



Faculty of Social Sciences

## PSYB15, Psychology: The Psychology of Conversation and Interviewing, 15 credits

*Psykologi: Samtals- och intervjuteknik, 15 högskolepoäng*  
First Cycle / Grundnivå

---

### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Psychology on 2006-05-30 and was last revised on 2014-12-04 by Committee for Single Subject Courses at the Department of Psychology. The revised syllabus applies from 2017-01-16, spring semester 2017.

### General Information

The course is offered as a first cycle freestanding course and may be included in a Bachelor's degree specialising in psychology or in a degree programme in accordance with the programme syllabus.

*Language of instruction:* Swedish

*Main field of studies*

Psychology

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

### Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall demonstrate

#### Knowledge and understanding

- knowledge of different types of conversations and interviews
- understanding of the importance of different interventions for the conversation/the interview
- understanding of the importance of the relation for the conversation/the interview
- understanding of how different types of questions influence the conversation/the interview

- knowledge of the different levels that can be in the conversation/the interview
- knowledge of how a conversation starts, is carried out and is completed
- knowledge of the psychological factors that can influence the communicative situation
- understanding of what an active listening implies
- understanding of how the interviewer and the interviewee are influenced by one another

### **Competence and skills**

- ability to plan independently and carry out a surveying and investigating interview
- ability to initiate, carry out and complete an interview in an optimal way
- ability to identify different levels in a conversation or interview
- ability to bring and lead a conversation according to intended aim
- ability to use different interventions such as for example different types of questions, silence, reflections and summaries
- ability to justify the interviewee to open
- ability to respond to the interviewee with respect, genuineness and compassion
- ability to tolerate and deposit the feelings that can be aroused in the conversation or the interview
- ability to communicate knowledge of conversation and interview technique to different target groups
- ability to seek scientific information about conversation and interview technique

### **Judgement and approach**

- ability to make critical assessments of information that concerns conversations and interviews
- ability to evaluate scientific information about conversation and interview technique

### **Course content**

The course includes partly a theoretical part there relevant parts of psychological theory and research with respect to interview and communication methodology are treated partly an applied exercise part. The theory section mainly consists of student-led literature seminars.

The applied part takes place in the form of video-recorded surveying interviews where the students interview one another. The interviews are accompanied by analysis and discussion based on completed theory. Each student should both interview and become interviewed.

### **Course design**

The course contains both student-led literature seminars and video-recorded conversations/interviews which all require an active student participation. Each student must both have interviewed and been interviewed. At all occasions, compulsory attendance applies. Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, compulsory participation is required. 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. In the case of such absence, the student is to contact course director.

## **Assessment**

The examination consists in addition to the active participation in the seminars and the interview exercises of a written take-home examination. In connection with the course, three examination sessions are offered: one regular examination and two re-examination. Within a year of a major change or discontinuation of the course, at least two further opportunities for assessment are offered on the same course content. 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 and Fail.

For the grade Pass, it is required that the student satisfies the intended learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of Pass, the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

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**

General and courses corresponding to the following Swedish Upper Secondary School Programs: Social Studies 1b/1a1 + 1a2

## Subcourses in PSYB15, Psychology: The Psychology of Conversation and Interviewing

Applies from V08

0601 The Psychology of Conversation and Interviewing, 15,0 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass