

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Applied questionnaire methods

Tillämpad enkätmetodik

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code:	PSMT49
Valid from:	Autumn 2021
Date of approval:	2016-12-20
Changed:	2021-04-27
Department	Department of Psychology
Main field:	Psychology
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

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.

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

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
MT49	Applied questionnaire methods	7.5

Course content

The course discusses basic questionnaire methods and measurement theory used to measure and validate latent and manifest psychological concepts. The course covers both theoretical and practical aspects of questionnaire methods. Moreover, questionnaire methods are discussed in relation to the definition of a research question, the choice of research design and the sampling problem. In addition, the course includes a practical component where the students will identify an issue that they will investigate using their own questionnaire, after which they will evaluate the questionnaire's measuring properties and answer their chosen research question using the data they have collected during the course.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- discuss and independently evaluate how the survey questions relate to the choice of research design, sampling method and questionnaire tool, as well as demonstrate how those aspects affect the validity of the results and conclusions of the study;
- demonstrate advanced knowledge of the theoretical starting points of classical psychometrics and their relation to the concepts of reliability and validity in questionnaire methods;
- conduct factor analyses and reliability tests, as well as explain their theoretical basic assumptions and principles for the critical review and analysis of the measuring properties of questionnaire tools;
- present and critically discuss complex method issues in psychological studies using questionnaires, with respect to the phrasing of questions, research design, and statistical analyses and their impact on valid interpretations;

- plan and conduct surveys in compliance with ethical guidelines.

Education

Instruction is given in the form of lectures, seminars and exercises in the use of questionnaire tools and statistical software.

Course requirements/Mandatory components:

- (a) Individual written report based on a miniature study (the student's own research question, survey questions, data collection, analysis);
- (b) Oral seminar presentation of the written report;
- (c) Written examination.

Attendance is mandatory at the seminar where written reports are presented. Students who have not passed (b) above will be offered a chance to present at an extra seminar, or individually for the course teacher. The individual written report must be submitted in order for the student to participate in the seminar where the reports are presented and discussed. 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) Forms of examination:

The course is examined on the basis of an individual written report, a written examination, and an oral presentation using slideshow software. 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

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 and the individual written report, as well as complete all mandatory assignments.

Individual written reports that are not submitted on time will receive a maximum grade of C.

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 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 F into the passing grade E are provided for the written report during the course period, but not the written examination.

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 Master's Programme in Personnel, Work, and Organisation (SMPAO), 120 credits, and 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.