

<b>Course title</b>	<b>Psychology of Mental Disorders</b>				
<b>Course code</b>	<b>PSY3509</b>				
<b>Course type</b>	Elective				
<b>Level</b>	Bachelors				
<b>Year / Semester</b>	Year 3 / 5 <sup>th</sup> Semester				
<b>Teacher's name</b>	Dr Jelena Zeleskov Doric				
<b>ECTS</b>	6	<b>Lectures / week</b>	3hrs	<b>Laboratories / week</b>	-
<b>Course purpose and objectives</b>	<p>This course provides an in-depth exploration of adult psychopathology through a biopsychosocial lens, helping students to develop an understanding of mental illness as the result of complex interactions among biological, psychological, and social factors. Students will examine the symptomatology, clinical presentation, epidemiology, etiology, and treatment of a range of mental disorders. Attention is paid to how disorders are expressed and experienced in different cultural, familial, and gender contexts, and how these factors interact with biological vulnerabilities and psychological processes. Through a critical and integrated perspective, students will develop the skills to apply biopsychosocial thinking to case analysis and treatment planning, preparing them for clinical and research roles in psychology and allied fields.</p>				
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>On successful completion of the course and with further independent study, students will be able to:</p> <p><b>Knowledge</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the biopsychosocial approach to adult psychopathology, including key models of etiology and treatment.</li> <li>2. Identify and appraise the symptomatology, diagnostic criteria, and epidemiological trends of major adult mental disorders.</li> </ol> <p><b>Competencies</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Apply the biopsychosocial framework to analyse clinical case material and develop evidence-based formulations.</li> <li>4. Evaluate and critique psychological and pharmacological treatment approaches in relation to specific disorders and sociocultural contexts.</li> </ol>				

	<p><b>Transferable Skills</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Communicate psychological concepts and clinical information clearly and effectively in written academic formats.</li> <li>6. Demonstrate ethical reasoning and cultural sensitivity when considering the diagnosis and treatment of mental health conditions.</li> <li>7.</li> </ol>		
<p><b>Prerequisites</b></p>	<p>PSY1101 Foundations of Brain, social psychology and individual differences, PSY2301 Biological basis of behaviour</p>	<p><b>Required</b></p>	<p>none</p>
<p><b>Course content</b></p>	<p><b>Indicative Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biopsychosocial Model of Psychopathology: Integration of genetic, neurobiological, cognitive-emotional, and sociocultural influences</li> <li>• Diagnostic Systems: DSM-5, ICD-11, and critical perspectives</li> <li>• Historical Foundations: Changing concepts of mental illness and treatment</li> <li>• Alternatives to Diagnosis: Power Threat Meaning Framework, recovery models</li> <li>• Symptomatology and Culture: How mental illness is experienced and labelled across cultures, families, and gender identities</li> <li>• Epidemiology and Risk Factors: Prevalence data, risk and protective factors, lifespan considerations</li> <li>• Coverage of a range of Mental Disorders: Anxiety Disorders, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, Depressive Disorders, Schizophrenia and Psychosis, Personality Disorders, Trauma-Related Disorders, Eating Disorders, Addiction.</li> <li>• Treatment Approaches: Psychological Therapies, Pharmacological Treatments, Biopsychosocial treatment planning</li> <li>• Case Formulation and Application of the Biopsychosocial Model</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Teaching methodology</b></p>	<p>Teaching will consist of lectures, in-class discussions, case studies and quizzes designed to assess understanding and provide opportunities for formative feedback. Teaching will be supported by online materials and additional readings</p>		
<p><b>Bibliography</b></p>	<p><b>Core Text:</b></p>		

	<p>David H. Barlow, D. H., V. Mark Durand, V. M., &amp; Stefan G. Hofmann, S. G. (2021). <i>Psychopathology: An integrative approach to mental disorders</i> (9th ed.). Cengage Learning.</p> <p>Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition, Text Revision. (2022). <i>Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders</i> (5th ed., text rev.; DSM-5-TR). American Psychiatric Association.</p> <p><b>Further reading:</b></p> <p>Dozois, D. J. A. (Ed.). (2023). <i>Perspectives in psychopathology</i> (7th ed.). Pearson Canada.</p> <p>A reading list will accompany each lecture, highlighting relevant articles accessible through the library, as well as open-access and e-learning resources.</p>						
<p><b>Assessment</b></p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Attendance and participation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Case Formulation and Intervention Plan (2000 words)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">45%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Exam</td> <td style="text-align: right;">45%</td> </tr> </table>	Attendance and participation	10%	Case Formulation and Intervention Plan (2000 words)	45%	Final Exam	45%
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Case Formulation and Intervention Plan (2000 words)	45%						
Final Exam	45%						
<p><b>Language</b></p>	<p>English</p>						