

**Faculty:** Faculty of Law  
**Department:** Psychology  
**Professional area:** Psychology  
**Major:** Psychology  
**Educational-and-qualification Degree:** Master

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

1. Course unit title: Introduction to Psychology
2. Course unit code: PSY3068
3. Type of course unit: compulsory
4. Level of course unit: master
5. Year of study: first
6. Semester: first
7. Number of ECTS credits allocated: 4.5
8. Name of lecturer: Prof. D.Sc. Galya Gercheva
9. Learning outcomes of the course unit: Acquired theoretical knowledge of the orientation in the historic path of psychology; developed skills in critical analysis of psychological facts, theories and objective laws; built skills for the synthesis of psychological knowledge with the knowledge in other scientific fields, built basic skills for practical application of scientific knowledge.
10. Mode of delivery: face-to-face
11. Prerequisites and co-requisites: none.
12. Course contents: Genesis of psychological thought. Roots of psychology. Fundamental questions of psychology. Psychology - an independent science. Differentiation of branches in the psychological science in the late nineteenth and the early twentieth century. The emergence of psychological schools - an essential feature in the development of psychology as an independent science. Psychological schools - definition and key features. Research strategies in psychology. Key features of the description, correlation and experimental research in psychology. The problems of human development - as subject of psychology. Key development issues - the ratio between natural and social, continuity and stages in developmental, stability and change in development. Physical, mental and social development. Research approaches in psychology to study the social development during the life time. Crises in the psycho - social development. Conceptions of the of different levels of the psychic. Conscious and unconscious. The problems of personality as subject of study in psychology.
13. Recommended and/ or required reading:

Е н ц и к л о п е д и я по психология. С. „Наука и изкуство” 1998  
Е р и к с ъ н, Е. Идентичност, младост и криза. С. 1996  
И с т о р и я на психологическата мисъл. Христоматия. С. „Лик”, 2000  
С и й м ъ н, Д.Д., Кенрик, Д.Т. Психология. С., НБУ, 2002  
С т а н о в и ч, К. Нека мислим правилно за психологията. С., Изд. „ Изток-Запад”, 2010  
Ш у л ц, Д.П., Шулц, С.Е. История на модерната психология. С., Изд. „ Наука и изкуство”, 2006.  
Г е р р и г, Р., Зимбардо, Ф. Психология и жизнь. Санкт Петербург, „ Потер”, 2004  
З а л е в с к и й, Г. В. и др. Краткий русско-англо-немецкий словарь по психологии : с указателями английских и немецких терминов. М., Академия, 2007  
М а й е р с, Д. Психология. Мн. „Попурри”, 2006  
В r i d g i n g Cultural and Developmental Approaches to Psychology: New Syntheses in Theory, Research, and Policy. Ed. by Jensen, Lene Arnett. Oxford, University press, 2011

Blumberg, Mark S. Freaks of Nature: What Anomalies Tell Us About Development and Evolution. Oxford, University press, 2009

The Evolution of Personality and Individual Differences. Ed. by Buss, David M., Hawley, Patricia H. Oxford, University press, 2011

Myers, D. G. Psychology. Worth Publishers, Inc., New York 1995

Rutherford, M. D. Child Development: Perspectives in Developmental Psychology. Oxford, University press, 2011

14. Planned learning activities and teaching methods: Lectures and development of case studies.

15. Assessment methods and criteria: The final assessment is the average of the assessments of the assessment in sections 15.1. и 15.2.:

15.1. Continuous assessment:

- writing and presentation of coursework – up to 3 coursework per semester

15.2 Written semester examination – test, including topics from the lecture material and the seminars. The test is successfully passed if more than 50% of the problems are solved.

16. Language of instruction: Bulgarian, English

17. Work placement: none.