



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PX1163 Psychological aspects on addiction, 15 credits

Psykologiska aspekter på bruk, riskbruk och beroende, 15 högskolepoäng

First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Psychology on 2017-09-15 and was last revised on 2022-10-31 to be valid from 2023-01-16, spring semester of 2023.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Psychology

Position in the educational system

The course is given as a freestanding course.

Main field of studies

Psychology

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

General entrance requirements.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- describe how alcohol and other drugs affect the feelings, thoughts and behavior of the individual
- describe and explain how alcohol and other drugs are related to health and ill health
- review and compare different psychological theories on use, harmful use and addiction to alcohol and other drugs, which form the basis for and are used in primary prevention and psychosocial treatment

Competence and skills

- be able to search, read and review literature in the field
- orally and in writing explain, and discuss, central theories of use, risk use and addiction
- demonstrate an understanding of different theoretical perspectives and integrate these into applied tasks.

Judgement and approach

- problematize the content of central theories and account for possible socially relevant applications of these theories
- review psychological knowledge and its applications with a focus on use, risk use and addiction
- identify needs for continued knowledge development in the field of use, risk use and addiction, in the field of psychology

Course content

The course aims to provide a basic understanding of the psychological field of addiction, especially with regard to alcohol and other drugs, with a focus on central theoretical frameworks and socially relevant areas of application.

Sub-courses

- 1. Public health perspective on alcohol and drug use** (*Folkhälsoperspektiv på alkohol- och annan droganvändning*), 3 credits

Grading scale: Pass (G) and Fail (U)

The module provides an introduction to the area of usage, hazardous use, and dependence on alcohol and other drugs from a public health perspective. The public health perspective is also discussed with a focus on inequalities from a class, gender and ethnicity perspective.

- 2. Theoretical perspectives on addiction** (*Teoretiska perspektiv på bruk, riskbruk och beroende*), 7 credits

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

The module begins with the basics on alcohol and drug education. Furthermore, various psychological theories about alcohol and other drugs are presented in relation to use, hazardous use and addiction and how they are related to mental health and behavior. The module also provides a general understanding on primary prevention and psychosocial treatment.

- 3. Project work** (*Projektarbete*), 5 credits

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

The module aims at an in-depth study of addiction psychology to integrate and apply the knowledge presented within the framework of the course. The in-depth study takes place through a written project work based on some given themes in addiction psychology.

Form of teaching

The teaching takes place in the form of lectures, exercises, seminars, group work and supervision.

Language of instruction: Swedish

The course literature can consist of both Swedish- and English-language literature.

Assessment

All teaching as well as course literature and other course material provided during the course may form the basis for examination. Module 1 is examined through examining seminars, module 2 through a written exam and module 3 through a written project work that is presented orally. Each module will be examined by oral and / or written examination. All compulsory exercises, seminars, group work and oral presentations require active participation. Compensation for absence is made according to the course coordinator's instructions.

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 a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special educational support, the examiner may, given it is compatible with the course objectives and unreasonable resources are required, decide to give the student an adapted examination or alternative examination form.

In the event where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examinations (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year up to two years after the course has been discontinued/changed. The same applies for internships and on-the-job trainings, but with a restriction to only one additional examination session.

Grades

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

To receive the final grade Passed in the course as a whole is required:

- the grade Pass on all three modules
- active participation in exercises, seminars, group assignments and oral presentations

To receive the final grade Pass with distinction in the course as a whole is required:

- the grade Pass with distinction on two of three modules and the grade Pass on remaining module
- active participation in exercises, seminars, group assignments and oral presentations

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. 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 available to students.

Additional information

If the course requires access to digital resources like a computer, internet or other tools, the student is responsible for making sure they have access to such resources.