



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

PX2111 Psychological perspectives on psychiatric diagnoses, 15 credits

Psykologiska perspektiv på psykiatriska diagnoser, 15 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Psychology on 2018-10-01 and was last revised on 2023-12-19 to be valid from 2024-09-02, autumn semester of 2024.

Field of education: Social Sciences 100%

Department: Department of Psychology

Position in the educational system

The course is offered as a free standing course at second cycle level.

Main field of studies

Psychology

Specialization

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

Entry requirements

Admission to the course requires 1) higher education with a focus on care, nursing or treatment of at least 180 credits, with at least 15 credits in research methods, alternatively 2) higher education of 180 credits, with at least 15 credits in research methods and at least 30 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 the development of psychiatric diagnosis systems, the psychiatric care and

its current challenges

- describe psychological perspectives that explain the origin and treatment of mental illnesses
- explain how mental illnesses affect emotions, cognition, behaviors and relationships

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to critically and systematically compile and use scientific literature to deepen the understanding of mental illnesses
- demonstrate the ability to use a person-oriented way to respond to individuals with mental illnesses

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to ethically reflect from a person-centred approach
- demonstrate the ability to analyze and reflect on historical and contemporary perspectives on mental illness

Course content

Sub-courses

1. Theoretical perspectives on mental illness in a psychiatric context (*Teoretiska perspektiv på psykisk sjukdom i en psykiatrisk kontext*), 7.5 credits

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

Module 1 focuses on the development of the perspectives that form the basis for psychiatric diagnostic systems and psychiatric care. It also provides knowledge of psychological theories and models that explain the origin and treatment of mental illnesses. This module specifically addresses the connection between emotion, cognition, behaviour, relationships and mental illnesses. This module ends with an individual written examination.

2. Person centered and ethical approaches (*Personcentrerat och etiskt förhållningssätt*), 2.5 credits

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

Module 2 helps students train their skills in responding to individuals with mental illnesses in a person-oriented way. The trainings are done during seminars and workshops. This module also highlights treatment work based on ethical dilemmas such as the balance of power between patient and medical professional. Students get a chance to self-reflect on their own norms and values and how these can influence the reception and treatment of patients.

3. Thesis work (*Individuellt fördjupningsarbete*), 5 credits

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

During Module 3 students carry out an individual project on psychological perspectives on mental illnesses. The projects are presented orally and in writing.

Form of teaching

The course is web-based and teaching methods include lectures, exercises, seminars, group work and supervision.

Language of instruction: Swedish

The reading list includes both literature in Swedish and English.

Assessment

All teaching and literature form a basis for examination. Module 1 is assessed through individual written examination. Module 2 is assessed through active participation in seminars and workshops. Module 3 is assessed through individual written project that is also presented orally.

Introductory lecture, seminars, workshops and presentation of 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 receive a Pass (G) in the course, students must:

- get a Pass (G) on individual written examination (Module 1)
- get a Pass (G) on seminars and workshops (Module 2)
- get a Pass (G) on the written project (Module 3)

- actively participate in exercises, seminars, group assignments and oral presentations

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

- get a Pass with Distinction (VG) on individual written examination (Module 1)
- get a Pass (G) on seminars and workshops (Module 2)
- get a Pass with Distinction (VG) on the written project (Module 3)
- actively participate in exercises, seminars, group assignments and oral presentations

Course evaluation

The course instructor 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 instructor 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 will be made available to students.

Additional information

The course is web-based and it is the student's responsibility to make sure they have access to a computer, internet and other required digital tools.