



Faculty of Social Sciences

## PSYE23, Psychology: Consciousness, Altered States of Consciousness and Parapsychology, 15 credits

*Psykologi: Medvetande, förändrade medvetandetillstånd och parapsykologi, 15 högskolepoäng*  
First Cycle / Grundnivå

---

### Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the board of the Department of Psychology on 2023-11-14 and was last revised on 2025-02-25. The revised syllabus comes into effect 2025-02-25 and is valid from the autumn semester 2025.

### General information

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

*Language of instruction:* 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 relationship between conscious experience and functions of the brain
- knowledge of the most common methods for psychological studies of consciousness
- understanding of current scientific knowledge in psychology related to altered states of consciousness

- knowledge of various methods to study parapsychological phenomena

### **Competence and skills**

- ability to discuss important psychological questions in the study of consciousness
- ability to clarify the importance of understanding and studying altered states of consciousness
- ability to discuss the difference between psychopathology and altered states of consciousness

### **Judgement and approach**

- ability to separate between the most important areas for scientific studies in parapsychology and pseudoscience
- ability to evaluate and discuss the validity of phenomena that are considered parapsychological
- ability to search independently, integrate and critically evaluate scientific information about states of consciousness and parapsychology

### **Course content**

The course consists of an overview of the fields of consciousness, altered states of consciousness and parapsychology. This includes knowledge of consciousness and its variations in relation to parapsychological phenomena such as extra sensory perception and psychokinesis. The course places strong emphasis on questions that require additional research.

### **Course design**

The course consists of lectures that require the active participation of students and submission of take-home assignments. Unless there are valid reasons to the contrary, participation in lectures 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. In the case of such absence, the student is to contact the course director.

### **Assessment**

The examination consists of three written tests (Module 1), compulsory quizzes during the lectures (Module 2) and active participation during the lessons (Module 3). You need to get at least G on 66% of the quizzes per section to pass the module. You need to have active participation in 50% of the lectures to fulfill the participation requirements.

Module 1: Home exam 7 credits (U-G-VG)

Module 2: Quizzes 6,5 credits (U-G-VG)

Module 3: Active participation 1,5 credits (U-G)

In connection with the course, three exams are offered: regular exam, re-exam and make-up exam. Within one year after the course has undergone a major change or has been discontinued, at least two further examinations are offered on the same course content. Thereafter, the student will be offered further examinations but in accordance with the syllabus in force at the time.

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

Grades awarded for the course and separate modules are Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with distinction (VG).

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.

## **Further information**

For this course, exception is made to the general entry requirement "Swedish B".