



UNIVERSITY OF
GOTHENBURG

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PX2105 Social Psychology, 15 credits

Socialpsykologi, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Psychology on 2018-02-13 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

Position in the educational system

Main field of studies

Psychology

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

To enter the course, at least 90 HEC in psychology at Bachelor's level (first cycle), including a thesis of 15 credits, is required.

Applicants must also prove knowledge of English: English 6/English Course B or the equivalent level as certified by an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL or IELTS.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate knowledge of the scientific basis of social psychology and its subdomains

- explain central social psychological theories
- interpret and structure basic research findings in social psychological subdomains

Competence and skills

- systematically integrate knowledge in the field of social psychology
- apply social psychological theories in the analysis of societal problems
- independently identify and formulate well-defined social psychological research questions, and evaluate the questions in light of existing empirical research literature

Judgement and approach

- critically reflect on central social psychological research findings and theories
- critically evaluate existing research on specific social psychological research questions

Course content

The course consists of two sub-courses:

Sub-courses

1. **Social psychological theories and main findings** (*Socialpsykologiska teorier och huvudfynd*), 7.5 credits

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

This section covers the most important theoretical frameworks within social psychology (e.g., cognitive, motivational, and behavioral perspectives).

Furthermore, important research findings in specific social psychological subareas are covered (e.g., attitudes, social cognition, social influence, and group processes), as well as the research methods that have generated these findings.

2. **Literature review** (*Litteraturöversikt*), 7.5 credits

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

In this section, the student writes a literature review on a specific topic of research in social psychology. The student independently decides on the focus of the review, drawing on the subareas addressed in the first section of the course. The student is thus expected to further develop the knowledge that has been acquired from the course's required reading, while developing their skill to navigate and evaluate the scientific literature.

Form of teaching

Teaching will take place in the form of lectures and seminars.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The learning outcomes are assessed through individual written assignments, active participation in seminars, and the final literature review. All seminars are subject to examination and are therefore obligatory. Arrangements to compensate for absence are made according to the course leader's instructions.

A student who has failed twice the same examination has the right to change examiner. The student should submit a written request to the Department and it should be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

A student with a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special educational support may sit an adjusted exam or get an alternative form of assessment, provided that the examiner decides it is compatible with the course learning outcomes and it does not require unreasonable resources.

In the event that a course has been discontinued or undergone major changes, the student must be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary one) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years after the course has been discontinued or 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). To obtain a Pass (G) grade for the entire course, the student must meet the following requirements:

- A Pass (G) grade for each individual written assignment (sub-course 1)
- Active participation in the course's obligatory seminars (sub-course 1)
- A Pass (G) grade for the literature review (sub-course 2)

To obtain a Pass with Distinction (VG) grade for the entire course, the student must meet the following requirements:

- A Pass (G) grade for each individual written assignment (sub-course 1)
- Active participation in the course's obligatory seminars (sub-course 1)
- A Pass with Distinction (VG) grade for the literature review (sub-course 2)

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 discussed in a relevant course evaluation group. The report and possible changes to the course are shared with students who participated in the evaluation as well as students who will start the course. These reports are available to students.

Additional information

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