



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PX2107 Psychological and psychosocial interventions for addiction, 15 credits

Psykologiska och psykosociala insatser vid riskbruk och beroende, 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

Addiction and Dependence with specialization in Psychology

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires higher education with a focus on care, nursing or treatment of at least 180 higher education credits, with at least 15 higher education credits in research methods, or 180 higher education credits, with at least 15 higher education credits in research methods and at least 60 higher education credits in psychology. Furthermore, applicants need Swedish B/Swedish 3 and English B/English 6.

Learning outcomes

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

Knowledge and understanding

- describe procedures for investigation, assessment and treatment planning for substance abuse and alcohol or other drugs dependence
- distinguish and describe evidence-based psychological and psychosocial interventions in substance abuse and alcohol or other drugs dependence
- account for psychological theories on behavior change and motivation

Competence and skills

- identify how the course of treatment and the individual change process can be related to internal and external motivation
- analyze power relations and ethical problems in connection with investigation and treatment of substance abuse and addiction
- analyze how investigation and treatment are affected by the context in which it is carried out, in particular with regard to the legal and organizational frameworks and conditions surrounding the work

Judgement and approach

- understand the basis for the concept of evidence and contrast evidence-based methods from evidence-based practice
- identify needs for continued knowledge development in the field of psychological and psychosocial interventions in substance abuse and alcohol or other drugs dependence

Course content

Sub-courses

1. Theoretical perspectives on psychological and psychosocial interventions for addiction
(*Teoretiska perspektiv på psykologiska och psykosociala stöd- och behandlingsinsatser*), 10 credits

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

Module 1 provides knowledge of investigative methods and techniques and various forms of treatment and support for substance abuse and alcohol or other drugs dependence. The module also provides knowledge about motivational theories and change processes, as well as how ethics, power and attitudes can affect investigation and treatment. The basis for the concept of evidence is addressed and problematized.

2. Thesis work (*Fördjupningsarbete*), 5 credits

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

Module 2 focuses on a practical in-depth work where investigation, assessment and treatment planning is done in order to integrate and apply the knowledge acquired in Module 1.

Form of teaching

The teaching methods include lectures, seminars and supervision.

Language of instruction: Swedish

Assessment

All teaching and readings can form basis for examination. The course is assessed by individual written examination and through a project that is presented orally and in writing. Introductory lecture, seminars and presentation of the projects are compulsory. Compensation for absence is made according to the course coordinator's instructions.

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

A student with a recommendation for special educational support from the University of Gothenburg may receive an adapted examination or alternative examination form provided that the examiner decides it is compatible with the course objectives and it does not require unreasonable resources.

In the event where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the student is 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 get a Pass (G) as final course grade, students must:

- actively participate in the compulsory seminars
- get a passing grade (G) on take-home examination, written advanced project and oral presentation

To get a Pass with Distinction (VG), students must:

- actively participate in the compulsory seminars and get a passing grade on oral presentation of their projects
- get a Pass with Distinction (VG) on take-home examination and written project

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 about the course. 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

It is the student's responsibility to make sure they have access to a computer, internet or other digital tools if required.