



unity⁵

20 TWENTY-ONE



FREE
ISSN NUMBER: 2522-378X



agenzija żgħażaġħ

Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ provides young people with the time and space to make friends, learn in new ways and develop their talents through our regional youth services and our extensive empowerment programme.

For more information please contact

Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ

St Joseph High Road, Santa Venera SVR1013, Malta

Tel: 00356 2258 6700

Email: agenzija.zghazagh@gov.mt

Facebook: Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ

Instagram: [agenzija.zghazagh](https://www.instagram.com/agenzija.zghazagh)

youth.gov.mt



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA,
MINISTRY FOR INCLUSION
AND SOCIAL WELLBEING
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT
FOR SPORTS, RECREATION AND
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

CHARLENE FABRI
Editor



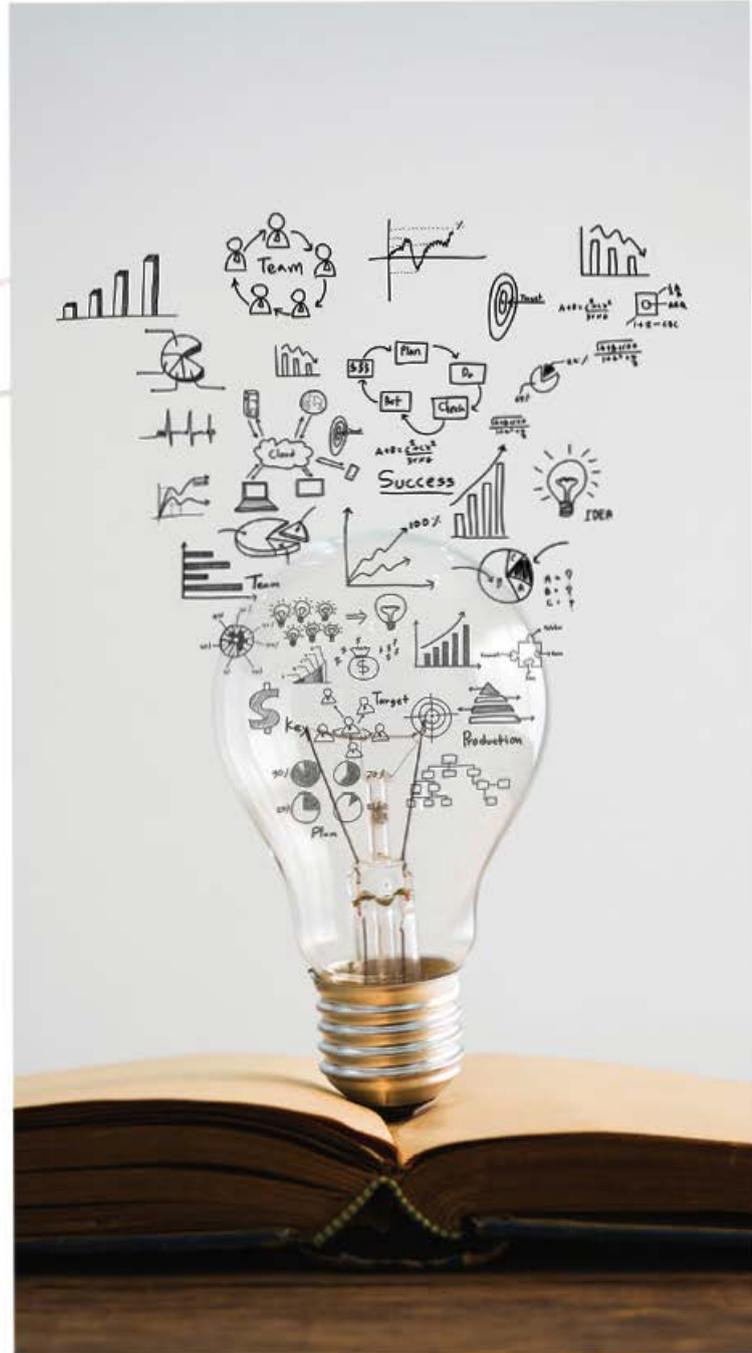
Editorial

'Hear' to Engage

This is the fifth edition of our annual Faculty magazine *Unity* and for the second time running I was entrusted to be its Editor, indeed an honour.

Following another year characterized by the Covid-19 pandemic the Faculty has worked in over-drive to keep its operations going. For sure, this situation has taken its toll on all the Faculty community but we march on! We are now excited and looking forward to the forthcoming academic year which is the run-up to the tenth anniversary of the Faculty, ten years of providing services to the Alma Mater but also to society at large. We hope that this anniversary will help us strengthen our ethos which circumvents on social justice and live up to our mission, that of being another voice in ensuring the social wellbeing in our communities.

Charlene





Cover story

The story in the Cover is based on the notion of connection between the Faculty and the community. It also features the need to challenge the forces that attempt to ostracise a segment of the population. We can do this by making sure that we engage in the community after we hear and listen to what the grassroots and our stakeholders are telling us. The Cover Story also features the logo that represents the run-up to the 10th anniversary of our Faculty.

Contributors

Photographer	Karl Azzopardi James Moffet Rene Rossignaud Sarah Zammit
Design	Matthew Borg – Bold Identities
Front Cover Design	Matthew Borg – Bold Identities
Published	Gutenberg Press Limited
Concept	Faculty For Social Wellbeing

We would like to thank THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS:

Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers
 Agenzija Sapport
 Agenzija Zaghzagh
 Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability
 Corporate Identities Ltd
 General Workers Union
 Grant Thornton Malta
 Kite Publishers
 Local Councils Association
 Malta Council for the Voluntary Sector
 Malta Tourism Authority
 Ministry for Senior Citizens and Active Ageing
 Ministry for Social Accommodation
 Ministry for Social Justice and Solidarity, The Family and Children's Rights
 Ministry for Inclusion and Social Wellbeing
 Smiling with Jerome Foundation
 Tranel International Ltd
 UHM Voice of the Workers
 Wasteserv

NUMBER OF
GRADUANDS
2016/17-2020/21

1558

FACULTY
M.PHIL./PH.D.
SCHOLARSHIPS

7

M.PHIL./PH.D.
CANDIDATES

60

CURRENT
STUDENT
POPULATION

1286

NUMBER OF
FRESHERS
2016/17-2020/21

2368

NUMBER OF
ARTICLES

350

Contents

Editorial	3
Introductory Messages	6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
Our Academics	24, 40, 48
Our Administrators	32, 33
Our Students	27, 38, 39, 42, 54, 55, 86, 87
Our Stakeholders	14, 20, 36, 46, 47, 52, 58, 63, 66, 71, 82, 88, 92
Our Research Support Officers	31, 72, 80
Our Faculty	16, 17, 51, 56, 68-70, 77-79, 81, 91, 93-96
Department of Counselling	22
Department of Criminology	23
Department of Disability Studies	28
Department of Family Studies	29
Department of Gender and Sexualities	34
Department of Gerontology and Dementia Studies	35
Department of Psychology	45
Department of Social Policy and Social Work	60
Department of Youth and Community Studies	61

**The Faculty for Social Wellbeing might not necessarily agree with all that is written in this edition of Unity.*

NUMBER OF PRESS
RELEASES DURING
ACADEMIC YEAR
2016/17 - 2020/21

30

COURSES
PER ACADEMIC
YEAR

45

NUMBER
OF RSOs

10

NUMBER OF
VIDEO
PRODUCTIONS

30

NUMBER OF
DIGEST WEEKLY
MAGAZINE

230

ACADEMIC STAFF
(RESIDENT,
CASUAL,
PART-TIME)

300

Most of these statistics are estimates.

PROF. ANDREW AZZOPARDI
Dean

Engaging - it's what we are about

Contributing to the Faculty magazine *Unity*, which is in its fifth edition, comes at a time when we would be wrapping up our academic year and starting to plan for the new one.

I admit that leading a Faculty at the time of a pandemic, that has rocked the World at its core, is not easy but I was comforted by the support I got from my Deputy Deans, Faculty Manager and Heads of Department. I believe we have managed to steer the ship in the right direction. Now, the Faculty is at another important juncture. We are in the run-up to celebrate our tenth anniversary in August 2022.

I am proud that this Faculty has kept growing from strength to strength. We have almost 60 M.Phil./Ph.D. candidates, well over 1200 students, currently running over 10 Faculty based national research projects and this year we are offering 50 different courses at all levels from Certificate upwards. We also deliver an array of CPD courses tailor-made to respond to the needs of various social organisations. Apart from that a large number of academics apart from seeing to their core duties of research, supervision, student mentoring and lecturing have also been engaged in activism and have contributed to different levels in our community. I am so proud of the community this Faculty is growing into. Together with our stakeholders we will keep pushing the envelope. It is the ethos we all share of social justice, equality, equity and inclusion that brings us together. Our focus this year will be to hear, to listen and to keep engaging – it's what we are about!

The Faculty has come a long way

PROF. ALFRED J. VELLA
Rector

The Faculty for Social Wellbeing is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year: It has come a long way indeed during this relatively short period.

The departments have worked well together and the quality and sum total of their production, both in teaching and research as well as in outreach has been impressive. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought to the fore the significance and importance of personal and societal wellbeing and thus served to highlight the relevance of a Faculty specifically dedicated to the study of this key area of human interest. Thanks to the vaccines, we live in the hope that the lingering effects of the pandemic will eventually ebb away sufficiently to allow us to get back to "normal" business shortly.

Meanwhile, our experts in the Faculty will need to engage with the problems on the ground in order to determine how best to help the weaker and more vulnerable members of society gain confidence for the rebuilding of their new future. I am more than confident that the Faculty is up to the job.



PROF. FRANK BEZZINA

Pro-Rector

A dynamic Faculty

The Faculty for Social Wellbeing evolved to perhaps one of the most dynamic Faculties at the University of Malta.

But more than just being dynamic, the Faculty has provided a voice to those members of society who are deprived of the chance to be heard and thus are unable to participate equitably. The Faculty's contribution to our society is indeed remarkable, reacting positively by engaging in topical research and administering a range of degree programmes that address an evolving society's needs.

Prof. Frank Bezzina is the Pro-Rector for International Development and Quality Assurance. He loves travelling, hiking, and listening to heavy metal music.



DR COLIN BORG
Academic Registrar

Time flies

I can still vividly remember a meeting that was held around 10 years ago to set-up the Faculty for Social Wellbeing.

During these last 9, almost 10 years, the Faculty has established itself as one of the largest academic entities at the UM and has embraced within it an interesting mix of disciplines that are becoming increasingly topical. The Faculty projects a model that the University can effectively consider on a wider scale, 'that of being an active academic voice in social affairs' and at the same time robustly attracting students towards the programmes offered. While writing this blurb I realise how time flies. With a rapidly changing environment we are working in, it entails that Faculties have to react dynamically and consistently to the outside World. I congratulate the Faculty on its forthcoming 10th Anniversary!

Dr Colin Borg is Academic Registrar & a Lecturer at the Faculties of Economics, Management & Accountancy, Faculty of Education & Faculty for Social Wellbeing.



DR CLAIRE AZZOPARDI LANE

Deputy Dean

Engaging with stakeholders

For the past 10 years the Faculty for Social Wellbeing has worked tirelessly to engage with stakeholders and with the wider community.

Representatives from the Faculty's nine departments involve themselves in research and activism, to hear about the experiences and learn about a plethora of current issues. Concurrently, in these last 10 years our Faculty has been listening to the social pulse and shaping its courses in ways that allow our students to contribute to the wellbeing of society, guiding them to reach their full potential as professionals, through academic but also personal mentoring.

Dr Claire Azzopardi Lane heads both the Department of Disability Studies and the Department of Gender and Sexualities within the same Faculty of which she is also the Deputy Dean. Claire is also an avid dog lover and the proud owner of two French Bulldogs, Amor and Dolce.



DR KRISTINA BETTENZANA

Deputy Dean

The Faculty's Future

During the last academic year, the Faculty for Social Wellbeing had to navigate the uncharted waters of Covid-19, but still continuing to foster excellence in teaching, research and learning notwithstanding the challenging circumstances.

Moving forward, we will continue to provide diversified course offerings designed to afford students the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of various areas of expertise and the complementary skills needed to become a successful professional in the modern world. Additionally we are committed to advocating for increased representation and the diversification of perspectives within the faculty, with an aim of building programs to meet evolving student, industry, and community needs.

Dr Kristina Bettenzana works as a resident academic at the University of Malta. She developed and coordinates the Masters in Neuropsychology. She likes running, fashion, tattoos and Labradors.





Our ambition is that zero per cent of the revenue from our platform is generated from harmful gambling by 2023. To facilitate a fair, transparent and honest discussion, we have decided to openly report the share of revenue derived from high-risk customers.



Our Journey Towards ZERO

0% revenue from harmful gambling by 2023

Kindred Group is one of the world's leading online gambling operators with business across Europe, US, and Australia, offering over 30 million customers across 9 brands a great form of entertainment in a safe, fair and sustainable environment. The company, which employs about 1,600 people, is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm Large Cap and is a member of the European Gaming and Betting Association (EGBA) and founding member of IBIA (International Betting Integrity Association). Kindred Group is audited and certified by eCOGRA for compliance with the 2014 EU Recommendation on Consumer Protection and Responsible Gambling (2014/478/EU).

www.kindredgroup.com

*Difficult roads lead to
beautiful destinations*

Jerome was given the gift of life and after twenty years had to give it back. He lived life to the full even during his last 4 years when he was suffering from one of the worst cancers – Ewings Sarcoma – Cancer of the bone. Whoever met him, left with a very positive outlook on life itself. Jerome transmitted hope and courage to everyone especially to those who were at their most vulnerable weakest point in their life.

His unique smile says it all. **SMILING WITH JEROME** was founded on the 6th of October 2017 – the day that Jerome died. This initiative was taken so that hope and courage, coupled with a smile, will continue to be given to everyone in need.

JEROME FREND
Never forgotten,
Always in our Hearts



*Smiling with Jerome
Foundation*

LEARN MORE ►
smilingwithjerome.com
f [smilingwithjerome](https://www.facebook.com/smilingwithjerome)
VO/1564



ANGELO GAFA'
Commissioner of Police

Police-Community Partnership

Police effectiveness depends entirely on the public's participation in policing. It is thus no coincidence that both our mission and vision statements lay emphasis on trust and community partnership.

This essential partnership is mostly evident in the community policing project first launched in 2019. Community policing is a proactive and refreshing type of the 'old bobby' on our streets, engaging with the public within both the physical and virtual space. It gives residents a say in local policing and helps foster better police-community relationships.

Stay Safe and Thank You for partnering with us.

Police Commissioner Angelo Gafà is a Visiting Lecturer with the Department of Criminology specializing in police leadership and management.



PROF. ANDREW AZZOPARDI
Dean

ALISON DARMANIN
Faculty Manager

College of Heads



DR CLAIRE AZZOPARDI LANE

*Deputy Dean
Department of Disability Studies and
Department of Gender and Sexualities*

DR CHRISTIAN BORG XUEREB

*Department of Gerontology
and Dementia Studies*

DR DIONE MIFSUD

Department of Counselling



UNITY 2021

DR GOTTFRIED CATANIA
Department of Psychology

DR SANDRA SCICLUNA
Department of Criminology

DR SUE VELLA
*Department of Social Policy
and Social Work*



DR KRISTINA BETTENZANA
Deputy Dean

PROF. JOANNE CASSAR
*Department of Youth and
Community Studies*

DR INGRID GRECH LANFRANCO
Department of Family Studies





**RESPECTING DIVERSITY
SAFEGUARDING EQUITY
Malta's 2021 – 2030
National Autism Strategy**

**Autism Friendly Hours at
Esplora once a month**



**Free training sessions
for children and parents
within the autism spectrum**



**GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
MINISTRY FOR INCLUSION
AND SOCIAL WELLBEING**

inkluzjoni

**Dilapidated house in
Siggiewi will be
transformed into respite
facility specific to people
with autism**



Have you experienced *discrimination* on the basis of disability?

The Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD) is the national regulatory body for disability in Malta and Gozo. Our role is to safeguard the rights and obligations of persons with disability.

Contact CRPD on

Malta

+356 2226 7600
helpdesk@crpd.org.mt

Gozo

+356 2155 6002
maryrose.attard@crpd.org.mt



Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability

www.crpd.org.mt



AUDREY FRIGGIERI

Commissioner on Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence

Listening first

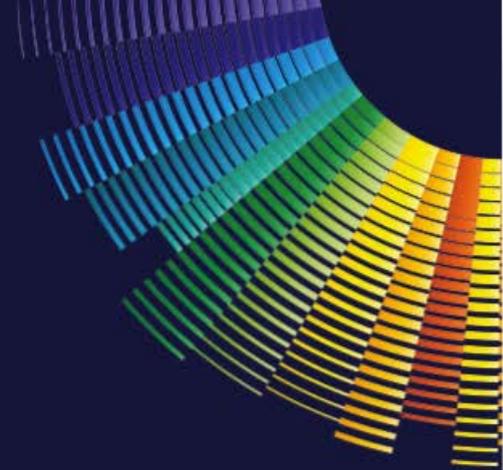
The Commission on Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence prioritises listening in order to respond effectively to the needs of the people.



Feedback that we receive emphasizes the need for a paradigm shift in our society, which starts from adopting an education model that puts the human being at the centre, focusing on the qualities that we need to be better human beings, such as empathy and respect for oneself and others. One of the most important tasks of the Commission is to initiate dialogue about the

various aspects of this sector, amongst others, by means of educational campaigns with an aim to bring about a paradigm shift.

Audrey Friggieri is Commissioner on Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence, Ph.D. Candidate and author.



Faculty for **Social Wellbeing**

Department of **Counselling**

Postgraduate Certificate in Counselling Supervision

Part-time (evening)/1 year

Master in Counselling

Part-time (evening)/4 years

Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling

Full-time/2 years

M.Phil./Ph.D.

Postgraduate Certificate in Adlerian Counselling

Part-time (evening)/1.5 years

Master in Counselling (Gozo)

Part-time (evening)/4 years



A safe space for all

socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt
+356 2340 2693

f @um.socialwellbeing
t @FacultyforSW
in @facultyforsw

Faculty for **Social Wellbeing**

Department of **Criminology**

Diploma in Policing

Part-time (evening)/2 years

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Criminology (Gozo)

Part-time (evening)/5 years

Master of Arts in Criminology (by Research)

Part-time (evening)/2.5 years

M.Phil./Ph.D.

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Criminology

Full-time/3 years

Part-time (evening)/5 years

Master of Arts in Criminology

[Preparatory Programme]

Full-time/1 year

Master in Probation Services

Full-time/1.5 years

A safe space for all





DR DAMIAN SPITERI

Lecturer, Department of Social Policy and Social Work

Empowering people

In past eras, when social work literature adopted a deficit perspective, social workers were seen as working with people who were considered, 'sad, mad or bad' in order to enable them to have a greater adaptness to function within society.



Today, perspectives have changed, and social work is seen as essentially empowering people who are vulnerable. I approach this process of empowerment in two ways. Primarily, in my lectures at the University of Malta where I engage students in reflecting on the local context, drawing in relevant perspectives from local and international academic literature; while encouraging them to keep abreast with what is going on internationally. Secondly, I work with stakeholders internationally in order to contribute to the overarching empowerment of vulnerable people in other parts of Europe, and with this

end in mind, I am involved in two international projects. The first, Social Europe Days, involving students from the University of Malta meeting up with students from other European universities. The second, which is an Erasmus project, involves forming part of a consultative team which oversees the designing and implementing of projects in a metropolitan area in Madrid. These projects are run at CiudadEscuela Muchachos (CEMU).

Dr Damian Spiteri is a Lecturer with the Department of Social Policy and Social Worker and also has a creative twist since he is a singer and songwriter.



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
MINISTRY FOR SOCIAL
ACCOMMODATION

more than a roof

driving social mobility through care

Find us on Facebook
@akkomodazzjonigovmt





CRIMINOLOGY
STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION

CSA

The number of university students studying criminology has risen exponentially over the years. This to the extent that Criminology students have become crucial stakeholders and ambassadors in the criminological effort.

Many perceive criminology as just a university course to become a police officer or that students who choose criminology are just inspired to take the course because of increased media consumption such as action movies and hit tv shows such as CSI and Hawaii Five-O. Although we do touch on forensics and policing, we, as criminology students, delve into a whole world of criminological research such as; psychology, sociology, media and political influences on the legal system, amongst other. We explore analytical; mathematical, statistical, and scientific studies of crime, the composition of a bomb and bomb disposals. We learn criminal law, maritime law, and international law whilst simultaneously connecting them with the social norms and cultural views of a population.

Criminology studies opens so many doors for so many different careers, not just policing and we urge others to explore the course of criminology.

csapublic@gmail.com



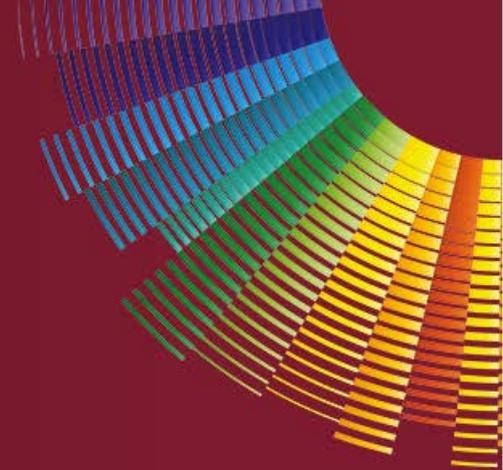
As a psychology student organisation, *Betapsi* maintains close ties with the Faculty for Social Wellbeing to ensure sound communication between University staff and students, as well as to effect positive societal change whenever possible. We feel that the Faculty has always done its utmost when it comes to vocalising concerns in society, and listening to its students' needs. This is the reason why we wholeheartedly recommend the FSW to prospective students who wish to form a part of our community. This Faculty ensures its students' needs are heard, and this is a necessary first step in nurturing individuals who are engaged in and contribute to society.

betapsimalta@gmail.com

Over the past year, our appreciation for the Faculty has grown immensely both as students and as active student representatives. Our Faculty is not merely a formal bystander acting as a point of reference but plays an active part in encouraging student activism. It thrives off of the diversity present amongst both students and staff by engaging critical thinking and encouraging students to actively feature their individualist perspective. Furthermore, the Faculty's staff are highly supportive and not solely viewed as authoritative figures but mentors rooting for our success.

shs.uom@gmail.com





Faculty for **Social Wellbeing**

Department of **Disability Studies**

Certificate Course in Community Access for Disabled People

Part-time (evening)/1 year

Higher Diploma in Community Access for Disabled People

Part-time (evening)/1 year

Bachelor of Arts in Disability Studies and European Studies

Full-time/3 years

Master of Arts in Disability Studies

Part-time (evening)/3 years

M.Phil./Ph.D.

A safe space for all



Diploma in Community Access for Disabled People

Part-time (evening)/1 year

Bachelor of Arts in Disability Studies and Psychology

Full-time/3 years

Master of Arts in Disability Studies

[Preparatory Programme]

Part-time (day)/1 year

socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt
+356 2340 2693

f @um.socialwellbeing
t @FacultyforSW
in @facultyforsw



Faculty for **Social Wellbeing**

Department of **Family Studies**

Master of Arts in Contemporary Family Studies

Part-time (evening)/3 years

Master in Family Therapy and Systemic Practice

[Top up Degree]

Part-time (evening)/2 years

Master in Family Therapy and Systemic Practice

Part-time (evening)/4 years

Award in Clinical Supervision

Part-time (evening)/1 year

M.Phil./Ph.D.

A safe space for all



socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt
+356 2340 2693

f @um.socialwellbeing
t @FacultyforSW
in @facultyforsw





CHRISTINE SPITERI
Research Support Officer

The Perpetrators of domestic violence

The Faculty's research project looks at the perpetrators of domestic violence. In adopting a mixed-methods approach, we have analysed police data and publicly available court cases to get an overall picture of the trends evident in the criminal justice system with regards to domestic violence cases over the past five years. In-depth interviews were carried out to explore the factors and motives behind abusive behaviour. Professionals working within the domestic violence setting were also consulted to help us identify gaps in the current system and provide recommendations.

Christine Spiteri is a Research Support Officer and prospective M.Phil./Ph.D. Candidate with the Faculty for Social Wellbeing.



Admin Team





Faculty for **Social Wellbeing**

Department of **Gender & Sexualities**

Master of Gender Studies

Full-time/1.5 years

Master of Gender Studies

Part-time (evening)/3 years

Master of Gender, Society and Culture

Full-time/1.5 years

Master of Gender, Society and Culture

Part-time (evening)/3 years

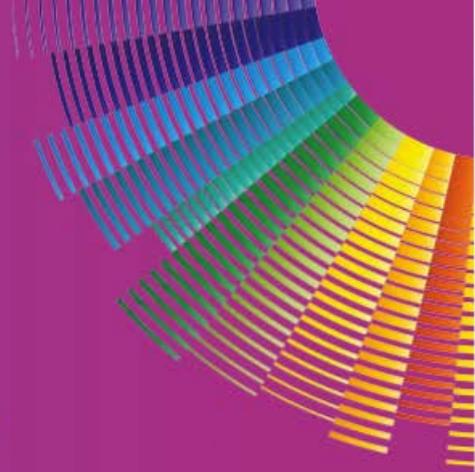
M.Phil./Ph.D.

A safe space for all



socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt
+356 2340 2693

f @um.socialwellbeing
t @FacultyforSW
in @facultyforsw



Faculty for **Social Wellbeing**

Department of **Gerontology & Dementia Studies**

Higher Diploma in Gerontology and Geriatrics

Full-time/1.5 years

Master of Gerontology & Geriatrics

Full-time/1.5 years

Master of Arts in Ageing & Dementia Studies

Part-time (evening)/3 years

M.Phil./Ph.D.

A safe space for all



socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt
+356 2340 2693

f @um.socialwellbeing
t @FacultyforSW
in @facultyforsw

“No Army is better than its soldiers”

Quoting U.S. Army General Patton



BRIGADIER JEFFREY CURMI

Commander of the Armed Forces of Malta

Leadership is not about dictating but about motivating and empowering individuals who will in turn amaze you with what they can achieve. Listening to soldiers is fundamental to ameliorate working conditions, invest in their training, and upgrading or introducing modern equipment.

Everything leads towards achieving an optimised collective contribution, particularly during military operations which often occur in crisis situations and carry substantial risk. Hearing is

not to be taken in the literal sense but it should encompass most of the remaining human senses. This will enable a leader who “serves to lead”, to communicate and engage even with those who are less vocal.

Brigadier Jeffrey Curmi is the Commander of the Armed Forces of Malta, an explosives and diving specialist, and a Casual Lecturer within the Department of Criminology at the University of Malta.



Image by

Our Students





UNITY 2021



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing

L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing

L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing

L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing

L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty for Social Wellbeing



Our Students



DR MARY GRACE VELLA
Lecturer, Department of Criminology

Public consultations are the new institutional rage

Locally and internationally, public consultations are the new institutional rage. The public is constantly asked to voice one's opinion, even enticed and encouraged to file objections and complaints on anything that 'really' matters; a case in point, the environment.

The idea being that if people engage, the authorities will hear and listen. They will duly consider people's plight and wishes, and act. That's what democracy is all about after all - rule by the people - whereby elected representatives take decisions on behalf and in the interest of the people.

And they do act and engage. Through sanctioning development on ODZ and UCA in defiance of their own protocols, uprooting trees and destroying agricultural and pristine land for extravagant road works, transforming natural habitats and heritage sites into carparks, supermarkets, shopping malls and business parks, constructing underwater tunnels, flyovers and skyscrapers, in other words, turning Malta into a monument of concrete jungle and yet it feels as if it is never enough!

It is increasingly and evidently clear that the agenda is already set to the appeasement of the powerful elite, sponsors of electoral campaigns and the catchment of votes. One is faced with a lose-lose situation: partaking in consultation you're legitimising praxis, consolidating the illusory sense of conciliation and participation, and by default the status quo. If not, your fault and guilt for not making yourself heard! As your hopes turn to disillusion, one asks: is it worth it to

reengage ever again in such superficial and often futile forms of public consultations, or is it even worth it to care about anything at all?

Making your voice heard is not a prerogative of the State to decide what, when, with whom, how and why it wants to consult or not. It goes beyond the nicely worded letter the authorities expect to receive and officially acknowledge receipt of. It's a continuum of actions and lifestyles...from legitimate negotiations with and within the system, to more radical unorthodox modes of activism and campaigning, which stand outside and in direct opposition to the system.

As consultative practices are utilised by the establishment to legitimise often illegitimate praxis, citizens need to appropriate such practices to legitimise their escalation of objection through public protest, demonstrations and other radical forms of dissent.

If authorities are failing to hear and engage, then it becomes our right and duty to make them engage and hear. And that's why we're here! To engage!

Dr Mary Grace Vella is a Lecturer with the Department of Criminology and also a Moviment Graffiti activist.



My experience within the Faculty served to enhance my theoretical knowledge, which served as a trajectory to broadening my artistic capacity. It brought me in touch with the deeper essence of humanity, be it the primordial or the existential, which complemented my artistic practice.

GABRIEL BUTTIGIEG

Bachelor of Psychology



This was an engaging journey, with great people from the Department making it a wonderful and memorable experience

MARY ROSE ATTARD

Higher Diploma in Community Access for Disabled People



You help **others**



We help **you**

uhm

VOICE OF THE WORKERS

Faculty for **Social Wellbeing**

Follow us

@facultyforsw



@um.socialwellbeing





Faculty for **Social Wellbeing**

Department of **Psychology**

Bachelor of Psychology

Full-time/3 years

Higher Diploma in Psychology

Full-time/1 year

Master of Science in Psychological Studies

Part-time (evening)/3 years

Joint Master of Science in Mental Health Studies

Part-time (evening)/3 years

Bachelor of Psychology (Gozo)

Part-time (evening)/5 years

Master of Psychology

*[Clinical, Counselling, Educational, Forensic,
Health or Neuropsychology]*

Full-time/2 years

Joint Master of Science in Addiction Studies

Part-time (evening)/3 years

M.Phil./Ph.D.

A safe space for all



socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt
+356 2340 2693

f @um.socialwellbeing
t @FacultyforSW
in @facultyforsw

BB Since I was 10 years old, I started volunteering with St. John's Ambulance. ...It's terrific being part of a voluntary organisation, where it is not about money but about providing a service to society. This is what makes life worthwhile.

GEMMA SIROL



BB I've been working for years in the disability sector, in both the NGO and Policy sector. I am delighted to see that this sector is growing exponentially... At the end of the day, you cannot isolate 'disability' from any other elements which form part of the entire social framework.

DR ALISTAIR DE GAETANO



Our Stakeholders

BB *I think I was nominated for this award because of my commitment for the past year and a half, where I was leading an elderly care home. As everyone is aware, in Malta and in the whole world, we have been experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic, actually, we are still recovering from it. I am involved in leading this elderly care home which requires lots of work and commitment, so that we give the best quality of life to the elderly especially in the past year and a half.*

ROSLYNN VELLA



BB *I would like to dedicate this award to all the Caritas' members of staff and volunteers, and also to our clients and persons in need because I believe that these persons, notwithstanding all the challenges, are my every day's motivation and make it all worth it.*

ANTHONY GATT



Our Stakeholders



DR PATRICIA BONELLO

*Lecturer, Department of Social Policy
and Social Work*

Showcasing students' research

Someone once said that a dissertation is, on average, read by four people. This is rather depressing, especially after all the effort which goes into producing a good piece of work. Undertaking this project, in which data was collected about all dissertations submitted by students within the Faculty between 2016 and 2020 and graded as good or above, might be a way of boosting these numbers. It is an effort to showcase the students' research and make it more accessible, also providing information which will indicate research gaps. It is a resource in the hands of the Faculty's research community.

Dr Patricia Bonello is a Lecturer with the Department of Social Policy and Social Work. She is passionate about the social work profession, loves travelling and spending time with her family and is committed to sport, volunteering and having fun.







**YOUR
PURPOSE
IS YOUR
BIGGEST
ASSET**

www.cigroup.mt

CDENewsAgency 

CiNext 

CiConsulta 
PROFESSIONAL PROJECT



InsightsInstitute 

boldidentities 
CREATING IDENTITY

FACULTY RESEARCH MAGAZINE

Societas.Expert is a shared initiative by the Faculty and Corporate Dispatch. It is the first ever Faculty Research Magazine of its kind. The Magazine is intended for academics, students, alumni, stakeholders and the general public both locally and internationally. This Research Magazine is now accessible on an international platform and is in its third edition.

A free copy can be delivered by sending us an email on socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt



FACULTY JOURNAL 'STUDIES IN SOCIAL WELLBEING'

Academics from the Faculty for Social Wellbeing have recently set up a peer-reviewed, online, international and open-access journal, *Studies in Social Wellbeing*, which will provide a space for scholars and practitioners to publish work related to social wellbeing.

For more information contact socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt

CONNECT NEWSLETTER

The Faculty for Social Wellbeing has for these last 4 years provided a regular update of all that is happening through the *Connect Newsletter*, another vehicle to keep all the community informed on what is happening. We are in our 14th edition with a completely new design thanks to the Marketing, Communications & Alumni Office.

For more information contact socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt





PAULINE MICELI
Commissioner for Children

Children, their voice and their best interests

Children have needs whilst parents and the State have obligations towards children. My office, set up by law has the duty to push for change to ensure that children's needs as stated in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child are being adequately provided for, and children are enjoying their full rights as human beings to develop to their full potential. Their dependency on adults makes them more vulnerable and thus need to be protected from all harm and abuse. The Commission works to make sure children's voices are heard when laws, policies and decisions are taken.

Pauline Miceli is the Commissioner for Children, an educator by profession and a grandma.





The comfort of knowing that I was not alone helped so much. The mentoring by the academic staff and the availability of the administrators made the course a memory I will never erase from my mind.

ROBERTA MANGION

Master of Gerontology and Geriatrics

As an undergraduate, I consider myself lucky to have formed part of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing. The Faculty truly embraces the values of respect and solidarity. The support provided from the top echelons of the Faculty trickles down to the students who work committedly to make the most of their education while building a community of support. This community has made all the difference in making my learning journey an enriching experience, both personally and professionally.

REBECCA ATTARD

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Work





I found the University and my fellow students to be wonderfully receptive to a mature student. The course hugely widened my volunteering opportunities. I would recommend it to students of all ages.

MARK SHRIMPTON

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Criminology

Life is beautiful and it is made even more pleasant because knowledge opens you up to so many experiences and opportunities.

SARAH HAIDER

Master of Gender Studies



PROFESSORIAL LECTURE SERIES

The *Professorial Lecture Series* is a forum that hosts a series of lectures delivered by recently promoted Professors within our Faculty. The objective of the *Professorial Lecture Series (PLS)* is for all the Professors to inform their colleagues, students and the general public about their current research and its impact on our communities.

If interested in participating please contact us on socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt



KONNEKT

Konnekt is our weekly program on Campus FM Radio. Anchored by Dr Albert Bell, Department of Youth and Community Studies, and supported by the RPSC. It is intended to provide listeners with the latest cutting-edge research in the area of social wellbeing of our academic staff, RSOs and Ph.D. Candidates.

For more information contact socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt



FACULTY VLOG

The Faculty for Social Wellbeing has its own *Vlog* whereby Research Support Officers, administrators, M.Phil./Ph.D. Candidates and academics share their views about society and how we can have better communities based on values that place the human being at the center of it all. You can access all *Vlogs* either via our website: www.um.edu.mt/socialwellbeing or our FB page: [@um.socialwellbeing](https://www.facebook.com/um.socialwellbeing)



The aim of the Malta Council for the Voluntary Sector is to support the development of a more effective and efficient voluntary and community sector in Malta and Gozo through the delivery of a range of support and capacity building services including information, advice and training. We also aim to support the development of a more influential and cohesive voluntary and community sector in Malta and Gozo by facilitating networking and partnership within the sector, and between the same sector and the private and public sectors.

Mission Statement

To support the development of a more effective and efficient voluntary and community sector in Malta and Gozo through the delivery of a range of support and capacity building services including information, advice and training.



SMALL INITIATIVES SUPPORT (SIS) SCHEME

The Small Initiatives Support Scheme encourages creation of projects in areas such as training, events, publications and other initiatives related to the voluntary sector.



YOUTH VOLUNTARY WORK (YVW) SCHEME

The Youth Voluntary Work (YVW) Scheme allows young people to express their personal commitment through local and overseas voluntary service.



TRAINING INITIATIVES SCHEME (TIS)

The Training Initiatives Scheme helps volunteers to improve their skills to undertake the voluntary work skillfully, ethically and efficiently.



VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS PROJECT SCHEME (VOPS)

The Voluntary Organisations Project Scheme is designed to assist applicants looking for funding on projects that can make a real difference to their local communities.



CIVIL SOCIETY FUND (CSF)

The Civil Society Fund provides financial assistance to Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) for the purpose of facilitating their affiliation with and participation in European groupings, associations, federations, confederation networks, and training related to EU Policy/Programmes.



STEVE LIBRERI

Director for the Child Protection Services

**Making our country
as safe as possible to our children**



The Directorate for the Child Protection Services is a national authority that has been tasked by the State to investigate reports and allegations of child abuse. Due to this jurisdiction, this Directorate has developed a natural vision of becoming key agents in the fight against all forms of violence against children, with the hope of making our country as safe as possible to our children. With this goal in mind, the professionals at the Directorate endeavour to assess family problems to formulate a bespoke therapeutic program to support the service users into more productive and non-abusive lifestyles.

Unfortunately, this Directorate is more commonly associated with the removal of children from the families, which is a derogative perception given that the overwhelming majority of situations are resolved amicably and with a solution that keeps families together. In simple terms, what Child Protection really does is help families stay together in a safe way.

Steve Libreri is a social worker by profession, graduated from the University of Malta in 2008. He has a keen interest in work with parents. Steve is also a passionate martial artist.



Faculty for **Social Wellbeing**

Department of **Social Policy & Social Work**

Certificate in Volunteering Studies

Part-time (evening)/1 year

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Work

Full-time /4 years

Part-time (day)/6-8 years

Master of Arts in Social Policy

[By Research]

Part-time (evening)/3 years

Master of Arts in Social Work

[By Research]

Part-time (evening)/3 years

Joint Certificate in Safeguarding of Children and Young People

Part-time (evening)/1 year

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Policy

Full-time/3 years

Part-time (day)/5-6 years

Master of Arts in Social Policy

[Taught Programme]

Full-time/2 years

Part-time (evening)/3 years

Master of Arts in Social Work

[Preparatory Programme]

Part-time (day)/1 year

Master of Social Work

Full-time/2 years

Part-time (day)/4 years

Joint Master of Arts in Management of Social Care Services

Part-time (evening)/2.5 years

M.Phil./Ph.D.

A safe space for all



socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt
+356 2340 2693

f @um.socialwellbeing
t @FacultyforSW
in @facultyforsw



Faculty for **Social Wellbeing**

Department of **Youth & Community Studies**

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Youth & Community Studies

Full-time/3 years

Master in Youth & Community Studies

Part-time (evening)/3 years

Master of Arts in Youth Justice

Part-time (evening)/2.5 years

M.Phil./Ph.D.

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Youth & Community Studies

Part-time (evening)/5 years

Master of Arts in Community Action and Development

Part-time (evening)/3 years

A safe space for all



socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt
+356 2340 2693

f @um.socialwellbeing
t @FacultyforSW
in @facultyforsw





SAMANTHA PACE GASAN

Commissioner for the Rights of Persons with Disability

Voices of civil society

In an effort to strengthen the voices of civil society in the disability sector, as Commissioner for the Rights of Persons with Disability I have set up consultative meetings with all the NGOs and organizations working in the sector.

During separate meetings with 25 different organizations, issues relating to health, employment, service gaps and access to services, education as well as the impact of COVID-19 were raised and discussed. Ways on how to take on these challenges were also brought up. The outcome of these meetings is being channeled into the drafting of a strategy whereby CRPD intends to work towards empowering NGOs' efforts through collaboration.

Samantha Pace Gasan is the Commissioner for the Rights of Persons with Disability and is passionate about gender issues, intersectionality and innovation.



AĠENZIJA SAPPORT

Aġenzija Sapport offers you the opportunity of:

- Placements
- Research Opportunities
- A variety of different careers including: Allied Health Care, Social Work, Administration, Finance, Marketing, Projects, HR, Management, Leadership, Support Work

“My most satisfying moment was when I was promoted to a Leader. I feel very proud that I started from the very bottom and made my way up to where I am today.”

“What is most satisfying for me is that from my work experience I have increased confidence both in myself and with others, which has opened up new opportunities and helped me in my day-to-day life, on and off the job.”

#teamsapport

sapport@gov.mt - www.sapport.gov.mt



INVESTING IN DEMENTIA CARE

iSUPPORT

Assisting carers of people with dementia

Active Ageing and Community Care (AACC) signed an agreement with the World Health Organization (WHO) entitled 'iSupport'. This is a skills and training program which aims to prevent and/or decrease mental and physical health problems associated with caregiving and to improve the quality of life of those caring for people with dementia. Currently, AACC are adapting the iSupport manual to the national context needs.

DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY VILLAGE

Initiating a community-based approach to beat the stigma

In February of this year, an agreement was signed between AACC and Hal Safi Local Council to start an initiative in favour of a dementia-friendly village in Malta.

In a pro-dementia community people are aware and can better understand what dementia is; therefore, people with dementia can continue to live actively within a community of their choice. As such, the two parties will be working together to achieve a dementia-friendly village with the main objective of reducing the stigma and raising awareness on the condition.



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
MINISTRY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
AND ACTIVE AGEING

For further information contact us or visit the website:

+356 2278 8800

aacc-services@gov.mt

Active Ageing and Community Care

activeageing.gov.mt



TELECARE ON THE MOVE

A technological investment which improves the lives of people with dementia

Telecare on the Move, is a new service aimed at providing people with dementia the right to achieve the highest quality of life with the least restrictions placed on their personal liberties. This service thus encourages people with dementia over 60 years of age to continue living in their own home and in the community.

AACC will provide a free of charge device which will be connected to a 24-hour call centre and will operate even outdoors. This device will provide assistance to the elderly since it has several functions, which include two-way communication with relatives or a call centre, it works anywhere in Malta and Gozo, it detects falls and its battery lasts up to 3 to 5 days.

DAY AND NIGHT DEMENTIA CENTRES

Providing care to people with dementia whilst living in the community

During this year, AACC will be opening a new dementia activity centre in the heart of the village of Hal Safi which will serve as a day care center and a night shelter for people with dementia in the community.

In addition to this centre in Hal Safi, another center in Mtarfa is expected to be completed by end of this year. national context needs.



JESMOND SALIBA
Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations

**Empowerment through strengthening
the voluntary sector to meet the needs of today
and those of the future**



Throughout recent years, the voluntary sector in Malta has evolved and transitioned from one phase to another. This comprehensive evolution is evident and can be seen in the level of services that voluntary organisations provide to thousands of people within various niches. Furthermore, the scope of voluntarism in Malta has expanded to an extent that its roots can be found in almost all of the sectors.

As the newly appointed Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations, I have a vision for the voluntary sector whereby with all stakeholders that make-up the voluntary sector strengthen us to define and refine the way we serve, assist, operate, and regulate the sector. I believe that if

we truly appreciate the vital importance of this sector, we must unite to help it grow and flourish while strengthening regulations to protect it from all forms of abuse whether from within or the outside.

Jesmond Saliba is the Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations. Over the past thirty years, through his profession and personal interest, he developed a passion for social justice and is sensitive to the what ingredients make up Malta's society. He loves good food, reads and writes and has a keen interest in communications, international relations, diplomacy and foreign affairs, with particular focus on the EU.

List of courses

FACULTY FOR SOCIAL WELLBEING

Department of
Counselling

Postgraduate Certificate in Counselling Supervision *Part-time evening*
Postgraduate Certificate in Adlerian Counselling *Part-time evening*
Master in Counselling *Part-time evening*
Master in Counselling (Gozo) *Part-time evening*
Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling *Full-time*

Department of
Criminology

Diploma in Policing *Part-time evening*
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Criminology *Full-time / Part-time evening*
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Criminology (Gozo) *Part-time evening*
Master of Arts in Criminology *Preparatory Programme*
Master of Arts in Criminology *Part-time evening (by Research)*
Master in Probation Services *Full-time*

Department of
Disability Studies

Certificate in Community Access for Disabled People *Part-time evening*
Diploma in Community Access for Disabled People *Part-time evening*
Higher Diploma in Community Access for Disabled People *Part-time evening*
Bachelor of Arts in Disability Studies and Psychology *Full-time*
Bachelor of Arts in Disability Studies and European Studies *Full-time*
Master of Arts in Disability Studies (Preparatory Programme) *Part-time day*
Master of Arts in Disability Studies *Part-time evening*

Department of

Family Studies

Master of Arts in Contemporary Family Studies *Part-time evening*

Master in Family Therapy and Systemic Practice *(Top-Up Degree)*

Part-time evening

Master in Family Therapy and Systemic Practice *Part-time evening*

Award in Clinical Supervision *Part-time evening*

Department of

Gender and Sexualities

Master of Gender Studies *Full-time (by Research)*

Master of Gender Studies *Part-time evening (by Research)*

Master of Gender, Society and Culture *Full-time*

Master of Gender, Society and Culture *Part-time evening*

Department of

Gerontology and Dementia Studies

Higher Diploma in Gerontology and Geriatrics *Full-time*

Master of Gerontology and Geriatrics *Full-time*

Master of Arts in Ageing and Dementia Studies *Part-time evening*

Department of

Psychology

Bachelor of Psychology *Full-time*

Bachelor of Psychology (Gozo) *Part-time evening*

Higher Diploma in Psychology *Full-time*

Master of Psychology in Clinical Psychology *Full-time*

Master of Psychology in Counselling Psychology *Full-time*

Master of Psychology in Educational Psychology *Full-time*

Master of Psychology in Forensic Psychology *Full-time*

Master of Psychology in Health Psychology *Full-time*

Master of Psychology in Neuropsychology *Full-time*

Master of Science in Psychological Studies *Part-time evening*

Department of

Social Policy and Social Work

Certificate in Volunteering Studies *Part-time evening*
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Policy *Full-time / Part-time day*
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Work *Full-time / Part-time day*
Master of Arts in Social Policy *Full-time / Part-time evening*
Master of Arts in Social Policy (by Research) *Part-time evening*
Master of Arts in Social Work (Preparatory Programme) *Part-time day*
Master of Arts in Social Work [by Research] *Part-time evening*
Master of Social Work *Full-time / Part-time day*

Department of

Youth and Community Studies

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Youth and Community Studies *Full-time*
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Youth and Community Studies *Part-time evening*
Master in Youth and Community Studies *Part-time evening*
Master of Arts in Youth Justice *Part-time evening*
Master of Arts in Community Action and Development *Part-time evening*

Common Degree

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Wellbeing Studies *Full-time*
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Wellbeing Studies *Part-time day*
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Wellbeing Studies (Top-Up Degree)
Part-time day

Joint Degree

Certificate in Safeguarding of Children and Young People *Part-time evening*
Master of Arts in Management of Social Care Services *Part-time evening*
Master of Science in Mental Health Studies *Part-time evening*
Master of Science in Addiction Studies *Part-time evening*



SR ADELE BALDACCHINO

Lifetime Achievement Award 2020

Since I always and continuously keep Jesus in my heart, I feel I am the Church, not the Church as in the building, but rather a Church of flesh. I really want to be that person in which other people see the Holy Spirit in me, as I see the Holy Spirit in every other person. As a nun, I do not have children, however I am still the mother of many. I can say that they are right when the inmates refer to me as their mum. For me, this brings me comfort because they feel that they are loved.



REB XIBERRAS

Social Commitment Award 2020

I am passionate about civil rights. I would really like to get away from this 'us and them' discourse and instead have communities which are equally accessible. People want and deserve to feel they belong.



THINK

NEWSPPOINT



Closer to **you** than ever

um.edu.mt | [#ShineAtUM](https://twitter.com/ShineAtUM)





CLAUDE EBEJER
Research Support Officer

Deinstitutionalisation

The Faculty for Social Wellbeing together with the Ministry for Social Justice and Solidarity, The Family and Children's Rights is undertaking a research project to understand the impact of institutionalisation on the community and on our welfare system.



A first of its kind, this study will delve into the phenomenon of institutionalisation on the Maltese islands, the quality of care and its impact on the quality of life of a person. The ultimate purpose of this exercise is to identify solutions that enable compassionate community-centered initiatives that treat every human being with dignity by nurturing every person's inherent potential and leaving no one behind.

Claude Ebejer is a Research Support Officer with the Faculty for Social Wellbeing and is also a civil society activist passionate about the native flora and the arts.

A photograph of a person's legs in blue jeans and grey sneakers walking a white dog on a blue leash. The scene is outdoors on a paved path. The image is framed by large, semi-transparent blue shapes: a semi-circle at the top right, a triangle at the bottom left, and a semi-circle at the bottom right. The text 'Rethink Mobility' is overlaid on the left side of the image. 'Rethink' is in orange and white, and 'Mobility' is in white. A yellow ribbon icon is positioned to the right of the word 'Mobility'.

Rethink Mobility



Slow Streets



Resident
First 

 A better quality of life



MINISTRY FOR TRANSPORT,
INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL PROJECTS



MINISTRY FOR THE NATIONAL HERITAGE,
THE ARTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT



Transport Malta



Assocjazzjoni
Kunsilli Lokali

Local Councils' Association Malta

Unity Brings Strength!

What do we offer?

- Collective trading on pay and conditions
- Direct involvement when changes at your workplace occur
- Full participation in union political strategy
- Legal advice and services
- Personal and collective representation
- Health and safety
- Equality
- Stability at the workplace
- Continuous training
- Membership value



2567 9200

www.gwu.org.mt

info@gwu.org.mt



COMPETENCE



DIVERSITY



EMPOWERING



PROTECTING

Platform for Migration

In an increasingly integrated world, migration presents opportunities and challenges to communities, institutions and individuals alike.

The mission of the University of Malta Platform for Migration is to offer a dialogical space in which researchers from different academic disciplines can work towards understanding all the evolving aspects of international migration, including that of belonging across generations. Our long-term goal is to thereby contribute to an equitable, more sustainable and more inclusive society that brings benefits to migrants and their families, communities of origin, destination and transit, as well as their sending and receiving countries.

For more information contact us on: migration.platform@um.edu.mt



“This observatory will serve as a watchdog for children’s rights and together with the university’s academics, we can drive change and influence policymakers through further research and data. Children’s right to be listened to and taken seriously is an entitlement, and not a privilege that can be denied. CROM is a collective effort to ensure children’s aspirations remain at the forefront of the agenda.”

ET Marie Louise Coleiro Preca
President Emeritus

Faculty events

Faculty Board

Let's Toast the Faculty

Freshers' Welcome Events

Faculty Doctoral Committee

Pre-drinks for Under/Postgraduate

Graduands

Staff Christmas Lunch

Street Theatre

Staff Easter Lunch

Freshers' Away Day

Team Building Events

Service Users' Forum

Professional Mentoring Programme

College of Heads of Departments

Coffee with the Dean

Faculty on the Move!

Dean's Forum

Dean's Award Ceremony

Stakeholders Meetings

Faculty Seminar

Faculty Conference

Brown Bag Seminars

Professorial Lecture Series

Public Lectures, Seminars and

Symposia

UNITY 2021

The Research, Publications & Scholarship Committee

The Research, Publication and Scholarship Committee (RPSC) was set up to create a space whereby scholarship can thrive. Through the numerous activities it organises, ranging from publications to media programs, from seminars to conferences, RPSC is becoming an important pillar for the Faculty.

For more information contact research.fsw@um.edu.mt

Faculty Research Ethics Committee

Faculty Research Ethics Committee (FREC) is a very important statutory committee of our Faculty. We take research ethics very seriously to ensure that the people who are collaborating in our research activities are being safeguarded. Working in the social sector is not only delicate but places a major responsibility on our stakeholders which we do not take lightly.

For more information contact research-ethics.fsw@um.edu.mt



Why not read a
Ph.D. with
our Faculty?

socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt

Our Story

The Faculty for Social Wellbeing was established by the University of Malta Council in July 2012. The setting up of our Faculty has brought together a number of UM entities which address different aspects of 'Social Wellbeing'.



Each of our departments contributes towards the welfare of society, in its particular way, according to its expertise. The different fields of knowledge are multidisciplinary. They are animated by the same utilitarian spirit and led by the same values of solidarity, empathy, social justice, empowerment, inclusion, rehabilitation, prevention and positive intervention. Our departments feed from and nourish the same body of knowledge – that pertaining to living in modern society: the issues, the challenges, the aspirations and needs faced by people today. Their multidisciplinary nature, the spirit and values they share, make it possible for all these departments, for their members (academics and otherwise) to work together, as a team, in harmony.

We offer a wide range of diploma, undergraduate and postgraduate courses, a number of which lead to a profession. We organise regular seminars and conferences which serve as excellent opportunities for continuous professional development for practitioners in the social sector.

Our members of staff are deeply committed to research and a number contribute to research projects at both a national and international level. Several are respected, widely published scholars in their field of specialisation. In addition, many of the members of staff engage with the community through their contribution to government boards and committees, to non-governmental organisations and professional associations.

Our Faculty biography can be found on the UM YouTube channel.

The University of Malta

Cottonera Resource Centre

The University of Malta Cottonera Resource Centre was set up to act as a bridge between the communities in the inner harbour region and the University of Malta. The Centre seeks to act as a hub that co-ordinates links between these communities and the University, facilitating resource-transfer and capacity building.

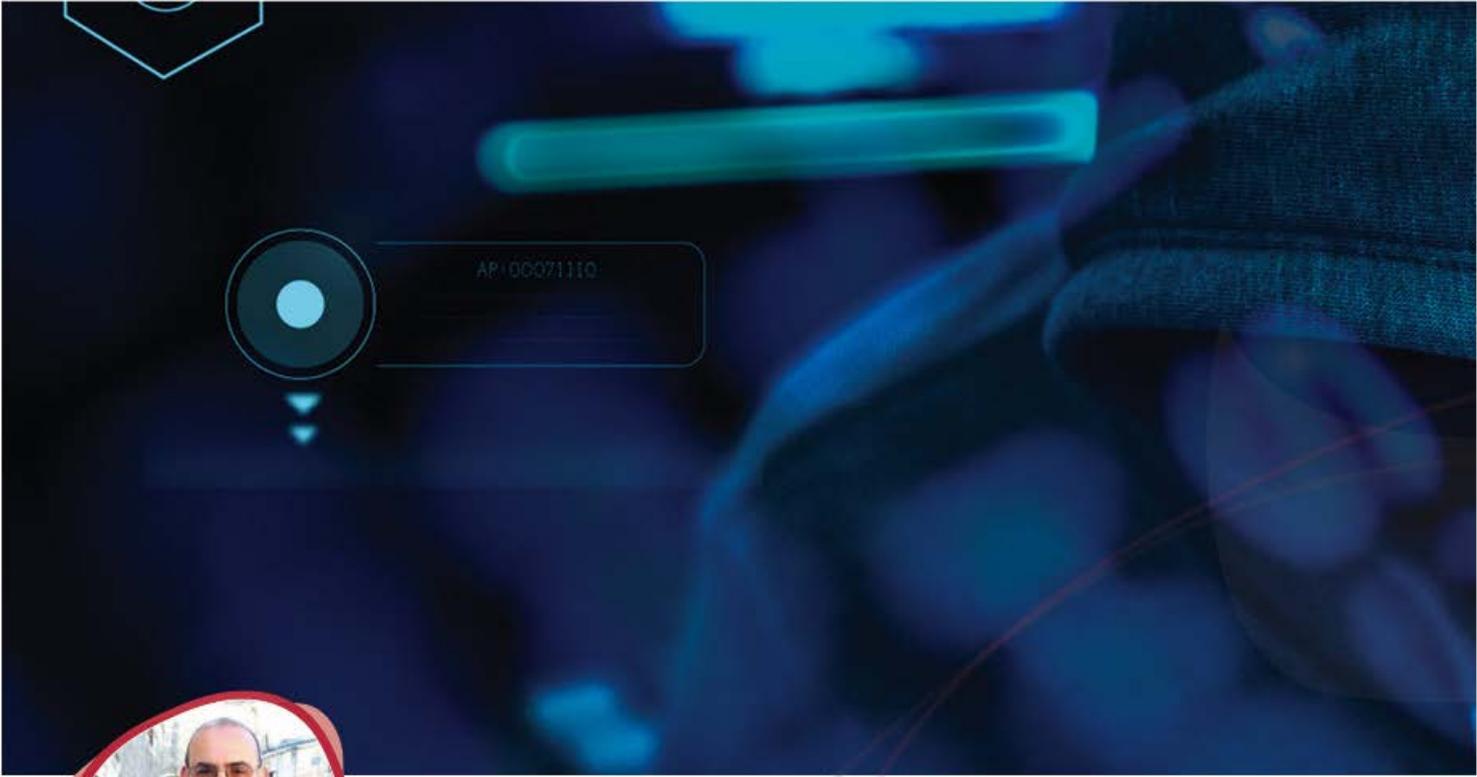
The main aims of the Centre are to promote higher and tertiary education among the communities in question by building on existing skills and resources, providing information, as well as support and guidance to those interested in furthering their education. At the same time, the Centre's remit is to promote the area's potential, both in terms of skills, trades and other forms of heritage that are particular to the region. At the Cottonera Resource Centre we are excited and looking forward to the start of the new Academic Year. Amongst other, we are offering O'Level revision classes on an online basis in various subjects. We look forward to having you and to make contact with us on crc@um.edu.mt

The current Director is Dr Katya De Giovanni (who is also a resident academic within the Faculty for Social Wellbeing) and the recently appointed Chairperson is Prof. Andrew Azzopardi (who is the Dean of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing).

Bachelor of Arts in Social Wellbeing (Hons.)

The ethos, rationale, and programme of the Honour's Bachelorate in Social Wellbeing are an education in themselves. This innovative degree is not only meant to provide high-quality academic education but also broaden the horizons of our students. The fact that students have to design their own programme, apart from the few compulsory modules, allows students to prepare for two very important aspects in today's society - flexibility and to make the best with resources and constraints available. This degree also provides a platform for students to communicate well and solve problems. Further, it makes graduates eligible for a number of master's level programmes and professions. Join us!

For more information contact us on: socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt



FR FRANCO FENECH
Diocesan Priest

The challenge of recidivism

RISe Foundation is a non-governmental organization with the scope of tackling the problem of recidivism and the cycle of generational incarceration in Malta which is one of the highest rates in Europe.



RISe's services are important because they specifically cater for a one-year residential programme which circumvents on the individual's needs, particularly focusing on the risks and at the same time responsivity of its service users in a holistic manner. In conceptual terms, it bridges the gap between prison and society. The concept of rehabilitation and reintegration is the way forward in decreasing the rate of recidivism because it ties with the notion of 'Restorative Justice'. It is important to keep in mind that if prisoners are properly prepared to reintegrate back into society before completion of their prison sentence or before a parole license can

be granted, there will be a lesser chance of the person committing another crime and thus avoiding having more victims in our society.

Fr. Franco Fenech is co-founder, together with Mr. Charles Mifsud, of RISe Foundation. He is a Diocesan Priest with experience in various social aspects such as Homelessness, Prison Chaplaincy and rehabilitation. He followed the course of Philosophy and Theology in Ancona Seminary in Italy which is affiliated with the Lateranense University, together with a course in the Istituto Superiore per Formatori in the Gregoriana University in Rome.



GREENSERV

CREATING URBAN GREEN SPACES

REINFORCING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL MISSION

PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS





Our service is based on the principle of Restorative Justice; **emphasizing the safety and protection of society**. We will continue to work with Corradino Correctional Facility and prepare offenders for reintegration in society.

As a result of this reintegration, the rate of recidivism is expected to decrease, therefore, enhancing the general public safety.

40, St Christopher Street, Valletta, Malta. VLT1464
+356 2122 8855 / +356 7922 8855



I believe my time at the Faculty for Social Wellbeing prepared me to really engage with a variety of social issues. Be it reading, reflection and sharing during lectures, or engagement with the community through placements, I was able to widen my experience and grow into my role as a counsellor

SARA ZINGARIELLO
Master in Counselling

I believe that the shared values that the Department and students have has made me better prepared to share the journey with the service users I will be working with.

SERENA ELLUL SOLER
Master in Family Therapy and Systemic Practice





Taking up studying at the University of Malta at age 50 was one of the best decisions I took. It has been a learning experience of immense value for my practice as a youth worker and for my life in general.

MARY ROSE FORMOSA

*Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
in Youth and Community Studies*

I am very happy to have taken on this course as I feel it has broadened my horizons and given me deeper understanding

BJORN BORG

Bachelor of Psychology





Students and alumni from the Department of Criminology discuss career opportunities at Grant Thornton

Contrary to popular belief, criminology does not only open doors in policing, but it also creates opportunities in the compliance and risk sector.



DANIEL BORG
Compliance and Risk Intern

This is a dynamic and evolving environment which has become a crucial requirement in all businesses which are seeking to have safe growth, as new and different forms of risks are arising, especially through white collar crimes. Since the day I enrolled in the criminology course, I was heavily intrigued in the different ways white collar crimes, such as money laundering, can be prevented in order not to harm the economy. Currently, I am in my second year of the course, and at the beginning of 2021 I decided to apply for an internship role at Grant Thornton. Without a shadow of a doubt, it has been the best decision I could have made to improve my knowledge and gaining first-hand experience of what difficulties and challenges this environment might pose to a company and/or the economy. As an intern, I have received a warm welcome and training was provided on multiple procedures which were aimed to improve knowledge of

anti-money laundering and counter financing of terrorism. Furthermore, I have also been trained on the importance for companies to have a business and jurisdictional risk assessment, as these guidelines are put in place to safely determine if a client may pose a threat to the integrity of the organisation. This not only aided me to acquire the required knowledge to start performing the basic tasks that come with my role, but also added great value to my studies, helping me gain a different perspective and a wider spectrum of information about subjects within the course which are related to risk and compliance. Moreover, this work experience is also preparing me to be better equipped when I graduate and finish my course in a year's time. I am grateful for the opportunity that Grant Thornton offered me, making it possible to balance studies and work because of the flexible hours and guidance from everyone within the company. I am glad to have been chosen to embark on this new chapter in my life as it is not only helping me improve my academic knowledge but also to get a taste of the working environment and challenges this sector presents.

**NIAMH DALTON***Compliance and Risk Executive*

Following graduation in 2018, I began my career with the National Statistics Office as a data analyst until I was granted the opportunity to work with Grant Thornton in 2019. Whilst working with the firm, I have been able to implement most of what I have learnt throughout my studies in criminology. My role consists of conducting customer due diligence, ensuring that Grant Thornton is compliant with local and EU legislation such as anti-money laundering and counter financing of terrorism regimes, risk management with the implementation of mitigation measures in light of health and safety, reputational risk and operational risks to mention a few. Furthermore, I have been granted the opportunity to conduct several compliance audits which has developed my understanding of the various entities within the financial sector and their relevant regulatory requirements.

Although nothing really prepares you for the real working world, criminology has provided me with the basic skills and expertise to carry out my role as a Compliance and Risk executive. Study units like criminal investigation, risk and security management, white collar crimes, cybercrime and offence and criminal profiling are essential tools when working in the compliance and risk sector. My interests within the sector have developed further which led me to undertake a Masters of Science in Crime Science and Counter Fraud & Counter Corruption with the University of Portsmouth. I am currently within the second and final year of the course and look forward to completing my studies in August 2021. Grant Thornton pushes for growth and therefore, provides the flexibility for its employees to continue with their studies.

In 2015, I graduated in Criminology, a subject that I was passionate about because it gave me a purpose and the skills to help society in dealing with crimes. Fast forward to two years later and I was employed by Grant Thornton as a compliance officer after I spent a year working for a big four company. For the past five years, Grant Thornton helped me to apply what I learnt during my studies and pushed me to grow both on a personal and professional level. Initially, my role was more inward looking and focused on anti-money laundering and funding of terrorism matters. However, over the years, the role expanded to cover other aspects like risk management in relation to operational risk and data protection as well as other regulatory compliance. The team has grown too, and we are now even offering our services to customers which include compliance consultancy services and anti-money laundering and counter financing of terrorism related audits. My role is also giving me the opportunity to mentor and train my colleagues whilst seeing them grow within their role. In the meantime, Grant Thornton is supporting me to continue with my studies as in 2019, I started a Masters of Science in Security Management and Counter Fraud & Counter Corruption with the University of Portsmouth.

**RUTH ESPOSITO***Compliance and Risk Intern*

JOIN

The Agency for the
Welfare of Asylum
Seekers



AWAS

AGENCY FOR THE WELFARE OF ASYLUM SEEKERS

If you are searching for a multicultural
environment, positive team dynamics &
an adventurous career

email- awas@gov.mt

Tel- 2568 7200

Remembering our loved ones

We remember those who were part of the Faculty community. There is no sadder moment than one which involves the loss of students and colleagues;

Dr Jacqueline Azzopardi

Former Deputy Dean and Head of the Department of Criminology, who passed in 2016

Jerome Frendo

BA (Hons.) Social Wellbeing Studies student, who passed in 2017

Sarah Lee Borg

Social work alumnus, who passed in 2017

Christa Formosa

Social work alumnus, who passed in 2018

Jason Cauchi

BPsy student, who passed in 2019

Fr Alfred Darmanin sj

Former lecturer with the Department of Psychology, who passed in 2019

Frances Cini

BA (Hons.) Criminology student, who passed in 2020

Prof. Vivienne Lee

Former lecturer with the Department of Counselling, who passed in 2020

"Their untimely passing has dampened the beautiful journey we share in this community and has left us heart-broken. We loved them, we will never forget them, and we will continue to honour and celebrate their lives as we carry forward their work and passion in their respective fields".

Prof. Andrew Azzopardi | Dean



RENEE LAIVIERA

Commissioner and Acting Executive Director of the National Commission for the Promotion of Equality.

Safeguarding equality

The National Commission for the Promotion of Equality (NCPE) is an independent body established by Chapter 456 of the Laws of Malta to safeguard equality on the basis of sex, family responsibilities, religion/belief, age, sexual orientation, race/ethnic origin and gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics in employment, education and banks and financial institutions.



The NCPE's remit also covers discrimination on the basis of sex and race/ethnic origin in goods and services and the freedom of movement for workers in the EU.

The NCPE investigates complaints of alleged discrimination and sexual harassment; raises awareness on equality issues through contributions in the media, giving training and organising and

participating in events. Recommendations for the integration of an equality perspective in proposed actions are regularly submitted on a national, EU and International level.

Renee Laiviera is currently the Commissioner and Acting Executive Director of the National Commission for the Promotion of Equality.

Kite

BOOKS PEOPLE LOVE

25% DISCOUNT ON ALL TITLES

- ▶ BIOGRAPHIES
- ▶ HUMOUR
- ▶ SHORT STORIES
- ▶ POLITICS
- ▶ HISTORY
- ▶ ACADEMIC
- ▶ ART
- ▶ SOCIAL ISSUES
- ▶ PHOTOGRAPHY
- ▶ RESEARCH
- ▶ POETRY
- ▶ ENVIRONMENT
- ▶ MELITENSIA



13, Triq Il-Frangiskani,
Hamrun, HMR 1192



+356 9993 2592

ONLINE SHOP

www.kitegroup.com.mt

insert voucher code BOOKS25
to benefit from 25% discount

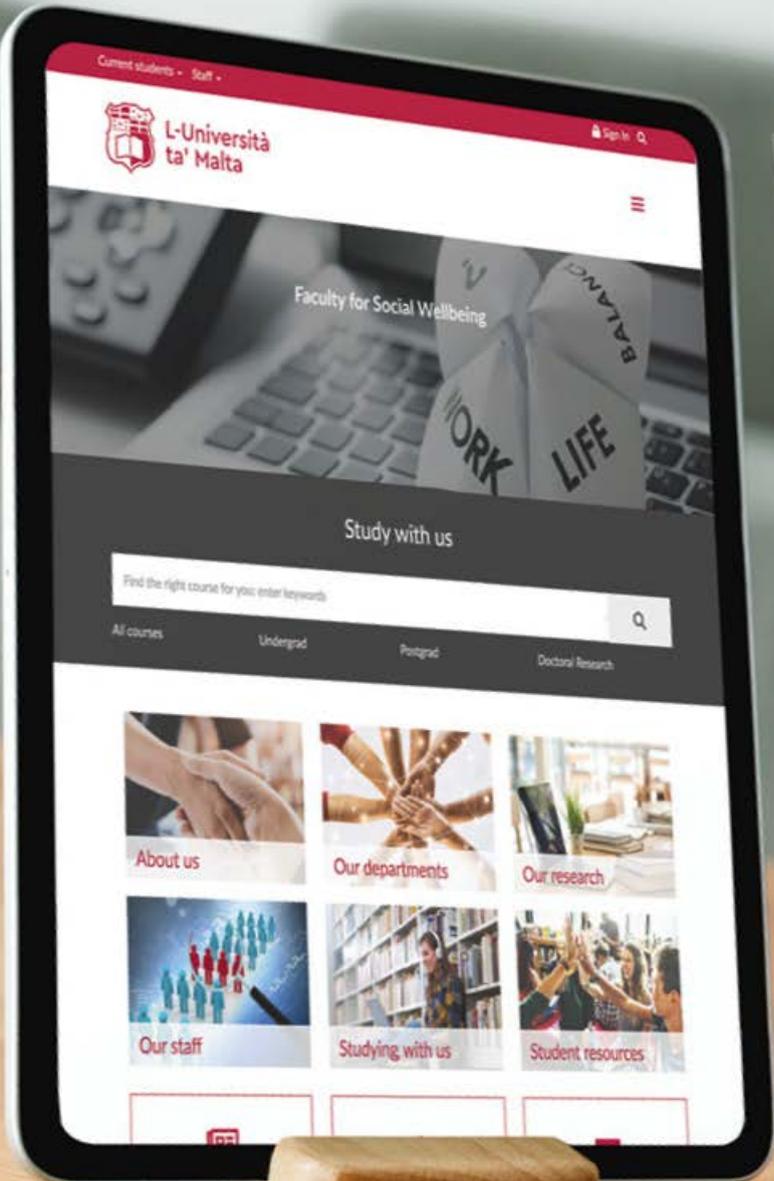


DIGEST

KEEP CONNECTED
WITH THE FACULTY EVENTS

Register on email
socialwellbeing@um.edu.mt





Current students - Staff



Sign In



Faculty for Social Wellbeing

Study with us

Find the right course for you: enter keywords



All courses

Undergrad

Postgrad

Doctoral Research



About us



Our departments



Our research



Our staff



Studying with us



Student resources

www.um.edu.mt/socialwellbeing

A professional studio microphone with a silver mesh grille and a black body is mounted on a boom arm. A pair of black headphones is draped over the boom arm in the foreground. The background is a blurred studio setting with a computer monitor and bookshelves.

***FACULTY PODCAST
COMING SOON***

STAY TUNED...

Hear to Engage



10th
ANNIVERSARY

Faculty for Social Wellbeing
2012 - 2022



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
MINISTRY FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
AND SOLIDARITY, THE FAMILY
AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

familja

CHILDREN

need love from both

parents,

whether they are living together
or in separate homes



familja.gov.mt

facebook.com/familjagovmt



 GHAR LAPS*i*



VisitMalta

OFFICIAL DESTINATION PARTNER

MORE
TO EXPLORE

