



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Social Sciences

PSYD63, Psychology: Personality- and Development Psychology, 30 credits

Psykologi: Personlighets- och utvecklingspsykologi, 30 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Psychology on 2023-11-14. The syllabus comes into effect 2023-11-14 and is valid from the autumn semester 2024.

General information

The course is offered as a freestanding course.

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

*Main field of
study*

Specialisation

Psychology

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

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall demonstrate

Knowledge and understanding

- understanding of the biological, cognitive, emotional and social development of children, adolescents, adults and the elderly
- understanding of how the local environment of children and adolescents and the surrounding community have an impact on their development
- knowledge of different personality theories and how the theories can be used to explain individual differences in thought, emotion and behaviour
- knowledge of stress and stress management from a life-span perspective
- knowledge of the research methods used in personality and developmental psychology, as well as be able to account for the advantages, disadvantages and application areas of these methods

Competence and skills

- ability to identify, formulate, analyse and solve problems linked to the field of personality and development psychology
- ability to systematically plan, perform and report observations of children
- ability to estimate, analyse and describe individual differences through psychological personality testing
- ability to communicate knowledge about personality and developmental psychology to different audiences
- ability to seek research information in personality and development psychology

Judgement and approach

- ability to identify and reflect on relevant factors of social development psychology, such as gender, class and ethnicity
- ability to critically evaluate research information in personality and development psychology

Course content

The course enables students to obtain knowledge of human psychological development from childhood to old age, and of methods used in research in development psychology. It describes theoretical perspectives on personality and related fields of application.

The course consists of four modules:

Module 1: Child psychology (7.5 credits).

In this module, students will study the psychological and biological development during childhood and how this development is affected by genetic factors and different living conditions. Some of the topics addressed are self-regulation, emotional attachment, social understanding and friendship. Furthermore, the module covers the research methods used to generate knowledge of child development.

Module 2: Youth psychology (7.5 credits).

In this module, students will study the psychological and biological development during adolescence and its relation to the surrounding environment. In view of the changed patterns of interaction within and outside the family, the studies will also include the ability of the teenager to face challenges and stress factors, such as increased demands on independence and personal views.

Module 3: Personality psychology, (7.5 credits)

The module deals with the individual differences and different personality functions of adult individuals, which are viewed from different theoretical perspectives. The theories are presented together with a critical review of methods, testing and fields of application.

Module 4: Adult development (7.5 credits).

The module deals with the ageing process from middle age, based on theories of development, personality and social psychology. Different aspects of ageing are addressed, such as stress, mental and physical health and ill health.

Course design

The teaching consists of lectures, exercises and seminars. Certain group exercises and seminars are compulsory. Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, participation is compulsory. The opportunity to compensate for or resit compulsory components will be offered to students who have been unable to participate due to circumstances beyond their control such as accidents, sudden illness or similar. This also applies to students who have missed teaching sessions due to elected office duties e.g. as student representative.

Assessment

The assessment is based on oral and written exams, exercises and seminars. Active participation is required for a Pass on the group exercises and seminars. Three exam sessions are offered in connection with the course: a first examination, a resit close to the first examination and a second resit in the same year. Within a year after a major change to the course or its cancellation, at least two further exam sessions are offered on the same course content. 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.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction

The student's grade is assessed based on how well the student fulfils the learning outcomes of the course. Regarding the grade of Fail, the student has not fulfilled the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of Pass, the student must fulfil the learning outcomes specified for the course. For the grade of Pass with Distinction, it is required, in addition, that the learning outcomes are fulfilled particularly well. The grades awarded for compulsory teaching components are Pass or Fail. For the grade of Pass, the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of Fail, the student has shown unacceptable results. To receive the grade of Pass for the whole course, at least the grade of Pass is required in all modules and components. To receive the grade of Pass with Distinction for the whole course, the grade of Pass with Distinction is required in a majority of the total credits for the course based on the modules/components that can apply the grades Fail/Pass/Pass with Distinction. At the start of the course, students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and the grading scale, and how it is applied in the course.

Entry requirements

General requirements and studies equivalent of courses Social Studies 1b or 1a1+1a2 from Swedish Upper Secondary School.