



Faculty of Social Sciences

PSPB11, Course 1: Introduction to Psychology and the Profession, 22.5 credits

*Kurs 1: Introduktion till psykologin och psykologyrket, 22,5
högskolepoäng*
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Psychology on 2014-11-11 to be valid from 2015-08-31, autumn semester 2015.

General Information

The course is a compulsory component of semester 1 of the Master of Science programme in Psychology.

Language of instruction: Swedish
Some components may be in English.

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate general knowledge of key theories, concepts and research findings in the different fields of psychology
- demonstrate knowledge of key themes and principles of the theory of science and research methodology of relevance to psychology
- demonstrate knowledge of principles and methods of basic descriptive and inferential statistics
- demonstrate general knowledge of the development, fields, methods and professional ethics of the psychological profession

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to work in groups in the programme and guided by supervision reflect on the work of the group
- demonstrate the ability to apply basic statistical methods to research data of

This is a translation of the course
syllabus approved in Swedish

relevance to the discipline of psychology, and perform statistical calculations both manually and by means of a computer-based program

- demonstrate the ability to execute and compile minor studies based on qualitative and quantitative methodology
- demonstrate the ability to apply basic conversational skills within the scope of mapping/investigative interviews
- demonstrate the ability to reflectively and ethically discuss their own approach to interviews in groups

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to reflect in a basic way on ethical issues within the psychological profession and in psychological research
- demonstrate the ability to assess psychological research with regard to the methods used and theory of science foundations
- demonstrate the ability to reflect on how social factors such as gender, class and ethnicity interact with psychology as a science and the psychological profession

Course content

The aim of the course is to provide the future psychologists with a broad introduction to the profession and discipline of psychology as well as to the theory of science, research methodology and statistics.

The course consists of four modules:

Module 1:1. Introduction to the Psychology Programme and the Subject of Psychology, 7.5 credits.

The module is a broad introduction to the discipline of psychology and its different fields. It provides students with information about the programme and key educational issues such as the regulatory framework, study technique and study guidance. Furthermore, the module includes an introduction to theories and models for group cooperation that will be applied throughout the course.

Module 1:2. Psychology as Science- Theory of Science and Research Methodology, 6 credits.

The module is an introduction to key concepts and theories of epistemology and the theory of science, focusing especially on aspects of relevance to psychology. Furthermore, the module deals with basic research methodology and introduces research ethics. It also addresses the way in which social and cultural factors are handled within and interact with psychological research. The component on qualitative methodology also introduces conversation methodology focusing on mapping/investigative conversations.

Module 1:3. Introduction to Descriptive and Inferential Statistics, 5 credits.

The module provides students with a theoretical and practical introduction to statistics. It presents and enables students to apply descriptive statistics, correlation and prediction, and hypothesis testing with parametric and non-parametric tests.

Module 1:4. The Psychological Profession, 4 credits.

The module introduces the psychological profession and the main professional fields of psychologists. Furthermore, it addresses key principles and dilemmas of professional ethics and includes work on a minor investigation based on interviews with professional psychologists.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, exercises and seminars. Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required in the seminars and exercises. In the case of valid absence, students are responsible for contacting the module director. Students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances such as accidents or sudden illness will be offered the opportunity to compensate for or re-take compulsory components during the same semester. This also applies to students who have missed teaching because of activities as a student representative.

Assessment

The assessment is based on written exams in connection with the modules, and on completed exercises and group presentations.

Three opportunities for examination are offered for written tests: a first examination and two re-examinations.

Two further re-examinations on the same course content are offered within a year of a major change of the the course (e.g. change of the required reading). After this, further re-examination opportunities are offered but in accordance with the current course syllabus.

The learning outcome of the ability to work in groups is assessed by an examiner in consultation with the module director. A detailed assessment of the learning outcome will be performed if there are supported indications of clear cooperation problems based on documentation from conversations with the people involved.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass.

The grades awarded are Pass or Fail.. For a grade of Pass, the student must have attained the learning outcomes stated for the course.

At the start of the course students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must be admitted to the Master of Science programme in Psychology.

Subcourses in PSPB11, Course 1: Introduction to Psychology and the Profession

Applies from H15

- 1401 Introduction to the Psychology Programme and Psychology, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1402 Psychology as Science, Sc. Theory and Research Meth., 6,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1403 Introduction to Descriptive and Inferential Statistics, 5,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1404 The Psychologists' Profession, 4,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass