UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PS2303 Methods III, 5 credits

Vetenskaplig metod III, 5 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Psychology on 2019-11-20 and was last revised on 2020-09-09 to be valid from 2021-01-18, spring semester of 2021.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%
Department: Department of Psychology

Position in the educational system

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master´s Programme in Psychological Science (S2MAP)

Main field of studies	*Specialization*
Psychology	A1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

Only students admitted to the Master's Programme in Psychological Science (S2MAP) at the University of Gothenburg have access to the course. To access the course, students are required to have a passing grade in the course Psychology as a Science (PS2101) and the course Methods I (PS2301).

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- Describe and explain features of, and differences between, different quantitative research designs

- Describe and explain the link between research designs and statistical tests as well as the link between different statistical tests
- Describe and explain the advantages and disadvantages of frequentist and Bayesian inference respectively

Competence and skills

- Choose the appropriate research design depending on the research question
- Choose and use the suitable statistical testing procedure regarding differences between groups and conditions

Judgement and approach

- Critically evaluate the underlying concepts of different statistical tests regarding differences between groups and conditions
- Critically evaluate scientific work in applied psychological research with regard to the appropriateness of the analyses, applications, and interpretations

Course content

This course provides students with in-depth knowledge and skills in quantitative design and analysis, including analysis software, with focus on concepts such as experimental design, and parametric and non-parametric analysis techniques for testing hypotheses regarding differences between groups and conditions (e.g., t-test, ANOVA, chi-square tests), including an introduction to Bayesian statistics.

Form of teaching

Teaching will take place in the form of lectures and seminars. Active learning activities will be incorporated.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The learning outcomes are assessed through individual and/or group-based written and oral assignments. For example, students will, in small groups, be presented with a wide array of research questions and data and are required to choose and carry out appropriate statistical tests. Arrangements to compensate for absence are made according to the course leader's instructions. All teaching can provide the basis for examination.

A student who has taken two exams in a course or part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner. The student needs to contact the department for a new examiner, preferably in writing. This should be

approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special educational support, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, the examiner may decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years, after the course has ceased/been changed. The same applies to placements and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).
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In order to obtain the grade Pass (G) in the course, the following is required:

- Active attendance on workshops and seminars, as well as the grade Pass (G) on all linked written assignments.
- The grade Pass (G) on the individual written exam.

In order to obtain the grade Pass with Distinction (VG) in the course, the following is required:

- Active attendance on workshops and seminars, as well as the grade Pass (G) on all linked written assignments.
- The grade Pass with Distinction (VG) on the individual written exam.

Course evaluation

The course coordinator is responsible for ensuring that students are given the opportunity to provide an anonymous, written course evaluation at the end of the course. After the course is finished, the course coordinator writes a report, which includes a summary of the course evaluation. The report is processed in the Drafting Committee for the Master's Programme in Psychological Science. The report and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation as well as students who will start the course. These reports will be made available for students.

Additional information

If the course requires use of internet, computer, digital resources, it is a student's responsibility to make sure they have access to such resources.