



Faculty of Economic Sciences, Communication and IT
Psychology

Syllabus

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty Board of Economic Sciences, Communication and IT on 5 December 2012, and is valid from the Autumn semester of 2013 at Karlstad University.

Course Code: PSGB04

Psychology B, 30.0 ECTS Credits

(Psykologi B - fördjupning, 30.0 Swedish credit points)

Degree Level: Bachelor

Progressive Specialisation: G1F (First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements)

Language of Instruction

Swedish

Prerequisites

At least 15 ECTS cr completed of the course PSGA34, Psychology A, 30 ECTS cr, or at least 15 ECTS cr completed of the course PSGA38 Psychology - Foundations, 30 ECTS cr, or equivalent

Major Field of Study

PSA (Psychology)

Learning Outcomes

The course consists of four modules:

Module 1 Research Methodology, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- describe, explain and apply the basic concepts and methods of qualitative and quantitative research,
- choose and argue for a suitable method of selection,
- analyse quantitative data descriptively and describe the possibilities and limitations of data in terms of generalisability,
- briefly outline the meaning of inference,
- use SPSS to process quantitative data and produce descriptive statistics,
- analyse research interviews with thematic analysis and conclude from reliability and validity of the interviews and analysis.

Module 2 Communication and interview, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- describe and explain current theories regarding intra- and interpersonal communication,
- construct an interview guide in relation to a problem and demonstrate skills in conducting a research interview,
- analyse a research interview communicatively and draw conclusions from the result of the communicative character of counselling and the reliability and validity of the interview.

Module 3 Organisation psychology, 7.5 ECTS cr.

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

- describe and explain current concepts such as leadership, motivation, communication, stress and health, team and culture in terms of classic as well as modern theories in the field,
- give an account of the importance of emotions in working life,
- critically evaluate organisational phenomena at the level of individual, group and organisation.

Module 4 Essay project, 7.5 ECTS cr

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

- formulate a research problem,
- choose an appropriate method from the qualitative and quantitative approaches included in the methodological course (interview, observation, survey and experiment) and use it to design, perform and document a minor research project to answer the question and,
- assess their own study and that of others with regard to design, method, analysis and their effects on reliability and validity of the study.

Content and Form of Instruction

The course comprises four modules:

Module 1 Research Methodology, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module deals with the most basic and central concepts and problems of qualitative and quantitative research. In addition to lectures, the course includes practical exercises in using qualitative and quantitative data collection methods, thematic analysis and the statistical programme SPSS.

Module 2 Communication and interview, 7.5 ECTS cr

The module centres on communication, counselling skills and interview techniques in lectures, seminars and several practical exercises. Students practice conducting an interview, being interviewed and analyse interview data with the help of thematic analysis.

Module 3 Organisation psychology, 7.5 ECTS cr.

The module treats central work and organisation psychological concepts such as leadership, motivation, communication, stress and health, emotions, culture and group work and teams. In addition to lectures the course includes seminars.

Module 4 Essay project, 7.5 ECTS cr

Under supervision, students plan and conduct an empirical study, documented in an essay. The supervision moments are mandatory. They are also required to defend their project at a seminar and serve as the discussant of a fellow-student's essay. Supervision is only provided for the duration of the course. Reregistered students are offered supervision to the extent permitted by circumstances and resources.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

The course comprises four modules:

Module 1 Research Methodology, 7.5 ECTS cr

Assessment is based on a written, individual exam, mandatory seminars and hand-in assignments, individually and in groups.

Module 2 Communication and interview, 7.5 ECTS cr

Assessment is based on individual written hand-in assignments and mandatory seminars and interview exercises.

Module 3 Organisation psychology, 7.5 ECTS cr.

Assessment is based on an individual take-home exam and mandatory seminars.

Module 4 Essay project, 7.5 ECTS cr

Assessment is based on the student's individual empirical study, documented in an essay and defended at a seminar. Assessment is also based on the student's performance as discussant of a fellow-student's essay. Respondentship and opponentship must be satisfactory for a Pass grade, but the quality of the essay takes priority in the award of grade for the module.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course. The grade of Distinction is awarded to students who have earned this grade for three out of the four modules.

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 assessment is based on student views and experiences as reported in written course evaluations and/or group discussions. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of the measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional Information

Students who enrolled before 1 July 2007 will complete their studies in accordance with the requirements of the earlier admission. Upon completion students may request degree and course certificates to be issued under the current ordinance if they meet its requirements.

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

Karlstads universitet 651 88 Karlstad, Sweden
Tel +46-54-700 10 00 Fax +46-54-700 14 60
information@kau.se www.kau.se