (www.wbnsou.ac.in, www.lms.nsouict.ac.in and www.nsouict.ac.in).

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