

About the Department

The Department of Social Work at Sambalpur University, Odisha, holds a unique and pioneering position in the state's educational landscape. Established in 2007, it became the first institution in Odisha to offer a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree at the university level, marking a significant milestone in the field of social work education within the region. Over the years, the department has evolved to meet the dynamic demands of society and the needs of its students. Currently, it not only offers the MSW program but also provides a platform for advanced research and scholarship by offering a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree. This expansion signifies the department's commitment to producing highly skilled and knowledgeable social work professionals who can lead efforts to address complex social issues effectively. The Department of Social Work at Sambalpur University offers specialized tracks in Human Resource Development (HRD) and Community Development (CD), recognizing the importance of specialization in tackling specific social challenges. This approach allows students to develop expertise in areas that align with their career aspirations and the unique needs of the communities they serve. Central to the department's mission is its dedication to addressing social issues, promoting well-being, and fostering social justice. This commitment is evident in the wide range of theoretical and field-based activities undertaken by faculty and students. Through rigorous academic coursework and hands-on field experiences, students gain the skills and knowledge necessary to make a positive impact on the lives of individuals, families, groups, and communities. One of the department's notable strengths is its active engagement with the local community in western Odisha. By collaborating with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) departments of nearby industries, the department extends its reach and resources to address the unique challenges and opportunities in the region. This collaborative approach ensures that the education and expertise provided by the department have a direct and meaningful impact on the lives of those living in western Odisha. With its groundbreaking programs, commitment to specialized education, and strong community collaborations, the department plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of social work in Odisha and addressing the multifaceted challenges faced by its people.

Academic Programme

The Department of Social Work at Sambalpur University, Odisha, offers a range of academic programs to prepare students for careers in social work and related fields. These programs are designed to provide a comprehensive education in social work theory, practice, and research.

1. Master of Social Work (MSW)

- This is a two-year postgraduate program that provides students with a solid foundation in social work theory and practice.
- The curriculum includes courses in social work methods, human behaviour and the social environment, research methods, social policy, social work methods and fieldwork/practicum experience.
- Students may have the option to choose specializations or concentrations within the MSW program, such as Human Resource Development (HRD) or Community Development (CD).

2. Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Social Work

- This program is designed for students interested in pursuing advanced research and scholarship in the field of social work.
- PhD students typically conduct original research, contribute to the academic literature in social work, and defend a doctoral dissertation.
- A student with an MSW degree is able to get admitted through an entrance test or NET qualification. After successfully finishing the Ph.D. coursework, the student can register for the Ph.D.



Prof. Sanjukta Das
HOD



Mr. Sumant Kerketta
Co-ordinator



Dr. Rashmi Pramanik
Teacher- in charge
Examination

Faculties



Dr. Madan Biswal, Assistant Professor

- M.A (English), Sambalpur University
- M.A. (Social Work) UGC (JRF), PhD, Sambalpur University.
- Research Area: Migration, Social exclusion/Inclusion, Issues of Children, Gender Studies.



Ms. Prabha Jyothi Kujur, Assistant Professor

- M.A. (Social Work), Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), 1994-1996.
- Experience: Seva Mandir, Udaipur, Rajasthan 1996-2002.St.
- Johns Mary Vianney, Sambalpur 2004-2009.
- National Institute of Social Work and Social Sciences (NISWASS), Bhubaneswar, 2009-2020.



Ms. Lopamudra Bag, Assistant Professor

- M.A (Sociology), Sambalpur University, 2017-19.
- M.Phil (Sociology), Gangadhar Meher University, 2021-22.

Non-Teaching Staff



Mr. Uma Shankar Pradhan, Office Assistant

Guest Faculties

Inviting guest faculties to the Department of Social Work is essential for enriching students' learning experiences, offering diverse perspectives, and connecting academia with real-world practice. These experts bring specialized knowledge, practical insights, and valuable networking opportunities. They inspire students, foster research collaborations, and enhance the department's reputation, contributing significantly to the department's overall academic excellence and relevance in the field of social work.



Prof. D. K Mahalik



Dr. Minaketan Bag



Sri Prayas Dansana



Dr. Mehul Chauhan



Dr. Suresh Ch. Murmu



Sri Chinmaya Ku.Purohit



Sri Gourav Panda



Dr. Smita Panda



Dr. Kulwant Lakra

Publications

- Biswal, M. (2021). Food Insecurity and Temporary Migration of Youth in India. *Mondi Migranti*, 2/2021. DOI: 10.3280/MM2021-002001.
- Biswal, M. (2021). Crisis of Seasonal Migrants in Odisha during COVID-19 Pandemic. *Asian Resonance*, 10(1). ISSN No. 0976-8602, E-ISSN No. 2349-9443.
- Biswal, M. (2020). Vanishing Oral Tradition: 'Kathani' - A folktale in Odisha. *International Research Journal of Human Resources and Social Sciences*, 7(7). ISSN (o): 2349-4085, ISSN (p): 2394-4218.
- Biswal, M. (2020). Access to Quality Education: A Dream for the Children of Seasonal Migrants of Western Odisha, India. *SHODH SANCHAR BULLETIN (International Journal)*, 10(38). ISSN: 2229-3620.
- Biswal, M. (2020). Impact of Seasonal Migration on Children of a Scheduled Caste Community in Western Odisha, India. *EPRA International Journal of Economic and Business Review*, 8(2). E-ISSN: 2347-9671, P-ISSN: 2349-0187.
- Biswal, M. (2020). Political Participation of Women at the Local Level in Odisha. *Researchers World - International Referred Social Sciences Journal*, 11(1). E-ISSN: 2229-4686, P-ISSN: 2231-4172.
- Biswal, M. (2019). The Complexity of Recruitment Pattern, Type of Work, and Decision Making among the Seasonal Migrants of Odisha, India. *Perspectives in Social Work*, XXXIV(2), ISSN 0974-5114.
- Biswal, M. (2019). Contribution of Women to Household Economy in Odisha: A Qualitative Analysis. *Remarking An Analisation (International Journal)*, 3(12, Part-2). P-ISSN NO.: 2394-0344, E-ISSN NO.: 2455-0817.
- Biswal, M. (2019). Decent Lifestyle: A Challenge for the Seasonal Migrants of Western Odisha. *Mahila Pratishtha (International Journal)*, 4(3). ISSN 2454-7891. Impact Factor: 2.2225.
- Biswal, M. (2017). Educational Aspiration and Choice of Occupation among Adolescents in a Village of Sambalpur District of Western Odisha. *Journal for Social Development*, 9(4). ISSN 0975-0142.
- Kerketta, S., & Mahalik, D.K. (2022). Factors Affecting Selection of Marketing Channel for Vegetable Farmers in Sundargarh, District, Society and Culture Development in India, 2:22, pp. 387-397 . <https://doi.org/10.47509/SCDI.2022.v02i02.11> .
- Pramanik, R. (2021). Role of Household Members in Various Weaving Activities: An Analysis from the Bhulia Community of Western Odisha. *Society and Culture Development in India*, 01(01), 01-08.
- Pramanik, R. (2021). Contribution of Gond Children towards Family Economy: An Overview from Madhya Pradesh. *Social Vision*, 08(01), 27-43.
- Pramanik, R. (2019). Occupational Hazards and Risk In Mining Industry of Odisha. *Paripex - Indian Journal of Research*, 08(11), 01-08.

- Pramanik, R. (2019). Play and Indigenous Games Of Children: A Cultural Heritage of Western Odisha, India. *Antropología Experimental*, 19(3), 21-31.
- Pramanik, R. (2019). Documentation and Digitalization for Access to Traditional Medicine Knowledge in Southern Odisha. In M.C. Behera (Ed.), *Shifting Perspectives in Tribal Studies* (pp. 233-250). Springer Nature Singapore Pte Ltd.
- Pramanik, R. (2019). Child Workers: An Ugly Face in the Labour Industry. In Jennifer B. Clark and Sasha Poucki (Eds.), *The SAGE Handbook of Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery* (pp. 453-465). Sage Publications: London.
- Pramanik, R. (2018). Ironing out the Creases: Leprosy Stigma among Dalit Women of Sambalpur City of Western Odisha, India. In R. Pramanik, U. Skoda & L. Guzy (Eds.), *Vulnerability Marginalization and Culture* (pp. 221-236). New Delhi: Concept Publishing Company.
- Pramanik, R. (2018). Shamanistic Beliefs and Practices: Emerging Trends towards a New Horizon. *Remarking an Analisation*, 3(8), 39-44.
- Pramanik, R. (2018). Medicinal Plants in Primary Health Care: A Traditional Knowledge. *Asian Resonance*, 7(3), 123-129.
- Pramanik, R. (2018). Women Working in an Informal Sector: Glimpse from Beedi Workers in Odisha. *International Journal for Social Development*, 6(1), 95-112.
- Pramanik, R. (2017). Living in the Present while Imagining the Future: How School and Its Promises Shape Conceptions of Childhood for Indigenous Tribal Students in India. *Global Studies of Childhood*, 7(3), 255-265.

Facilities in the Department

- Faculty room: 01
- Coordinator Chamber:01
- Classrooms: 03
- Office: 01
- Computer Laborotory:01
- Wash rooms: 02
- Wi-Fi/LAN: Available
- Newspaper & Magazine Section: Available

Activities in the Department

The following activities and initiatives organised by the Department collectively contribute to a well-rounded education that prepares students to make a positive impact on individuals, families, groups, and communities while upholding the values and principles of the social work profession.

Camp-based Fieldwork and Study Tours

- Fieldwork is a core component of social work education, allowing students to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world situations.
- The fortnight Camp-based fieldwork of the Department offers a rich and immersive learning experience that prepares students to excel in various social work roles, equipping them with practical skills, cultural competence, and a deep understanding of the populations they may serve.
- It blends the principles of social work education with experiential learning, promoting the development of competent and compassionate social work professionals.



Agency Placement

- Agency placement is a fundamental component of social work education and professional practice. It refers to the process by which social work students or professionals are assigned to work within specific agencies, organizations, or institutions to gain practical experience, apply theoretical knowledge, and develop essential skills in the field of social work.
- Agency placements provide opportunities to engage with clients, communities, and diverse populations, offering hands-on experience in various social work settings, such as healthcare, child welfare, mental health, substance abuse treatment, and more.
- These placements are supervised and structured to ensure the ethical and professional development of social work practitioners, preparing them for their roles as advocates, counsellors, and change agents in addressing social issues and promoting well-being.



Community Placement

- Community placement refers to a significant aspect of social work education and practice, where students or professionals are assigned to work within specific community-based organizations or settings to gain practical experience and apply social work principles.



- This form of placement focuses on engaging with and serving communities, often in areas such as community development, advocacy, and outreach. Community placements offer hands-on experience in addressing systemic issues, fostering community empowerment, and promoting social change.
- These placements are designed to equip social work students or professionals with the skills and knowledge needed to work effectively with communities, enhancing their ability to create positive social impacts.

Observational Visit

- An observational visit typically refers to a structured and purposeful visit to a specific location or event with the primary goal of observing and gathering information. In various contexts, such visits serve different purposes.
- Observational visits involve keen observation, note-taking, and data collection, and they play a crucial role in learning, research, assessment, and ensuring quality and compliance in various fields.



Eco Club

- Environmental protection and sustainability are increasingly important concerns for social workers, as they intersect with the well-being of communities.
- The Eco Club's workshops and quizzes promote awareness and eco-consciousness, aligning with the broader social work goal of fostering community and environmental Social Work.



UGC-JRF/NET Preparation

- Social work professionals often need advanced qualifications to excel in their careers and make a meaningful impact.
- Offering guidance and classes for UGC-JRF/NET preparation equips students with the necessary academic credentials to contribute effectively to the field.

Students' Seminars

- Critical thinking, collaboration, and research skills are essential in social work practice and policy development.
- Students' seminars encourage scholarly discussions, empowering future social workers to analyze and address complex social issues.

Special Lecture Series

- Special lectures by experts are organised to provide students with exposure to cutting-edge research and the latest trends in social work practice.



- These lectures enhance students' knowledge and inspire them to stay informed and engaged in the ever-evolving field of social work.

Observance of Social Work Day

- Social Work Day is celebrated to emphasize the importance of social work as a profession dedicated to improving society.
- It reinforces the ethical principles and values that guide social work practice, encouraging students to uphold them throughout their careers.



- It fosters unity, reflection, and renewed commitment within the social work community while raising public awareness about the profession's significance.

Alumni Lecture Series

- Alumni who have successfully transitioned into social work careers offer valuable insights and mentorship to current students.



- These lectures provide practical knowledge and guidance on career building and professional development in the field of social work.

Observance of National Social Work Week

- National Social Work Week is an annual occasion that shines a spotlight on the vital contributions of social workers.
- During this week, professionals engage in advocacy, community outreach, and educational activities to promote social justice and celebrate their impactful work in diverse settings, from healthcare to education.

Placement and Alumni Activities

- Alumni interactions and talks related to career building and placement activities bridge the gap between academia and practice.
- These activities prepare students for the challenges and opportunities they may encounter as they enter the workforce and engage with alumni who have firsthand experience.

Seminar/Webinar organised by the Department

- National Workshop and Conference of Voluntary Blood Donors' Organizations and Motivators with International Participation on -100% during 28th- 29th April 2018.
- Socio-Economic Dimensions in Tribal Economy: Prospects and Perspectives on March 1, 2019.
- National Webinar on "Challenges of Social Work Practice in Post Covid-19 Era" during 6th - 9th July, 2020.

Assessment Study by the Department

- Impact Assessment of Cataract Blind Free Kalahandi Project- Funding Agency: SBI Foundation, Mumbai and Vision India Foundation, Sambalpur (Amount Received- Rs. 30,000/-).

Collaboration with NGOs and Industries

- Trilochan Netralaya
- Social Action for Rural Cooperation (SARC)
- Association for Development and Research in Socio Economic Activities (ADARSHA)
- Manav Adhikar Seva Samiti (MASS)
- Vedanta Alumina Limited
- Mahanadi Coal Field Limited (MCL)
- Hindustan Aluminium Corporation (Hindalco)
- Department of Community Medicine, VSS Medical College, Burla

Departmental Extension Activities

- Students participated in the gender sensitization programme on 21nd -22nd September, 2017, organized by National Women Rights Commission in Sambalpur University.
- 20 students participated in the gender sensitization programme on 16th October, 2017 organized by Sambalpur University.
- Organised Awareness Rally on Health and Sanitation in Adjacent Communities of Sambalpur University, 2018.
- Three students of the Department presented papers in the National Seminar at Andhra University, 2019.
- Organised sensitisation programme on Swachh Bharat Abhiyan in TalaPokhari Panchayat of Mayurbhanj district, 2019.
- Organised free Eye Check Up and Cataract Operation Camp in collaboration with Trilohan Netralaya at Burla, 2020.
- Organised periodic Blood Donation Camp in collaboration with Blood Bank, VIMSAR, Burla, 2021.
- Organised free Eye Check Up in collaboration with Trilohan Netralaya on the occasion of celebration of National Social Work Week, 2023.

Our Recruiters

- Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA)
- Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN)
- Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation (BAIF)
- World Vision
- Peoples Forum
- Smile for ever Foundation
- Soc
- Centre for Integrated Rural & Tribal Development (CIRTD)
- Aid Et Action
- Aaina
- RARE
- Trilochan Netralaya
- Social Action for Rural Cooperation (SARC)
- Association for Development and Research in Socio Economic Activities (ADARSA)
- Manav Adhikar Seva Samiti (MASS)

World Vision

 **Aide et Action**
L'Education change le monde

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SAARC


CASA
People Helping People


प्रदान
Pradan
PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE
FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTION


IAB


From Darkness to Light
Trilochan Netralaya
An Unit Of Vision India Foundation


THE
PEOPLES
FORUM


SMILES
FOREVER