

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Credit points	6 CP		
Study course annotation	The course examines classical and modern theories, fundamental problems and studies of social psychology; classic and innovative research methods, basic concepts and socio-psychological phenomena, unique studies and their results are discussed.		
Aim of the study course	The aim of the course is to form a student's declarative and procedural knowledge of the basic socio-psychological constructs, theories and methods in social psychology. In-depth analysis of studies of various socio-psychological constructs and practical application of their results.		
Objectives of the course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To introduce students to the history of social psychology, to the methodology and methods of social psychology. • To consider researches of the basic constructs in social psychology . • To introduce to the main directions of applied research in modern social psychology. • To provide students with the opportunity to determine the role and place of social psychology in society. 		
Study course results	Knowledge	Skills	Competences
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of the theoretical paradigms of social psychology and its history; • Deep knowledge of modern theories, models and methods of social psychology, including their critical assessment; • Knowledge of the basic ethical principles of socio psychological research; • Knowledge of psychological processes in small and large groups • Knowledge of the basics of social cognition, including implicit social cognition • Knowledge of the basic constructs of social psychology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to recognize and analyze the problems of social psychology and ways to solve them; • Ability to recognize socio psychological phenomena in everyday situations and apply adequate theories for their analysis; • Ability to use innovative approaches in solving complex and unpredictable tasks of social psychology • The ability to analyze and think critically when solving problems in social psychology • Ability to use scientific approaches to solving problems in social psychology; • Students can apply ethical principles in socio psychological research; • Ability to search and analyze socio psychological literature; • Ability to use the knowledge of social psychology in working with a group; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to apply the ideas of social psychology while forming beliefs, attitudes and communication • Able to evaluate and apply the skills acquired on the course in everyday situations, professional activities and personal development; • The ability to interact successfully with other people and resolve conflicts; • The ability to recognize the mechanisms of interpersonal influence and, if necessary, resist them; • Ability to choose the best problem solution way and make decisions. • Ability to conduct psychological research (assessment) of an individual, group or organization • Students can take responsibility for their professional decisions and actions.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To speak to an audience and make presentations; • Ability to analyze various socio psychological phenomena 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to assess the impact of social psychology on society and the way social requests affect the development of psychology as a science
Study course content	Topics		
	1	The subject, history, methodology and methods of social psychology. Personality and society. Group and individual. Theories of social psychology.	
	2	Psychology of social developmental. Socialization. The family as the first source and basis of socialization.	
	3	Psychology of communication. Communication structure. Types of communication. Verbal and non verbal communication. Language and Speech.	
	4	Psychology of small groups. A group as a social unit. Group norms. The phenomenon of de-individualization. Conformism and conformity. Social roles and positions. Leadership and power in a group. Group polarization. Group dynamics. The formation of group norms. Group unity (cohesion). Group polarization. Group decision making. Group unity. Group efficiency. Relations between groups and perception of groups. Phenomena: discrimination between groups and intra-group favoritism.	
	5	Psychology of large groups. Types of large groups. The specifics of communication in large groups. Criteria of social stratification and differentiation. Crowd. Theory of social ideas. Social norms and social impact. "Culture shock". Cross-cultural psychology. Social values and cultural context. Ethnicity and ethnopscyhology. Mentality and national character. Ethnic identity. Ethnic stereotypes.	
	6	The psychology of social cognition. Processing social information. Social hypotheses. Cognitive adaptation.	
	7	Attribution: theory and research. Theory of causal attribution. Fundamental attribution errors.	
	8	Social attitudes: structure and function. Implicit and explicit attitudes. Models of dual processes. Prejudice and stereotypes. Socio-educational schemes. Cognitive balance and cognitive dissonance. Social attitudes and behavior.	
	9	Social interaction and interpersonal relationships. Aggression and aggressiveness. Methods of investigation of aggression. Prosocial and antisocial behavior and altruism. The phenomenon of diffuse liability. Norms of social responsibility and mutual standards. Belonging and attraction	
	10	Applied Social Psychology. Socio-psychological work with the group its mission, diagnosis of mental changes in it. Self-disclosure. The psychology of health. Psychology of advertising. Organizational Psychology.	
Form of assessment:	Exam		
Obligatory literature:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Susan T. Fiske, Daniel T. Gilbert, Gardner Lindzey (2010). Handbook of Social Psychology, 2 Volume Set, 5th Edition, Oxford: Willey, 2000 p. 2. Myers, D. (2021). Exploring Social Psychology, 9th Edition. 3. Principles of Social Psychology (2015). University of Minnesota Libraries Publishing, ISBN 9781946135209. 			



4. Maio, G.R., & Haddock, G. (2015). The psychology of attitudes and attitude change. London, UK, Sage Publication. (CD).

5. Reņģe, V. (2002). Sociālā psiholoģija. Rīga: Zvaigzne ABC.

Further reading list:

1. Hogg, M. A., & Vaughan, G. M. (2005). Social Psychology. Fourth edition. Pearson. Prentice Hall.

2. Goleman, D. (2006). Social Intelligence. The Revolutionary New Science of Human Relationships. Bantam Books, 403, [10] p.

3. Plotka, I., Igonin, D., & Blumenau, N. (2016). Implicit Attitudes and Measurements: Effect of Context. International Business: Innovations, Psychology and Economics, 7(2(12)), 7-150. Business Source Complete (EBSCO); Business Source Corporate Plus (EBSCO), Index Copernicus Journal Master List. Online ISSN 2345-0932. Is available at http://www.kuryba.lt/failai/zurnalai/2016_2.pdf.

4. Ryabichenko, T., Lebedeva, N., & Plotka, I. (2018). Value Similarity with Mothers and Peers and Family Climate as Predictors of Well-Being of Russian Youth in Latvia. In N. Lebedeva, R. Dimitrova & J. Beery (Eds), In book Changing Values and Identities in the Post-Communist World, SPRINGER, pp 191-205.

5. Rogers, W.S. (2003). Social Psychology. Experimental and Critical Approaches / Wendy Stainton Rogers. USA: McGraw-Hill Education, 372 p.

Other sources of information (electronic journals):

1. <http://biblio.bsa.edu.lv>

2. Journal of Personality & Social Psychology.

3. British Journal of Social Psychology. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/20448309>

4. Current Research in Social Psychology. <https://uiowa.edu/crisp/>

5. Psychological Review

Changes and additions to the program and literature list are possible during the study process