Syllabus

for course at first level
Psychological Assessment
Utredning och åtgärder avseende individen

37.5 Higher Education
37.5 ECTS credits

Course code: PSYY06
Valid from: Autumn 2009
Date of approval: 2008-05-20
Department: Department of Psychology
Subject: Psychology

Decision
Ratified by the Board of the Psychology Department, Stockholm University; 20-05-2008. The course plan is valid from the beginning of the autumn term 2009.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements
Students must be enrolled on the Psychologist Program.

The course will be run over terms 5 and 6. For admission to term 5 or higher the course the requirements are

• All courses and modules from the terms before the last two must be wholly completed.
• All obligatory elements of the last two terms must be wholly completed, and at least 75% of credits in the last two terms must have been achieved.

If special reason exists exempt may be given by the Board of the Psychology Department.

Course structure

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<td>0602</td>
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Course content
This course focuses on the practical application of certain psychological assessment methods. An aim is to prepare students for subsequent practicum and provide the basis for an informed choice of in-depth study on advanced psychotherapeutic courses.

6.1 Psychological test methods, 7.5 credits

This module comprises psychological test-methods for assessment of adults and children. Personality, cognitive, and neuropsychological tests will be presented and critically reviewed. A number of common test methods will be used as exercises and the when the students individually assess adult persons and children. This module runs
in parallel with 6.2 (assessment and intervention). Demonstrations, study visits, and group exercises will complement independently conducted assignments.

6.2 Assessment and intervention in different applied areas, 15 credits

This module concerns adult and child focused psychological work. Different issues will be portrayed, in part, by way of case studies. Emphasis is placed on how investigative data is collected, assessed, interpreted, and disseminated in both written and spoken form. Tuition will provide an orientation to the connections that prevail between the tuition focus and possible treatment plans. In all, students will be introduced to scientific reasoning, the roles of clients and psychologists, the general responsibilities of psychologists and ethical concerns.

This module comprises the following subdivisions

A. Testing of adults with examples from psychiatry, geriatrics, medical rehabilitation, and working life.

B. Testing of children with examples from child and adolescent psychiatry, schools, somatic care and habilitation service and child neuropsychology with an emphasis on disability and mental retardation (this also includes work with adults).

C. Supportive consultation with a teenager conducted under supervision.

6.3 Psychotherapeutic theory, 7.5 credits

The aim of this module is to provide the student with an orientation to basic concepts, theories, and practical approaches in psychotherapy with a focus on cognitive behavioural and psychodynamic therapies.

This module comprises the following subdivisions

A. Theory, an orientation to basic ideas and theories in psychotherapy with a focus on cognitive behavioural and psychodynamic therapies.

B. Therapeutic approaches, an elucidation of basic therapeutic approaches in general and, in particular, a review of client-therapist-relations in cognitive behavioural and psychodynamic therapies.

C. Therapeutic methods, an orientation to analysis and treatment-methods in cognitive behavioural and psychodynamic therapies adapted to various clinical problems, such as neurosis, anxiety syndromes, depression, eating disorders, and borderline personality problems.

This module will provide the basis for a deeper understanding of cognitive behavioural and psychodynamic therapies. On completing, this course the student will be in a position to make an informed choice about which of these two areas (i.e., cognitive behavioural or psychodynamic approach) to choose for further, in-depth, study at an advanced level.

6.4 Interview methods, 3 credits

This module will include practical exercises and a theoretical element. An aim is to facilitate an understanding of interview techniques, data collection methods, and interpersonal processes in interview situations.

6.5 Social legislation, 3 credits

An aim of this module is to provide a general orientation to organizations and legislation in working-life, social politics, health and medical care, and their primary significance for practical psychological work. Emphasis is placed on questions of public assess and secrecy, and on conflicts between legal and ethical aspects.

Learning outcomes

On completing this course a student will be able to

• Administer common psychological tests, evaluate, and interpret obtained results.
• Prepare and give feedback about psychological assessments.
• Compile and interpret test-data and write psychological evaluations from authentic case material in view of relevant, clinically applied, theory.
• Manage client work in the form of time-limited supportive consultation under supervision, and show an understanding of interpersonal processes in such situations.
• Show familiarity with professional ethical reasoning and be familiar with the psychologists rights and obligations in questions that concern investigations, writing of certificates, record-keeping, and other forms of documentation that involve ethical issues.
• Recognise basic concepts, theories and approaches in cognitive behavioural and psycho-dynamic psychotherapies.
• Be acquainted with basic forms of analyses and treatment methods in cognitive behavioural and psycho-dynamic therapies.
• Show a deeper understanding of interpersonal processes in interview methods.
• Demonstrate familiarity with current legislation of relevance for professional psychological work.

Education
Attendance at tutorials is compulsory. The precise form of tuition and course demands (compulsory exercises and assignments) will be specified in the directives for the specific modules.

Students are also required to act as participants in course related interviews and test-methods.

Forms of examination
Assessment will be by way individual written work, viva voce examination and practical appraisal in the form of applied exercises (test- and interview exercises, supportive consultation) and case reports. More precise details will be provided in the instructions for the modules.

A seven point grading scheme (A to F) will be used to grade students work conducted for module 6.3. All other module and the final grade for the whole course will be graded in terms of a ‘pass’ or ‘fail’.

For students that do not pass by way of the ordinary test occasions, further examination may be arranged in close proximity to the ordinary examination. Students that do not pass after two attempts, on some of the modules, have the right to request a different tutor be appointed to grade the module. This request can be made to the Department Board.

Additional information
This course cannot be read as an independent course.

Required reading
The literature used on the course will be decided by the Department Board.