Department of Psychology

Syllabus
for course at advanced level

Human development - Attachment and Relational Contexts of Lifespan Development
Människans utveckling - ett anknytningsteoretiskt och relationellt perspektiv på livslång utveckling

Course code: PSMT41
Valid from: Autumn 2019
Date of approval: 2016-12-22
Changed: 2016-12-20
Department: Department of Psychology
Main field: Psychology
Specialisation: A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

7.5 Higher Education Credits
7.5 ECTS credits

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements
180 higher education credits, of which at least 90 credits must constitute Psychology I, II and III or equivalent studies.
English 6.

Course structure

Course content
The primary aim of the course is to provide advanced knowledge of attachment theory and the importance of attachment to a person’s social and emotional development. The theoretical content is exemplified by contributions from clinical and social anthropological research. Finally, a review will be made of assessment methods such as observations, interviews and questionnaires, which are used in attachment research when conducting scientific and clinical studies.

Learning outcomes
Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:
- give an account of the psychobiological background of attachment theory;
- demonstrate theoretical knowledge of the development of attachment patterns from infancy to adulthood;
- demonstrate theoretical knowledge of the relationship between attachment and biological, social and emotional development;
- define a research-related problem and discuss this problem from an attachment theory perspective.

Education
Instruction is given in the form of lectures and seminars. Course requirements/Mandatory components:
(a) Written report based on questions provided during the course;

Decision
This syllabus was approved by the Board of the Department of Psychology on 2016-12-20.
Technical revision of the Student Department 2019-04-29.
(b) Oral seminar presentation of a written report;
(c) Written examination.

Seminar attendance is mandatory. Students who have not passed (b) above will be offered a chance to present their report at an extra seminar, or individually for the course teacher, during the course period. The language of instruction is English and/or Swedish. For more detailed information, please refer to the course description. The course description will be available at least one month before the course starts.

**Forms of examination**

a) Examination
The course is examined on the basis of a take-home examination, written papers, and an oral presentation of a paper. Examination will be conducted in English and/or Swedish according to the course teacher’s instructions.

b) Grading scale
Grades will be set according to a seven-point scale related to the learning objectives of the course:

- A = Excellent
- B = Very good
- C = Good
- D = Satisfactory
- E = Adequate
- Fx = Fail, some additional work required
- F = Fail, much additional work required

c) Assessment criteria
Students will be informed of the written grading criteria when the course starts.

d) Final grade
In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade of E or higher on the written examination, as well as a passing grade on the written report and the oral presentation.

e) Failing the course
At least two examination opportunities should be offered during each course and semester. At least one examination opportunity should be offered during a semester when the course is not given. Students who receive the grade Fx or F twice by the same examiner are entitled to have another examiner appointed for the next examination, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. Such requests should be addressed to the department board.

Students who receive the grade E or higher may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade.

f) Supplementary assignments
Opportunities to complete a supplementary assignment in order to convert the grade Fx into a passing grade are not provided in this course.

**Interim**

If this course is discontinued, or its contents substantially altered, students have the right to be examined according to this syllabus once per semester for three further semesters.

**Misc**
The course is included in the General Master’s Programme in Psychology (SPSAO), 120 credits.

**Required reading**
Up-to-date information about the required reading will be available on the department website at www.psychology.su.se. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.