PSYCHOLOGY (APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY), MASTER STUDY PROGRAMME, SECOND BOLOGNA CYCLE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COMPULSORY COURSES

Course name: **PERSONNEL PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
Course includes basic chapters of personnel psychology, especially contents that describe the relationship between persons and the organisation, in particular the establishment of the relationship, its development, and termination.

I. Orientation:
- personnel psychology: research subjects and methods, professional field, roles and working methods, work ethics.

II. HRM function in organisations: description of work and roles.

III. Areas of individual differences relevant to personnel psychology, techniques and methods of assessment and diagnosis.

IV. Personnel selection and employment: principles, models, techniques, selection process, national legislation.

V. Careers: theories, career decisions, career diagnostic, career planning and career management from individual development and organisational perspective.

VI. Education and training of employees: theories, practical considerations, need analysis on the level of individual, group and organisation, knowledge management.

VII. Competences and competence management.

VIII. Personnel appraisal and feedback.

IX. Motivating employees: theories, job characteristics, work context characteristics, employees' commitment, person-organisation fit, instruments for assessing motivation, reward and pay system (analysis, development, evaluation of the system).

X. Job loss and the experience of unemployment: research and perspectives.

Course name: **CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Definition of clinical psychology.
- Historical development of clinical psychology.
- Theoretical models in clinical psychology (psychoanalytic, cognitive-behavioral, humanistic-existential, systemic, integrative).
- Clinical psychodiagnostics.
- Phases of diagnostical process.
- Anamnesis.

- Psychological tests in clinical psychology.
- Projective techniques and self-descriptive techniques.
- Psychological report.
- Diagnostical classifications and psychopathology.
- Clinical assessment of cognitive abilities.
- Clinical assessment of personality, interpersonal relationships and emotions.
- Research in clinical psychology.
- Clinical-psychological counselling and psychotherapy.
- Specifics of working with children and adolescents.
- Specifics of working with people with special needs.
- Ethics in clinical psychology.

Course name: **RESEARCH DESIGN AND STATISTICAL DATA ANALYSIS**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Types of studies in psychology
- Effect size and sample size determination
- Multiple linear regression
- Analysis of variance
- Principal component analysis and canonical correlation analysis
- Cluster analysis
- Statistical analysis using a computer program
- Data visualization and presentation of results from data analysis
- Case studies from psychological research using statistical advanced methods

Course name: **ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **3**

Content:
Course includes basic chapters of organisational psychology, especially contents that describe and explain individual and collective behaviour in relation to the shaping and functioning of the organisation as a sociotechnical system.

I. Organisation defined

II. Theories of organisation.

III. Organisational structure and processes: components, analysis, design, and redesign, interrelation with organisational strategy.

IV. Interorganisational networks and influences: business context, national legislation and institutions, national culture, cross-cultural networks and (co)operations.

V. Leadership and power in organisations: theories, models, cross-cultural leadership, analysis and interventions.

VI. Teams and groups: definition, structure, processes, effectiveness, team building.

VII. Communication within the organisation: process, elements, communication analysis, planning and implementing interventions.

VIII. Decision-making in organisations: process, phases, context, rationality, leadership decision-making, decision-making tools.

IX. Organisational climate and culture: definitions, schools of thought, theories, approaches to research and analysis, dimensions, questionnaires, planning in implementing intervention plans.

X. Organisational development and change: planned changes, determinants and influences (facilitators, inhibitors), planning and assessing organisational change.

Course name: **EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Social learning factors: interaction teacher-students, interaction among students, cooperative and competitive learning.
- Criteria and factors of learning successfulness, successful / less successful / unsuccessful students.
- Special needs learners: categories of special needs students, specific learning problems, gifted students.
- Lifelong learning, LL competencies, EuroPsy model, developing primary and enabling competences.

Course name: **PSYCHOLOGICAL VIEWS OF GROUP WORK**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Definition of the group and group work; definition of group dynamics; styles of group leading; basic psychological processes in group.
- Basic psychological knowledge regarding long term group work.
- Phases of group development.
- Basic knowledge of leading a group session (introduction, motivating members for participation, observation, interpretation and other interventions of the group as a whole or each member, facilitation of group process, closing the group, getting feedback).
- Working with groups in different areas of psychology.
- Leading different forms of groups (group psychotherapy, educational groups, workshops…)
- Psychological methodological accessories for working with small groups.
- Psychological methods and accessories for leaders of the group and society work (supervision, intervision, self-help…).
- Group and society - differences and similarities.
- Psychology and dynamics of society from the lenses of group dynamics.

Course name: **PSYCHOTERAPEUTIC APPROACHES AND PSYCHOTERAPY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- In-depth overview of the theoretical framework and basic concepts of different psychotherapeutic approaches.
- Overview of the historical background of different psychotherapeutic approaches and psychotherapy.
- Definition and learning of various psychotherapeutic methods and technics.
- Learning characteristics of therapeutic relationship, communication and the context of therapeutic treatment.
- Overview of ethical questions in the field of psychological counselling and psychotherapy.

Course name: **SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **3**

Content:
- Work field of school psychologists.
- Recognition of school problem situations and dealing with them, counselling, communication with parents, teachers and students

- Team work: characteristics, benefits and possible problems, encouraging team work in educational setting.
- Teaching social skills, conflict solcing, mediation.
- Classroom management: goals, techniques, prevention of behaviour problems.
- Learning how to learn: learning strategies and tactics, teaching learning strategies.Assessing and grading knowledge: types of assessment, traditional and alternative forms of assessments, effects of grading on students.

Course name: **APPLIED SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Introduction and explanation of distinctions between conventional and social-historical models of social psychology, exposing their different epistemological basis.
- Presentation and an in-depth overview of the field of social constructionism and critical (social) psychology, among other things, the importance of Freudian and Lacanian psychoanalysis to understand society.
- Overview of societal psychology.
- Presentation of applied social psychology aiming at changes at the social level.
- Extending the understanding of the position of ocial psychology within science and the problematization of it.
- Examples of applied social psychology, community psychology and other forms of engaging social-psychology in society.

Course name: **BEHAVIOURAL GENETICS**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Introduction to Behavioural Genetics: historical background, core concepts, and applications in psychology.
- Genes and Environment: gene–environment interactions and correlations, epigenetic mechanisms.
- From Genes to Behaviour: genome–phenotype pathways, gene expression, neurobiological and endocrine mediators.
- Quantitative Genetics: heritability, variance, twin, family and adoption studies.
- Biological Foundations of Personality: genetic models, temperament, stability and plasticity.
- Personality in Animals and Humans: a comparative approach and individual differences.
- Biological Bases of Social Behaviour: attachment, aggression, parental behaviour, and prosociality.
- Genetics of Mental Health: vulnerability, stress, anxiety, mood disorders, ADHD, and addictions.
- Biology of Stress: neuroendocrine responses, regulation, and individual differences.
- Self-Control, Impulsivity, and Risk Behaviours.
- Animal-Assisted Psychological Interventions (AAI): genetic and neuroendocrine mechanisms and applications.
- Applications of Behavioural Genetics in Psychological Practice: assessment, counselling, and individualised interventions.
- Ethical Issues in the Use of Genetic Information in Psychology.

Seminars and tutorials include the analysis of practical case studies, group discussions, team workshops, reflection, and practical problem-solving activities.

Course name: **HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Definition of health, illness and health psychology

- Definition and understanding of risk and protective factors for health and public-health strategies connected with them
- Understanding of the process of becoming ill and how we perceive, interpret and respond to symptoms of illness.
- Understanding of impact of illness on the individual and their families, including the concept of quality of life.

Course name: **MASTER'S THESIS**
Number of ECTS credits: **15**

Content:
A comprehensive treatment of the contents of the selected subject area of the programme and/or an interdisciplinary connection to other subject areas of the same programme, or even an interdisciplinary treatment of a subject theme. Students choose a topic according to their interests and in accordance with the supervisor as well as the subject areas that a particular student wants to deal with in detail. The thesis can be research oriented or professional, i.e. oriented into professional practice. The thesis' length should comply with the Instructions for writing a Master thesis.

In research oriented theses students develop investigative methods: suitability issues, developing their work plan, setting goals and formulating hypotheses, searching for documentary and bibliographic resources, defining the structure of research, etc. and demonstrate their knowledge of and the ability to select and apply the most appropriate psychological theories. A practice-oriented, i.e. professional thesis must follow the rules and practices in use in the relevant areas of professional practice.

Course name: **ADVANCED STATISTICAL METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Regression models and their use in psychology
- Logistic regression
- Basics of event history analysis
- Hierarchical linear models
- Analyses with missing data
- Case studies from psychological research using advanced statistical methods

Course name: **TRAINING IN THE WORKPLACE**
Number of ECTS credits: **15**

Content:
Training in the workplace is based on standards for supervised practice which are developed by the Slovenian Psychological Association in accordance with Europsy guidelines.

Student's mentor of the training in the workplace can only be a person with a degree in Psychology or a Master's degree (2nd Bologna cycle) in Psychology. He/she must have at least one year of working experience as psychologist. He/she can also cover a position of psychologist in other relevant working place that is not apprenticeship/internship. Mentor must be involved in the work of the organization where the student is planning to do the training and he/she can be involved in the clinical work, pedagogical work, educational counselling, and personnel work or research activity. If the above mentioned conditions are not met, the student must find another mentor.

Student, according to their own interests, selects or proposes a department in the organization where they would like to get a work experience placement (public or private medical or educational institution, company ...). The content of work experience will thus depend mainly on the chosen field of work and student's activities. It is defined jointly by both student and mentor from the organization in the work experience plan, which is confirmed by a training in workplace coordinator.

Work experience plan includes the key elements of psychological treatment, including:

- observation of actual situations, use of basic biopsychological techniques under appropriate supervision;
- taking part in projects with specified tasks;
- analysis and discussion of various psychological cases.

Course name: **PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Definitions of psychological counselling.
- Historical development of psychological counselling.
- Counselling in various fields of psychology.
    - Psychological counselling in schools.
    - Coaching and psychological counselling
- Differentiation between psychological counselling and psychotherapy (short overview, with an emphasis on counselling).
- Philosophy and main models of psychological counselling.
- Characteristics and skills of high quality counsellors; planning the counselling process
- Beginning of counselling; Observing the client – social and psychological level messages;
- Developing counselling relationship and contract.
- Developing goals in counselling.
- Basic methods and interventions in psychological counselling.
- Distorted beliefs.
- Motivation for change.
- Using positive resources in psychological counselling.
- Short, solution focused counselling.
- Ending the counselling relationship.
- Basics of supervision and mentorship.
- Ethical aspects of counselling process.

Course name: **RESEARCH METHODS IN NEUROSCIENCE**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
Theoretical basis, principles, indications, methods of application, interpretations of results of research methods in neuroscience:
- electrophysiological and related methods (EEG, EMG, EP, P300, DBS, TCMS),
- examination of autonomic nervous system
- cerebrospinal fluid examinations
- morphologic brain imaging (CT, MRI)
- functional brain imaging (fMRI)
- functional methods SPECT, PET.

ELECTIVE COURSES

(Read the short descriptions of all elective courses of the study programme. In the table Elective courses you will find the list of the elective courses which were offered in the last two years.)

Course name: **FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Overview of forensic psychology and psychiatry
- Distinction between forensic and therapeutic evaluation
- The role of forensic psychologist
- Forensic profiling
- Interview and questioning in the field od forensic psychology
- Expert testimony in civil and criminal procedures
- Mental health and forensic patients
- Interventions in institutions for prison administration

Course name: **PUBLIC-HEALTH INTERVENTIONS: SELECTED TOPICS**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Definition of the model intervention – prevention – research
- Teaching on the development, impementation and analysis of public-health interventions
- Case-studies of public-health interventions, specifically in the field of suicidology.

Course name: **CLINICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERVIEW**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Insight in the characteristics of clinical procedure environment.
- Overview of the characteristics of therapeutic relationship between the therapist and the client.
- In-depth overview of different types of interviews in psychology and clinical practise.
- In-depth overview of clinical interview characteristics and skills for a good interview.
- Practical experiences with case studies and role playing.

Course name: **POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Overview of the historical background and beginnings of positive psychology.
- In-depth overview of the theoretical framework and basic concepts of positive psychology.
- Overview of the research field and main surveys in positive psychology.
- Introduction to the applied positive psychology.

Course name: **MEDIA PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **3**

Content:
- What is media psychology.
- Psychological aspects of exposition to media-rich world.

- How media and the growing use of technology factor into how people perceive, interpret, respond, and interact in a media-rich world.
- Psychology in relation to different media technologies and their use.
- How people receive, consume, produce and distribute information across media technologies.
- Psychology of social networks.
- Use of psychology in new communications tools design.

Course name: **PSYCHOLOGY OF CONSUMER BEHAVIOR**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
The course deals with the content that allow an understanding of consumer behavior in real life situations. Course deals the psychological, social and personal influences on consumer buying behavior in the everyday environment.

1. Introduction to Consumer behavior: development and definition of marketing, basic marketing concepts, consumer's definition, consumer behavioral processes, the basic theories and models, sciences who study consumer behavior, consumer research, research methods and techniques of consumer behavior.

2. Factors affecting Consumer behavior
   - Psychological factors: motivation, perception, learning and memory, attitudes
   - Sociological factors: groups, family, role and position of the individual
   - Cultural factors: the reference group, social class
   - Personal factors: age and level of family life cycle, lifestyle, personality

3. Purchase decision making process: the level of individual and group decision making process, the characteristics of the purchase situation.

4. Segmentation and positioning on consumer's market

5. Research of Consumer behavior
   - qualitative and quantitative approach
   - measuring customer satisfaction

Course name: **DEVELOPMENTAL ASPECTS OF NORMATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND DEVIATIONS**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Normative development and deviations: the pace of development, individual differences and the particularities of the development.
- Importance of genetic factors and social environment in the normative development and deviations.
- The role and importance of the developmental knowledge for work with different children, adolescents and adults.
- Getting to know and understanding the differences, learning about inclusive approach and focusing on inclusive functioning.
- Getting to know the individual groups of persons with special needs and characteristics of their development.
- Risk factors for problems in the fields of development in different stages of life.
- Relationship between success or failure, and the successful or unsuccessful outcomes in education and in life in general.

Course name: **APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY IN EXTREME CONDITIONS**
Number of ECTS credits: **3**

Content:
- Political behaviour and its factors; historical and current political issues (democracy, revolution, dictatorship, terrorism, genocide, electoral behaviour ...)
- Subject of military psychology; psychology of war; the importance of propaganda in the army; organizational aspects of the military; military psychologist's work
- Subject of police psychology; work with crime vistims; technics of informative interview; interrogation and false confessions; recognizing deceipt and lying; methods of inquiry into validity of statements - polygraph, psycholinguistics, behaviour analisis; negotiations in critical situations.

Course name: **APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY OF EVERYDAY LIFE**
Number of ECTS credits: **3**

Content:
- Contemporary everyday way of life and adaptation to it; the applicability of theories of personality and coping with stress in everyday life; motivation and emotions of everyday life; the importance of emotional intelligence; personal growth
- Influence of psychological factors on sports scores, physical activity; emotional self-control for optimum performance; goal setting in sport; relaxation, visualization, concentration and other techniques in sport psychology
- Relationship between psychological processes and behaviour of drivers; traffic accidents and their most important psychological factors
- Cyberspace as a new dimension of life; the impact of cyberspace on the personality and behaviour of human; the role of psychology in creating cyberspace

Course name: **COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- In-depth overview of cognitive – behavioural theoretical concepts
- In-depth overview of cognitive – behavioural psychotherapy methods and technics
- Case studies of different therapeutic procedures according to different types of psychological problems and disorders

Course name: **SPORTS PSYCHOLOGY**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
The subject and methods of sports psychology. Aplicative techniques in sport psychology.
Influence of determined factors and the environment factors onto the development of personality of athletes. The influence of personality structure on the success in sport.
Cognitive abilities and success in sport. Basic psychological rules in the process of learning and training. Mental preparation.
Motivational process in sports activity.
Values in the elite sport. Ethics in sport.
Aggressiveness and frustrations in sport. Emotional process connected with sports activity. Mental health and sport.
Social atmosphere and harmony in the sports team Coach, personality, leadership style of coach.
Preparation of coaches for stressful situations. Sports psychology and her/his tasks in various cycles of preparation and competition, sports psychology as part of a professional team.
Family and athlete. Youth sport.

Course name: **MENTAL HEALTH PREVENTION IN THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
Course covers the concern for the mental health and well-being of employees in the work environment, which is one of the most important living environments for the active population, since it spends at least a third of its life in the workplace.
I. Definition of (mental) health
II. The Importance of work for the individual
III. Risks of modern working organisations (restructuring, platformwork,precarity work)
IV. Consequences of poor mental health at the organisation level and and in the social context (absenteeism, presentism, interpersonal relations, fluctuation, reduced work efficiency)
V. Psychosocial risk factors in the workplace
VI. Workplace stress
VII. Workplace stress management mechanisms and social support
VIII. Burnout
IX. Signs of burnout at organisation level
X. Prevention of burnout in the organization
XI. Challenges post covid organizations (hybrid work, work from home …)

Course name: **PSYCHOLOGY OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH**
Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:
- Introduction to the psychology of sexual and reproductive health
- Sexual development in adolescence
- Menstruation
  - Menstrual cycle
  - Pre-menstrual syndrome
- Sexuality and contraception
  - Sexual behaviour
  - Sexual dysfunctions and interventions
  - Risky sexual behaviour
- Psychological context of infertility
  - Coping with infertility
  - Infertility treatment
  - Adoption
- Pregnancy
  - Factors in pregnancy
  - Difficult pregnancy
  - Screening
  - Miscarriage and abortion
- Psychological preparation for childbirth
- Labour and delivery
  - Childbirth
  - Obstetric complications
- Postnatal period
  - Challenges of the postnatal period
  - Parenting
  - Mental health problems
  - Breastfeeding
- Menopause
  - Menopausal discomfort
- Ageing and sexual health
  - Attitudes to sexuality in older people
  - Reproductive health in older people

Course name: **ANIMAL ASSISTED PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS**

Number of ECTS credits: **6**

Content:

- Introduction to Human-Animal interactions, Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAI) and Animal Assessted Activities (AAA). Overview of AAI as a field within psychology; historical development; contemporary relevance.
- Terminology and Classification of AAI. Definitions and distinctions between AAI, AAA, Animal Assessted Therapy (AAT), Animal Assessted Learning (AAL), and Animal Assessted Coaching (AAC); implications of terminology for professional responsibility and evaluation.
- Psychological Foundations of Human–Animal Interaction. Attachment, relational processes, emotion regulation, stress and coping, motivation, and social facilitation.
- Psychological Mechanisms of Change in AAI. How animal presence may influence affect, attention, engagement, behaviour, perceived safety, and meaning-making.
- Scope of Practice and Professional Roles. Role clarity across therapy, psychological interventions, education, coaching, and wellbeing contexts; competence, supervision, and boundaries.
- Evidence Base and Quality Standards in AAI. Overview of psychological outcomes; limits of standardised protocols; importance of goal-directed and evaluable interventions.
- Assessment and Suitability in AAI. Assessing client needs, goals, risks, and appropriateness of different forms of AAI; informed consent and inclusion/exclusion considerations.
- Designing and Implementing Animal-Assisted Interventions. Goal setting, session structure, documentation, monitoring progress, and outcome evaluation across AAI contexts.
- Species-Specific and Relational Considerations. Dogs and equine-assisted interventions as key examples; understanding animal behaviour and communication; matching animals, clients, and settings.
- Ethics and Animal Welfare in AAI. Animal welfare as a core ethical responsibility; recognising stress and overload; balancing client and animal needs; safeguards and decision-making.
- Organisational and Institutional Contexts of AAI. AAI in healthcare, education, higher education, community, and organisational settings; interdisciplinary collaboration; governance and risk management.
- Current Challenges and Future Directions in AAI. Methodological challenges, professionalisation of the field, cultural considerations, innovation, and sustainability.