



MADRAS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

(An Autonomous Institution Affiliated to the University of Madras)

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2.3.1 Student centric methods, such as experiential learning, participative learning and problem-solving methodologies are used for enhancing learning experiences

MSSW follows the **Student Centric method** of teaching as an alternative to the traditional lecture-discussion method. A committed faculty base familiar with the system and capable of sharp classroom delivery is the institution's strength. The college continually prepares faculty members to confidently adopt emerging teaching methods such as **experiential learning, participative learning and problem-solving methodologies** that enhance learning experiences.

• **Experiential learning**

By virtue of its commitment to mission – an experiential transformative process of education and practice-oriented pedagogy involving multi-disciplinary social sciences research – the college is devoted to the application of experiential learning in its teaching-learning process. A platter of teaching methods is adopted besides classroom lectures, which includes group discussions, seminars, dipstick studies, role-plays with audio-visual aids, skill labs and other simulation-based training methods.

- MSSW believes that for students to learn experientially, the learners must first own and value their experience. To proliferate such a learning process, the course is interspersed with **active learning** by including ample provision of field studies and visits, interaction with experts in the area, camps, industry exposure visits and trainings. Some of these include:
 - Observation **Visits**, Exposure Visits, Field Orientation Visits, Study Visits, Jail Visits, Tamil Nadu State Assembly Visits, Organization/Industry/ NGO visits
 - Industry Institute Interface (III) Programme aims to broaden the students' perspective by providing an exposure to the organizational environment, thereby assisting them to relate HR Management theory with practice
 - Engaging in **activities** organized by National Human Rights Commission, Central Government & State Government Organizations, Ministries, Directorate, Corporates.
 - Minor Study, Field **audit/survey**
 - Department Extension Activities – Different departments at MSSW organizes initiatives in collaboration with different agencies.
 - For instance, the Department of M.A Human Resource Management organized "Volunteer for Extension Activities" in collaboration with AIEMA & CommuniTREE with the intention to engage students in Social Responsibility initiatives
 - Rural Camp, Tribal Camp, NSS Camp, Medical Screening Camp, Health Camp, Swachh Bharat Mission camp, Unnat Bharath Abhiyan Activities
 - The institution also exposes the students to interact with industry experts through guest lectures, workshops and panel discussions
 - For instance, HR Coffee Club - an informal **interaction** session of the students with the alumni
 - **Interaction** with HR Professionals, Nobel Prize achievers, Professionals, Live assignments, Outbound training, Industry exposure visits, Study Tours.

- **Participative learning**

Students are encouraged to participate in activities where they can use their specialized skills to prepare for a career in Social Work, Human Resource and Psychology and other related social science disciplines.

- To ensure **student centric learning**, academic programmes include a host of **participatory methods**. These include case study analysis, case reviews, brainstorming sessions, class discussions, student presentations on different cases, newspapers discussions, news interpretations, presentation of filed-study experiences.
- To augment their participative experiences and enable students to **think creatively**, they are exposed to mechanisms which encourage involvement. Training in **street theatres, role plays, mock interviews** are done on a regular basis to ensure the above
- Activities like flash mobs, panel discussions, debates, games allow students to engage via **gamification**

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