



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
Psychology

## Syllabus

### Psychology of Leadership

<b>Course Code:</b>	PSGB09
<b>Course Title:</b>	Psychology of Leadership <i>Ledarskapets psykologi</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	15
<b>Degree Level:</b>	Undergraduate level
<b>Progressive Specialisation:</b>	First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F)

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

#### Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2018-02-20, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2018 at Karlstad University.

#### 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

#### Learning Outcomes

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

1. account for and discuss central psychological theories and perspectives on leadership in relation to organisational, societal and historical contexts,
2. describe and explain central psychological models and theories of conflict and conflict management,
3. analyse conflicts in the workplace based on psychological models and evaluate strategies for dealing with and preventing conflicts,
4. account for and apply psychological communication strategies for managing organisations and leading personnel,
5. analyse a working life interview using adequate psychological theories and empirical findings, and
6. plan, conduct and evaluate an organisational analysis using adequate psychological theories and empirical findings.

#### Content

In the course, the scholarly discipline of leadership is introduced and discussed from various psychological, societal and historical contexts. To highlight the importance of communication for leadership, role-plays are conducted, focusing on the application on and effect of psychological communication strategies. In analysing the role-plays, the student trains the adequate use of

psychological theory and empirical findings to interpret various interpersonal processes from various leadership perspectives. The course provides basic psychological knowledge in conflict and conflict management and appropriate strategies to prevent and handle conflict. Finally, the student plans and conducts, under supervision, an organisational analysis, which results are analysed using psychological theories and empirical findings in the discipline of leadership. The importance of diversity and gender for effective leadership is continuously outlined throughout the course.

Classes are conducted in the form of lectures, group works, presentations, supervisions, exercises and seminars. The module requires students to study the literature independently and to conduct exercises on their own.

Supervision is only provided for the duration of the course. Re-registered students are offered additional supervision if circumstances permit.

### **Reading List**

See separate document.

### **Examination**

Assessment is based on an individual written exam, an individual written paper, active participation in group discussions and role-plays, as well as hand-in assignments, presented and discussed in mandatory seminars.

The number of assessment opportunities for the written paper, respectively for mandatory role-plays, is limited to six (because of limited resources).

### **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.

Supervision is mandatory unless there are special reasons for not attending.

Opportunities to retake mandatory components are offered to students who have been absent because of unforeseen events such as illness. This also applies to students who have been absent because of duties as a student representative in university bodies.