



Faculty of Social Sciences

PSPB16, Course 6: Clinical Psychology I, 23 credits

Kurs 6: Klinisk psykologi I, 23 högskolepoäng

First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by the board of the Department of Psychology on 2014-11-11 and was last revised on 2015-05-20 by Programme Committee for the Master of Science Programme in Psychology. . The revised syllabus applied from 2015-08-30. , autumn semester 2015.

General Information

The course is a compulsory component of semester 4 and 5 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 good knowledge of systems and principles for the classification of psychiatric disorders, and of research findings concerning the incidence, prevalence, process and consequences of specific psychiatric disorders
- demonstrate specialised knowledge of key theories and research findings of relevance to an understanding of the interplay between external and internal factors that can make individuals dysfunctional in relation to normal function
- demonstrate specialised understanding of psychodynamic and cognitive behavioural models used to explain mental illness
- demonstrate the ability to define and describe neuropsychological functions and dysfunctions and relate them to knowledge about different diseases, injuries and mental illness
- demonstrate knowledge of different forms of intervention in clinical practice and account for the support in research for the interventions

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to evaluate and use different forms of assessment instruments of relevance to the investigation and follow-up of treatment in a clinical context
- demonstrate the ability to perform assessments with instruments for structured psychiatric diagnosis and interpret the results
- demonstrate the ability to apply neuropsychological knowledge to assessment/diagnosis
- demonstrate the ability to perform and interpret a cognitive assessment of a child, and write a statement based on the completed assessment

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to use relevant theories and current research to discuss how social factors such as class, gender and ethnicity interact with understanding and diagnosis of clinical states
- demonstrate awareness of norms, such as norms with regard to age, sexuality and function, including the ability to problematise both diagnosis and treatment
- demonstrate the ability to identify, reflect on and apply a professional and ethical approach in relation to the themes and assignments included in the course

Course content

The aim of the course is to provide students with basic knowledge and understanding of clinical psychology. It includes psychiatric classification, and investigation methods for diagnostic decisions and intervention planning. The course reflects the work of psychologists within different activities such as psychiatry, somatic care and schools.

During the course, students will be required to apply previously acquired knowledge of test administration and to write statement in the context of performing a cognitive assessment of a schoolchild (including a written report) under supervision.

The course is divided into three modules:

Module 6:1. Psychiatric Diagnosis and Epidemiology, 5 credits.

The module includes systems and principles for the classification of psychiatric disorders, and research findings concerning the incidence, prevalence, process and consequences of specific psychiatric disorders.

Module 6:2. Mental Illness and Neuropsychological Dysfunction, 12 credits.

The module covers knowledge of the field of clinical psychology focusing on both traditional psychiatric disorders and neuropsychological dysfunctions in children, adolescents and adults. Modern psychological research of relevance to an understanding of the emergence and process of clinical states of adults, adolescents and children is highlighted and previously acquired knowledge is also deepened. Moreover, the module includes knowledge of trauma/crisis psychology. The module also includes a thorough presentation of a psychodynamic and a cognitive behavioural

model used to explain psychopathological states. It provides students with a basic overview of different forms of intervention and the support in clinical research for the interventions.

Module 6:3. Investigation: Methodology and Report Writing, 6 credits.

The module provides students with knowledge of different forms of assessment and investigation methods, including an overview of frequently used tests and instruments and their psychometric properties, and of neuropsychological investigations. Students are to apply and integrate knowledge of the cognitive development of children through training in the use of relevant testing methods. Furthermore, the student is to perform a cognitive assessment of a child and to write a report under supervision.

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 absence, the student is responsible for contacting the course 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 been absent because of duties as an elected student representative. Absence from or failure to pass the component of cognitive assessment of a child is always to be compensated for by completing the component at the relevant time during the following semester. Only one re-take opportunity is offered for this component.

Assessment

The assessment is based on written and oral tests in connection with the modules, and on completed exercises including the investigation of a child with an accompanying written report and group presentations. Both texts and the content of the teaching will be included in the examination.

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.

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 and meet the requirements for progression described in the current programme syllabus.

Subcourses in PSPB16, Course 6: Clinical Psychology I

Applies from H15

- 1401 Psychiatric Diagnostics and Epidemiology, 5,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1402 Mental Health, Mental Illness & Neuropsych. Dysfunctions, 12,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1403 Assessment: Methods and Report-Writing, 6,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass