PSYCHOLOGY OF HUMAN MEMORY AND LEARNING – Code 800153
Academic Year 2018-19

COURSE INFORMATION

Undergraduate Studies: 0812 – Degree in Psychology (Studies Plan 2009-10)
Type: Compulsory
ECTS: 6.0
Module: Compulsory psychological training
Area: Psychological processes
Year: Second
Semester: 1

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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Office hours: upon appointment

SYNOPSIS

COMPETENCIES

General competencies

GC2: Know and understand the basic laws of the different psychological processes.
GC14: Prepare oral and written psychological reports in different areas of activity.

Transversal competencies

TC1: Analysis and synthesis.
TC2: Preparation and defence of properly reasoned arguments.

Specific competencies

SC4: Be able to describe and measure variables (personality, intelligence and other aptitudes, attitudes, etc.) and cognitive, emotional, psychobiological and behavioural processes).

SC5: Be able to identify differences, problems and needs.

Specific: Acquiring the ability to analyse and explain human behaviour based on the behavioural, cognitive and neurobiological processes underlying learning and memory. Being able to generalize this knowledge to applied fields in clinical and educational settings.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Regular lectures are complemented with class demonstrations, selected practical workshops and discussion of scientific readings.

ECTs break-down

TEACHING ACTIVITIES	Hours	% of total credits	Attendance
Class sessions	45	30%	100%
Tutorials	5	3.3 %	50%
Students' work (class assignments and time of study)	95	63.3%	0%
Assessment activities	5	3.3%	100%

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Main theoretical aspects and empirical findings on learning and memory processes in humans will be discussed from a behavioural, cognitive and neuroscientific perspective with a special emphasis on current research trends and topics.

PRE-REQUISITES

The general requisites for the Psychology degree

OBJECTIVES

1. -To understand the main concepts, empirical results and theories on human learning and memory processes.
2. -To familiarize the student with the methodologies and techniques used in the study of learning and memory at the behavioural level and its associate brain substrates.
3. -Learning to interpret experimental results and to design and report research to test hypothesis related to learning and memory processes.
4. -To understand the role of learning and memory research in professional practice and familiarize the student with strategies and techniques aimed at applying this knowledge in clinical and educational settings.

TOPICS

Unit 1. Long-term Memory: Episodic and Semantic Memory
Unit 2. Brain Substrates of Episodic and Semantic Memory
Unit 3. Short-term Memory, Working Memory and Executive Control
Unit 4: Brain Substrates of Working Memory
Unit 5. Skill Learning and Memory: Perceptual, Motor and Cognitive skills
Unit 6. Brain Substrates of Skill Learning
Unit 7. Emotional Learning and Memory
Unit 8. Brain Substrates of Emotional Memory

ASSESSMENT

Evaluation criteria
-To pass the course, the student will have to succeed a Final Exam and complete the assigned practical and review activities. A minimum score of 5 on a 1-10 scale is required to pass the course. Moreover, accomplishments of practical and reading tasks are required. The final grade consists of the final exam result (70%) and the evaluation of the practical and reading tasks (30%).

RESOURCES

Textbooks
- M. Gluck, E. Mercado & C. Myers, 2008. Learning and Memory: From brain to behaviour. Worth Publishers

Basic references

-S. Blakemore & U. Frith, 2005. The Learning Brain: Lessons for Education. Blackwell Publishers.
-H. Eichenbaum, 2002. The Cognitive Neuroscience of Memory. Oxford University Press.
-E. Tulving & F. Craik, 2000/2005. The Oxford Handbook of Memory. Oxford University Press.

Supplementary references/ material

-Scientific journals: Trends in Cognitive Sciences

Other resources

-Online Psychology Laboratory: http://opl.apa.org/Main.aspx