



Faculty of Social Sciences

## **PSPR07, Course 7: Psychotherapy Practice and Theory, 20 credits**

*Kurs 7: Psykoterapi - psykoanalytisk teori, 20 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

---

### **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 2018-05-23 by Programme Committee for the Master of Science Programme in Psychology. . The revised syllabus applied from 2018-08-27. , autumn semester 2018.

### **General Information**

The course is a compulsory component of semester 3 to 9 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 knowledge of key concepts, explanatory models, approaches and treatment principles within psychodynamic, cognitive behavioural and family-based psychotherapy
- demonstrate knowledge of key issues within psychotherapy research and the type of methodology used to address them

#### **Competence and skills**

- demonstrate the ability to interact constructively with others to solve tasks in groups
- demonstrate the ability to explain different psychopathological states as well as the associated psychotherapeutic treatments in relation to psychotherapeutic theory
- demonstrate the ability to assimilate the contents of current research articles about psychotherapy research and account for the issues, methods, results and discussions included in them

- demonstrate the ability to independently reflect on and apply their experiences of personal therapy in relation to the role as a psychologist

### **Judgement and approach**

- demonstrate the ability to critically analyse and account for similarities and differences between key forms of psychotherapy
- demonstrate the ability to critically reflect on psychotherapeutic treatment and psychopathological states taking gender, class, ethnicity and ethics into account
- demonstrate the ability to critically review and assess different positions in discussions of effective psychotherapy from the point of view of research
- demonstrate the ability to use experiences of personal therapy and the role of client to reflect on the process of psychotherapy, the role of the therapist, and the approaches and methods of the psychotherapist

### **Course content**

The aim of the course is to provide the future psychologist with a general introduction to the theories of psychotherapy and their links to research. It covers basic knowledge of treatment models and methods in psychodynamic, cognitive behavioural and family-based psychotherapy. This knowledge is a foundation for course 9 and provides together with this course the understanding, knowledge and judgement with regard to psychotherapeutic theories and methods required to be able to perform psychotherapeutic treatment under supervision during course 9.

The course consists of four modules:

Module 7:1. Introduction to Psychotherapy Practice and Research, 4 credits.

The module serves as a general overview of psychotherapy and its history, the development trends and important forms of psychotherapy that are not covered in modules 7:2 and 7:3, particularly family therapy. Furthermore, the module includes a basic introduction to methods and findings in psychotherapy research. The different types of psychotherapy research introduced include effectiveness research, process research, meta-analysis and research using qualitative methods. The focus is initially placed on basic concepts (e.g. evidence, therapeutic alliance, internal and external validity) and on comparative studies of different forms of therapy.

Module 7:2. Psychotherapy Theory and Treatment Methods: Psychodynamic Therapies, 8 credits.

The module covers psychotherapeutic theory and treatment methods in psychodynamic psychotherapy and is based on previously acquired knowledge of man from a biological and cognitive perspective, of psychopathology and of different theories within personality and developmental psychology.

The main emphasis is on individual adult psychotherapy, but psychotherapy for children and their families as well as group therapy are also included in the course. Couples therapy is also addressed. The module deals with different theories, fundamental concepts, explanatory models, approaches and treatment principles of psychotherapy and follows up the contents of 7:1 with seminars about research specialising in psychodynamic therapy. Psychodynamic psychotherapy is compared with other key forms of psychotherapy, and similarities and differences are highlighted and critically analysed. Furthermore, psychotherapy and the professional role of the psychotherapist are discussed from the perspectives of gender and society.

Module 7:3. Psychotherapy Theory and Treatment Methods: Cognitive Behavioural Therapies, 8 credits.

The module covers theories and treatment methods within cognitive behavioural psychotherapy and is based on previously acquired knowledge of man from a biological and cognitive perspective, of psychopathology and of different theories within personality and developmental psychology.

The main emphasis is on individual adult psychotherapy, but psychotherapy for children and their families as well as group therapy are also included in the course. Couples therapy is also addressed. The module deals with different theories, fundamental concepts, explanatory models, approaches and treatment principles of psychotherapy and follows up the contents of 7:1 with seminars about research specialising in cognitive behavioural therapy. Cognitive behavioural psychotherapy is compared with other key forms of psychotherapy, and similarities and differences are highlighted and critically analysed. Furthermore, psychotherapy and the professional role of the psychotherapist are discussed from the perspectives of gender and society.

Module 7:4. Therapeutic Consultation for Professional Development, 0 credits.

Personal therapy shall be initiated in semester 4. The module implies that the future psychologist is undergoing personal therapy. The therapy is to be performed by no more than two registered psychotherapists who also are licensed psychologists. All individual therapy of the the same form is to take place regularly, with the exception of possible summer and holiday breaks. The following options are available for the personal therapy:

- 30 hours of individual therapy with one and the same therapist
- 30 hours of of individual therapy with two therapists, representing the same or different therapeutic approaches. The shortest treatment period must amount to at least 10 hours
- 15 hours of individual therapy and 30 hours of group therapy
- 60 hours of group therapy.

Group therapy can take place in groups of six psychology students with one and the same therapist. Students who want this form pf therapy can sign up with the secretary of the Psychology programme. A group will be organised when six or more students have signed up. The group therapy can also take place in an external setting. Therapy with two therapists must take place sequentially and not simultaneously.

## Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, seminars, group exercises and personal therapy. Compulsory participation is required in the seminars and group exercises. 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. This also applies to students who have been absent because of duties as an elected student representative. The contents and scope of the complementary assignment are decided by the relevant course director. A student who has been absent from more than two compulsory components of course 7 will not be offered further opportunities to compensate during the same semester.

## Assessment

The assessment is based on written and oral exams as well as active participation in group exercises and seminars. The assessment of module 7:4 is based on a completed personal therapy, on active participation in the seminar on the personal therapy and

on an individual written assignment.

The learning outcome on constructive interaction in groups is assessed by the examiner in consultation with the module director. A more detailed assessment of the learning outcome will take place if there are founded indications of inability to cooperate documented through interviews with the individuals concerned.

Three opportunities for examination are offered for the written tests of all modules: 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 examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

*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 PSPR07, Course 7: Psychotherapy Practice and Theory

Applies from H15

- 1401 Introduction to Psychotherapy Practice and Research, 4,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1402 Theory and Methods: Psychodynamic Therapies, 8,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1403 Theory & Methods: Cognitive Behavioural Therapies, 8,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass
- 1404 Therapeutic Consultation for Professional Development, 0,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass