



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Psychology

# Syllabus

## Developmental psychology

**Course Code:** PSGA86

**Course Title:** Developmental psychology  
*Utvecklingspsykologi*

**Credits:** 7.5

**Degree Level:** Undergraduate level

**Progressive Specialisation:** First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements (G1N)

### Major Field of Study:

PSA (Psychology)

### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2018-08-31, and is valid from the Spring semester 2019 at Karlstad University.

### Prerequisites

General admission requirements

### Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. describe and explain central concepts and theories in the field of developmental psychology,
2. explain and analyse psychological phenomena in an individual's development in terms of biological and cognitive explanatory models, and
3. explain and analyse how social circumstances in life affect human development.

### Content

The course deals with human development in a life-course perspective. Various aspects of development, for example, cognition and emotion, are described in relation to each development phase. The interplay of biological, psychological, social and cultural factors for development is clarified and gender issues are discussed. Instruction is mainly in the form of net-based lectures, individual case studies, and preparatory assignments. Students are required to study course literature between instructional sessions.

### Reading List

See separate document.

### Examination

Assessment is based on a take-home exam, presented and discussed at a mandatory seminar and on individual hand-in assignments.

**Grades**

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

**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.

The course requires that students have an Internet connected computer.