

## Overview

There is agreement globally on the purpose of social work research education, which is, according to MacIntyre and Paul (2012), to create an awareness of research and its relevance to practice, learn to critically review research studies and gain research skills. Goswami (2014) further identifies proficiency in research methodology as fundamental to the overall enhancement of Indian social work programs and their research outputs. Students choose to undertake a social work degree because they have a passion for social justice and a belief that they can make a positive difference in their communities. Unfortunately, learning about research is seldom part of this original vision and many students approach their research methods subjects with trepidation and reluctance. Nevertheless, effectively teaching research to student social workers is core to their development as competent research practitioners able to contribute to the evidence-base of their discipline. Drawing on their considerable experience as social work researchers and educators the presenters have developed a Course that will provide the participants with knowledge and strategies for enhancing the quality of research teaching and learning - creating enthusiastic and competent research practitioners.

## Objectives

- Enhance the research teaching capacity of early and mid-career social work research educators.
- Identify the differing history and contexts of research education and the goals of research education articulated by national and international social work education associations.
- Increase educator's knowledge of local and global social work research education literature.
- Provide social work research educators with evidenced-based pedagogical strategies that promote effective teaching and learning practices.
- Provide social work research educators with an opportunity to reflect on and modify their own teaching practices, with the benefit of feedback and support from their peers and the course presenters.

## Module

### Day 1

- Welcome and introductions
- **Lecture 1: Social Work Research Education – History, Context and International Goals (2hrs)**
- Tutorial 1: Participants connect with their peers and reflect on the context of their own teaching experience and how their practice connects to national and international social work education goals (3hrs)

### Day 2

- **Lecture 2: Social Work Research Education in a Global Context – Review of the Literature (2hrs)**
- **Lecture 3: Social Work Research Education in an Indian Context (2hrs)**
- Tutorial 2: Participants reflect on how their teaching practice connects to the experiences described in the literature. They begin to consider how they might contribute to these national and global conversations, individually or with their peers (3hrs)

### Day 3

- **Lecture 4: Indigenous Perspectives and Models of Research Education (2hrs)**
- Tutorial 3: Participants identify their research education model and, with support from the peers and the course presenters, amend or develop their own teaching model (2hrs)
- Tutorial 4: Participants begin to write a paper that draws connections between their own teaching philosophy and experiences, and the international and Indian contexts (2hrs)

### Day 4

- **Lecture 5: Reminding Ourselves – What Makes an Effective Tertiary Educator? (2hrs)**
- **Lecture 6: Pedagogical Strategies for Enhancing your Research Teaching (2hrs)**
- Tutorial 5: Workshops in which participants have an opportunity to practice their teaching strategies and receive supportive and constructive feedback from their peers and the course presenters (3hrs)
- Participants have a time of quiet reflection to write about what they have learned that will be useful for them in their future teaching.

### Day 5

- **Lecture 7: Effective Social Work Practitioners – Supporting Social Work Research Practitioners Beyond the Educational Institution (2hrs)**
- **Lecture 8: What Have We Learned? – Summary and Conclusions (2hrs)**
- Tutorial 6: Participants will have opportunities through-out the day to add to their written work and to discuss ways that they may continue to work with their peers to access mutual support, share resources and build their research teaching capacity (3hrs)

## Faculty



**Associate Professor Nonie Harris** is Head of Social Work and Human Services at James Cook University, where she teaches undergraduate social work practice, research methods and in the honours program. Nonie's research and publications have focussed on feminist methodologies, feminist theory, work integrated learning, teaching research and child care policy in cross national contexts. This practice-focused research has drawn on Nonie's social work practice experience, engagement with women's services and a commitment to research informed teaching. Her research on hospital social work practice, childcare policy, teaching research and international social work student exchange has been funded by competitive internal and external research grants - from the Don Chipp and Ian Potter Foundations, and the Office of Learning and Teaching.

## Course Coordinator & Host Faculty



**Professor Ilango Ponnuswami** is currently Dean, Faculty of Arts and Professor, Department of Social Work, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli in South India. With a Fellowship from the UNFPA and the UN International Institute on Ageing, Malta, he successfully pursued a Post Graduate Diploma in Gerontology and Geriatrics at the Institute of Gerontology, University of Malta. He also attended a Short Term Training Course in Income Security for the Elderly in Developing Countries conducted by the United Nations International Institute on Ageing, Malta with a UNFPA Fellowship during May-June 1995. Dr. Ilango Ponnuswami was a Cairns Institute Visiting Scholar at the James Cook University, Australia during March – May, 2012. He is also a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Transformative Education published by SAGE. Besides, he has participated in several international ageing and social work conferences and more recently represented India at the BRICS Forum on Ageing in Seoul.



Ministry of Human Resource Development  
Government of India

## Course on

### Teaching Research to Social Work Students: Creating Enthusiastic and Competent Practitioner Researchers

*Venue: Bharathidasan University (Khajamalai Campus)*

*Date: 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018*

*Participants: Social Work Faculty's & Research Scholar's*

*Course Coordinator & Host Faculty*  
**Dr. P. Ilango**, Professor & Dean, Faculty of arts



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## Registration Fees Details

Participants from abroad: US \$ 300

Teaching Faculty: Rs. 2000/-

Research Scholars: Rs.1000/-