

Foundation of Psychology (H002116)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h** **Contact hrs** 38.0h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2022-2023

A (Year)	Dutch	Gent	online lecture	0.0h
			lecture	30.0h
			practicum	8.75h
			online seminar	0.0h

Lecturers in academic year 2022-2023

Brysbaert, Marc	PP02	lecturer-in-charge
Sahan, Muhammet Ikbal	PP02	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2022-2023

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Science in Psychology(main subject Clinical Psychology)	5	A
Bachelor of Science in Psychology(main subject Education)	5	A
Bachelor of Science in Psychology(main subject Personnel Management and Industrial Psychology)	5	A
Bachelor of Science in Psychology(main subject Theoretical and Experimental Psychology)	5	A
Bachelor of Science in Psychology (Joint Section)	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Historical and conceptual issues in psychology

Position of the course

The course Foundations of Psychology is a supporting course in the undergraduate psychology program and provides students with information about how the psychology program was created. It is part of the block Models in Psychology, which focuses on understanding, explaining and predicting THE human being. Additionally, students participate in three studies, giving them insight into the types of studies psychologists run and how participants experience and respond to those studies.

Contents

This course covers the following topics:

- Thinking in ancient cultures
- The scientific revolution in the 17th century
- 18th and 19th precursors to a scientific psychology
- Establishing psychology as an independent academic discipline
- Strengthening the scientific standing of psychology: Behaviorism and cognitive psychology
- The input from brain research
- The mind-brain problem, free will, consciousness
- How did psychology affect everyday life: The history of applied psychology
- What is a science and is psychology a science?
- Psychology and society
- Participation in psychological research
- Scientific literature and databases

Initial competences

This course unit builds on certain course competencies of General psychology.

Final competences

- 1 Students understand the developments that led to the emergence of the scientific approach.
- 2 Students understand why psychology identified itself with the sciences.
- 3 Students understand how brain research contributed to psychological knowledge.
- 4 Students can think critically about concepts such as the mind-brain problem, free will and consciousness.
- 5 Students can think critically about how psychology influenced society and in turn was influenced by society.
- 6 Students can think critically about what science is and to what extent psychology belongs to science.
- 7 Students can think critically about what it entails to participate in scientific psychological research.
- 8 Students can use databases like the Web of Science and answer scientific questions on the basis of the scientific literature.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Practicum, Online seminar, Online lecture, Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

Practicum: participation in scientific research and debriefings.

Learning materials and price

Brysbaert, M., & Rastle, K. (2020). Historical and Conceptual Issues in Psychology (3rd edition). Harlow: Pearson Education. (estimated price 40 Euros)

References

Course content-related study coaching

Opportunity to ask for clarifications to teaching staff.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods

A period-specific evaluation + mandatory participation in the non-period-specific exercises (3 experiments). The experiments must be finished at the latest by the end of week 12 of the second semester. Ideally, they should be finished before the Easter holidays, because after that no more studies can be guaranteed to take part in.

Failure to participate in either part of the evaluation results in a fail for the entire course unit. If one has not participated in all three experiments, one cannot get a score on the exam.

Calculation of the examination mark