



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PX1102 Environmental Psychology: Human environment interaction, 30 credits

Miljöpsykologi: Interaktion mellan människa och miljö, 30 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Psychology on 2015-09-23 and was last revised on 2020-09-09 to be valid from 2021-08-30, autumn semester of 2021.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Psychology

Other participating department

Department of Psychology

Position in the educational system

The course is a core course and is given as a freestanding course at first cycle level.

The course can be part of the following programmes: 1) Program in Environmental Social Science (S1SML) and 2) Program in Environmental Social Science (S1SMI)

Main field of studies

Psychology

Specialization

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Entry requirements

General entrance requirements

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- describe key theories in social psychology and environmental psychology
- describe how relevant psychological theories can give insight into human actions in environment related situations
- describe key theories and current psychology research on how people are affected by surrounding environments
- describe various aspects of sustainable development and global challenges, and connect it to science about psychological well-being

Competence and skills

- orally and in writing describe and discuss sustainable development and psychological problems related to surrounding environments
- orally and in writing describe and discuss how people are psychologically affected by surrounding environments
- independently identify and suggest solutions to behaviours rooted in negative effects of environments

The course is sustainability-related, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria.

Course content*Sub-courses***1. Theories in Environmental Psychology (*Miljöpsykologisk teori*), 15 credits**

Grading scale: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U)

Module 1 gives basic knowledge of the interaction between man and the surrounding environment; the importance of psychological factors for decision-making in environment related situations, for example in terms of transport or energy, as well as the psychological impact on surrounding environments, for example man made or natural environment. This module focuses on environmental problems and global challenges regarding economic, ecological and social sustainability from a psychological perspective. It also presents how people's actions can be influenced by their values, attitudes, motives and habits, to name a few. The course also features the psychological impact of surrounding environments, for example the impact of nature or the man made environment on stress, recovery and well-being.

2. **Application of Environmental Psychology** (*Miljöpsykologisk tillämpning och fördjupning*), 15 credits

Grading scale: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U)

Module 2 consists of two parts: Environmental psychology application (7.5 credits) and Specialisation (7.5 credits). The Environmental psychology application part gives applied examples of which role the environmental psychology can have in the surrounding society. It also features various environmental psychology methods. Within the framework of the course, students do a minor project, where they focus on a specific issue within environmental psychology.

In the Specialisation part, students apply gained knowledge in a more advanced project.

Form of teaching

The teaching methods include lectures, exercises, seminars and group work.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Assessment

All teaching and reading list can form the basis for examination. Students are assessed by a written exam, comprising 15 higher education credits as well as oral and written group work presentations, 15 higher education credits. Participation in exercises, seminars and group assignments is compulsory. Any absence should be compensated according to the instructions of the course coordinator.

If a student who has failed the same examined component twice, wants to change examiner before the next examination, they should submit a written request to the department responsible for the course. The request shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

If the University of Gothenburg has decided that a student is eligible for special study support, the examiner may, provided it is compatible with the aim of the course and it can be done within the scope of available resources, decide to offer the student an adjusted examination or a different examination format.

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student should normally be guaranteed access to at least three opportunities for examination (including the regular examination session) during a period of at least one year, but at the most two years after the course has been discontinued/changed. With regards to internships/placement the same as above applies, with the exception that examination is offered on only one occasion.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

Passing (G) the course requires: active participation in all compulsory exercises and seminars, at least 60 percent of correct answers on the written exam (in Environmental psychology theory), and a passing grade on both projects (Environmental psychology application and Specialisation).

Passing with Distinction (VG) requires: active participation in all compulsory exercises and seminars and at least 80 percent of correct answers on the written exam (in Environmental psychology theory), and a Pass with Distinction (VG) on at least one of the projects (in Environmental psychology application or Specialisation) and a minimum a Pass (G) on the other project.

Course evaluation

The course coordinator is responsible for ensuring that students are given the opportunity to provide an anonymous, written course feedback at the end of the course. On completion of the course, the course coordinator writes a course report, which includes a summary of students' feedback. The course report is discussed in a relevant course evaluation group and is communicated both to the students, who completed the course evaluation as well as to the students who are starting the course. The reports are made available to students.

Additional information

It is the student's responsibility to make sure to have access to digital tools like computer, internet or similar resources.