



## Course syllabus

Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

Department of Psychology

4PS209 Vetenskapsteori och arbetspsykologins historia, 7,5  
högskolepoäng

Philosophy of Science and History of Work and Organizational  
Psychology, 7.5 credits

### **Main field of study**

Psychology

### **Subject Group**

Psychology

### **Level of classification**

Second Level

### **Progression**

A1N

### **Date of Ratification**

Approved 2017-09-25

Revised 2018-06-12 by Faculty of Health and Life Sciences.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2018

### **Prerequisites**

General requirements for studies at second cycle level plus special prerequisites:

- 90 credits in Psychology (including thesis/degree project or the equivalent)
- English B or the equivalent

### **Objectives**

Upon completion of the course, the student shall:

- describe the historical emergence of industrial and organizational psychology (I-O)
- describe and critically evaluate the philosophical and methodological premises supporting research in the area

## Content

- theory of science and history science of psychology, with particular focus on I-O psychology
- different methodological approaches and their relevance for different types of conclusions
- methodological conditions and limitations normally related to I-O psychological research questions
- the most important historical I-O psychological theories based on their scientific and philosophical and theoretical support
- presentation of the philosophical and scientific premises of a seminal study in the area of I-O psychology, chosen by the student

## Type of Instruction

Apart from attending lectures and meetings with tutor, the student will study literature, seminar assignments, and papers. The methods of teaching presuppose the student's active participation in all course modules.

## Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F.

The grade A constitutes the highest grade on the scale and the remaining grades follow in descending order where the grade E is the lowest grade on the scale that will result in a pass. The grade F means that the student's performance is assessed as fail. All assignments need to be passed in order to receive a final grade.

Assessment of the student's achievements is done with three assignments; (a) an orally presented assignment, (b) a combined oral-written assignment and (c) a final written assignment. Each of the assignments are graded A-F (F= 0, E =1 to A=5) and weighted according to (a) 20 %, (b) 20% and (c) 60%. The grade criteria for the A–F scale for the assignments are communicated to the student through a special document. The student is to be informed about the grade criteria for the course by the start of the course at the latest.

## Course Evaluation

A course evaluation will be carried out during the course or soon after. The result and the analysis of the course evaluation will be communicated to the students who have completed the course and presented to those who take the course the next time it is given. The course evaluation is anonymous.

## Credit Overlap

The course cannot be included in a degree along with the following courses of which the content fully, or partly, corresponds to the content of this course: 4PS200 Philosophy of science and history of psychology, 7.5 credits

## Other

The course is part of the master programme Psychology, Work and Organizational Psychology. Expenses that may occur during the course are paid by the student.

## Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Benjamin, Ludy, T. (2010). *A brief history of modern psychology*. London: Blackwell Publishing. Chapters 6, 9.

Chalmers Alan Frances (1999). *What Is This Thing Called Science? An assessment*

*of the nature and status of science and it's methods.* Open University Press. UK. P. 288. (288 pages) ISBN: 9780335201099

Robbins, S.P., Judge, T.A., & Vohra, N. (2012). *Organizational behavior (15 ed.)*. New York: Pearson. ISBN: 9789332500334. Selected parts.

van Drunen, Peter, van Strien, Pieter, and Haas, Eric. (2007). Work and organization. In J. Jansz & Peter van Drunen (Eds.), *A social history of psychology*. London: Blackwell Publishing. Chap. 4 (pp. 129-164).

Wertheimer Michael (2012). *A Brief History of Psychology*. 5th Edition. Psychology Press LTD. UK. P. 325 (325 pages) ISBN: 9781848728752

Articles according to teacher's instructions.