



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PX1103 Developmental psychology: Children and adolescents, 30 credits

Utvecklingspsykologi: Barn och ungdomar, 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 can be included in a bachelor's degree.

Main field of studies

Psychology

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

General entrance requirements

Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- explain key theories and concepts in developmental psychology
- describe human psychological development from infancy up to late adolescence

- explain cognitive, emotional and social aspects of the development and relate these to one another

Competence and skills

- orally and in writing account for developmental psychological knowledge during childhood and adolescence
- use developmental psychological concepts and theories to discuss developmental psychological knowledge during childhood and adolescence
- independently seek and compile knowledge in the field of developmental psychology

Judgement and approach

- reflect on how the development of children and young people depends on contextual factors

Course content

Sub-courses

1. Introduction (*Introduktion*), 5 credits

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

Module 1 gives an introduction to the subject of developmental psychology by presenting key concepts and perspectives on development. It also focuses on the emergence of developmental psychology, current issues and methods. This module highlights biological basis for psychological development.

2. Emotion (*Emotioner*), 3 credits

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

Module 2 addresses emotional development from infancy to adolescence, with special focus on attachment theory. This module also addresses the development of temperament and personality, and how children learn to understand emotions.

3. Perception and cognition (*Perception och kognition*), 7 credits

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

Module 3 features perceptual and cognitive development. Students learn about various theoretical perspectives on cognitive development. It presents cognitive explanatory models of learning and memory. The course also addresses the development of mentalization.

4. Language and communication (*Språk och kommunikation*), 5 credits

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

Module 4 deals with early communication abilities and their significance for development. It also focuses on concept development, language development and learning to read and write. The importance of communicative abilities for

development is highlighted. This module gives an introduction to various theories on language development.

5. Social development (*Social utveckling*), 7 credits

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

Module 5 presents theories on children's and adolescents' social development. It addresses issues related to self-development, identity, social relationships and gender. It highlights the relationship between individuals and their environments. This module also addresses moral development.

6. Thesis work (*Fördjupningsarbete*), 3 credits

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

Module 6 is about an advanced project with a theme or issue (of a theoretical or practical nature) that has been discussed during the course. Students carry out a written advanced literature project. They present projects, get feedback and also give peer feedback.

Form of teaching

The teaching methods include digital lectures and computer-based tools for self-study. In order to participate in the course, students from the very start of the course need access to the Internet and a computer.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Assessment

All teaching and reading list can form the basis for examination. Examination is conducted both orally and in writing. Each module is examined separately.

Seminars, application assignments, practical exercises and presentations are compulsory. Any absence should be communicated to the course coordinator and compensated as agreed. If the absence exceeds two compulsory components per semester, students should wait till next year to take up the missing/corresponding components.

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. The above is also applicable to internships and on-the-job-trainings, with the exception that examination is given on only one occasion.

Grades

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

To receive a Pass (G), students must:

- get a Pass (G) on all modules
- actively participate in compulsory components in all modules

To receive a Pass with distinction (VG), students must:

- get a Pass with distinction (VG) on at least four modules, and a Pass (G) on remaining modules
- actively participate in compulsory components in all modules

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. These reports are 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.