



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Psychology

## Syllabus

### Individual, organization and community

<b>Course Code:</b>	PSG040
<b>Course Title:</b>	Individual, organization and community <i>Individ, organisation och samhälle</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	30
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Undergraduate level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	First cycle, has at least 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G2F)

**Major Field of Study:**  
PSA (Psychology)

#### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2016-09-21, and is valid from the Spring semester 2017 at Karlstad University.

#### Prerequisites

60 ECTS credits completed for the Master of Science in Psychology programme (VAPSY)

#### Learning Outcomes

Module 1 Sociology and Social Psychology II, 6 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to

- give an account of and use different explanatory models based on gender and power theories,
- describe and analyse how social influence, social cognition, social facilitation, and social identity are shaped in interplay with others,
- give an account of and analyse theories on how influence and attitudes are shaped and changed, and how these relate to individual behaviour and behavioural change, and
- give an account of and analyse how prosocial behaviour and perceptions of others are shaped in contemporary life.

Module 2 Individual, Work and Organisation I, 8 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to

- give an account of current research and central theories in the field of industrial-organisational psychology,
- describe and analyse phenomena related to workplace and organisational psychology,
- give an account of and problematise group psychology concepts and theories and apply those to an industrial and organisational psychology context,
- give an account of and problematise basic leadership theories,
- give an account of the importance of socialisation, group processes and work in creating the conditions required for an individual's healthy life, and
- clarify the relationship between career and private life and its effects on sustainable development

from an individual, organisational and societal perspective.

Module 3 Prevention and Health II, Organisation and Society, 4 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to

- identify and describe psychological and sociological models and theories of health and health behaviour, and discuss the applicability of such theories and models,
- give an account of psychological and social risk and protection factors linked to mental health and ill health, and relate the concept to vulnerability and resistance,
- give an account of current research on central theories and models for prevention in the area of health psychology,
- assess, evaluate and motivate evidence-based programmes and efforts made to prevent mental ill health and change bad health behaviours, and
- assess methods for evaluating preventive and health promoting activities at the levels of organisation and society.

Module 4 Personality and Differential Psychology, 10 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to

- identify and discuss different psychological theories of personality,
- identify, describe and discuss different individual psychological differences,
- discuss, describe and problematise concepts and theories in the field of individual differences, and in psychometry,
- apply theories of personality psychology,
- briefly describe examples of psychometric concepts and instruments,
- construct and apply psychological tests to measure individual differences,
- identify the potentials and limitations of psychometric testing, and
- demonstrate ability to make assessments with consideration of the relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects of psychology.

Module 5 Self-Knowledge, Communication and Professional Competences, 2 ECTS cr

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to

- identify and give an account of how the group dynamics are affected in terms of concepts such as position in the group, conformity, conflicts, power and a meta perspective,
- identify and give an account of how their own and others' emotions affect social perception, and
- explain how observation of others is affected by one's own experiences and group dynamics.

## **Content**

Module 1 Sociology and Social Psychology II, 6 ECTS cr

The module deals with the central approaches, concepts and theories of sociology and social psychology. Special emphasis is given to understanding and explaining how social surroundings affect individual behaviour and promote or hinder behavioural change. The two fields (social psychology and sociology) are integrated in seminars in which shared cases are discussed and analysed from both perspectives.

Module 2 Individual, Work and Organisation I, 8 ECTS cr

Central theories of group, work and organisation psychology are presented. The theories are discussed and problematised in literature seminars and in the applied PBL group studies on a chosen focus area.

Module 3 Prevention and Health II, Organisation and Society, 4 ECTS cr

Students acquire general knowledge of preventive and health promoting activities from the organisation and society perspectives. Psychological and sociological models and theories of health and health behaviour as well as psychological and social factors of risk and protection linked to ill health are treated. Programmes for preventing mental ill health and changing life style patterns are described, as well methods to evaluate such programmes. Instruction is in the form of lectures and seminars.

Module 4 Personality and Differential Psychology, 10 ECTS cr

The following psychological personality theories are treated: Trait theory, cognitive perspectives, psychodynamic and humanistic perspectives. Sex and gender perspectives are adopted if these are involved in the theories. Differential psychology with psychometry as a component is also treated, for instance, in terms of the operationalisation and quantification of psychological phenomena. The statistical methods primarily used are correlation statistics and regression analysis. Instruction is in the form of lectures, group exercises and laboratory sessions.

Module 5 Self-Knowledge, Communication and Professional Competences, 2 ECTS cr  
The module is based on group seminars with a focus on group dynamics, based on subjective experiences and emotions as a participant and observer of group processes respectively. Students complete individual assignments which are continuously reported in seminars.

### **Reading List**

See separate document.

### **Examination**

Module 1 is assessed on the basis of an individual take-home exam.

Module 2 is assessed on the basis of active participation in workshops, group exercises and seminars and on the basis of individual hand-in assignments.

Module 3 is assessed on the basis of a written exam, individual hand-in assignments, and participation in seminars where assignments are presented and discussed.

Module 4 is assessed on the basis of a written exam and individual assignments presented orally and in writing at mandatory seminars, and on the basis of laboratory sessions and group exercises.

Module 5 is assessed on the basis of active participation in seminars and individual hand-in assignments.

### **Grades**

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course. The grade of Distinction for the complete course is awarded to students who have earned this grade for 20 of the possible 28 VG credits.

### **Quality Assurance**

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

### **Course Certificate**

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

### **Additional information**

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.