

Course Description Cognitive Psychology 1.

Aim of the course

Aim of the course:

The main objective of the course is to give an overview on the theoretical frames of cognitive psychology, with its basic concepts. As cognitive processes serve as basics for all human behavior, also its problems influence wellbeing and social relations, especially important to deliver a comprehensive overview for students.

Learning outcome, competences

knowledge:

- Basic concepts of cognitive psychology
- Theories of perception, memory and thinking, including current research trends and their outputs
- Relations of cognitive mechanisms and their malfunctioning

attitude:

- Ability to understand and ask questions in relation to the functioning of mind,
- Utilisation of knowledge in scientific communication, presentation

skills:

- Skills of applying main methods
- Skills of identifying and segmenting basic psychological mechanisms

Content of the course

Topics of the course

13-14 weeks, 2x2 hours weekly for each following topic set:

1. Introduction – sensation, psychophysics, perception, mental representations
2. Perception and attention; selective attention visual perception
3. Hearing: auditory attention and speech perception
4. Learning: basic concepts, implicit learning
5. Motor behavior, spatial orientation, sensorimotor integration
6. Cognitive control: automatic and controlled attentional processes, central executive, working memory. Consciousness and control processes
7. Memory systems: theories and models
8. Knowledge, remembering and forgetting
9. Episodic and autobiographical memories
10. Concepts, categorization
11. Psycholinguistics
12. Language and thought
13. Social cognition and theory of mind

Learning activities, learning methods

Lectures and interactive discussions

Evaluation of outcomes

Learning requirements, mode of evaluation, criteria of evaluation:

requirements

- Reliable basic knowledge in the domain of cognitive psychology

mode of evaluation: written exam

criteria of evaluation:

- Knowledge on basic concepts and the skill of utilizing the theoretical models and basic methods of cognitive psychology adequately

Reading list

Compulsory reading list

- Atkinson and Hilgard (2014): Introduction to Psychology. HarperCollins--- 15th Edition, UK
- The content of lectures

Recommended reading list

- Eysenck, M., Keane, M.T. (2015): Cognitive Psychology: A Student's Handbook, 7th Edition. Psychology Press, London