COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title in Lithuanian	Course unit (module) title in English	Code
BENDRAVIMO PSICHOLOGIJA	**COMMUNICATION PSYCHOLOGY**	

Description
During this module students will be introduced to key concepts in the fields of social psychology and communication psychology. The module explores the notion of relationships and communication, with a particular focus on relational changes throughout the course of human life; communication differences and similarities between individuals and groups; social conflicts and relationship impairments; and key social psychology laws that govern the development of human relationships. Throughout the course of this module, students will conduct presentations on their chosen topics, and contribute to various psychological discussions on communication processes and relationships.

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinating: dr. Monika Skerytė-Kazlauskienė **Lecturer/s:** Momina Khalid Butt	Faculty or Philosophy, Universiteto str. 9/1, Vilnius

Study cycle	Study cycle
First	General University studies

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
remote	Autumn and spring	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: B2 level of English language proficiency	**Additional requirements (if any): none**

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	130	48 val.	82 val.

Purpose of the course unit (module)
In the module, students will gain knowledge about verbal and nonverbal aspects of communication, key concepts of social psychology, and central influencers of relationships. Throughout the course of the module, students will be encouraged to analyse their own relational situations and consider their social role in groups.

Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
- Students will be able to analyse the psychological aspects of human communication.	Interactive lectures, visualisations, seminar discussions, case studies.	Test (open-ended and closed-ended questions).
- Students will be able to apply their knowledge about psychological communication laws in everyday situations.	Presentation based on a chosen topic about communication psychology. Group work. Seminar discussions, case studies.	Group presentation, active participation in seminar discussions throughout the semester.
- Students will be able to apply psychological knowledge gained throughout the course of the module in their group work.	Presentation based on a chosen topic about communication psychology. Group work. Seminar discussions, case studies.	Collaborative group work (preparing for a group presentation) throughout the semester.

| Content: breakdown of the topics | Contact hours | | | | | | | Self-study work: time and assignments | |
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Exercises	Laboratory work	Practice	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. **The notion of communication in psychology.** Key concepts in psychology, research methods, different types of relationships and forms of communication. Different psychological approaches to relationships.	2						**2**	**2**	Self-study literature review: 1 [number of resource in compulsory reading list]: p. 31-64.
2. **Relationships and personality development.** Relational changes throughout the course of human development. Historical development of social psychology. The development of different types of interpersonal communication: family, friendships, romantic interactions.	2		2				**4**	**4**	Self-study literature review: 1: p. 399-438 2: p. 554-605 .
3. **Verbal communication.** Processes involved in information exchange (attention, memory, cogniton). Spoken and written communication. The role of effective questions and requests in communication.	4						**4**	**6**	Self-study literature review: 1: 272-308; 502-537 2: p. 142-167
4. **Nonverbal communication.** Processes involved in nonverbal information exchanges. Cultural differences in nonverbal communication. Congruent and incongruent expressions. The importance of first impressions and body language. Communication skills.	4		2				**6**	**6**	Self-study literature review: 4: p.1-73
5. **The role of emotions in interpersonal relationships.** Emotional expressions and effective identification of emotions. Emotional intelligence. The link between emotions and deceitful behaviour. The impact of stress on emotional exchanges.	2						**2**	**4**	Self-study literature review: 1: 177-204 2: p. 449-516
6. **Social perception.** Stereotypes, prejudice, preconceptions and their impact on communication processes. Discrimination. Social image and self-perception, the formation of social image. The motivation behind social image development and maintenance.	4		2				**6**	**6**	Self-study literature review: 1: p. 205-242 2: p. 230-238
7. **Social influence.** Different forms of social influence: conformism, social loafing, social facilitation, depersonalisation, polarisation, manipulation. Behavioural theory: reward and punishment.	4		2				**6**	**8**	Self-study literature review: 1: p. 311-342 2: p. 517-570
8. **Individual differences in communication.** Introversion and extraversion, humour, playfulness. Attachment and the impact of different attachment types on interpersonal	2						**2**	**4**	Self-study literature review: 2: p. 133-176 4: p. 342-369

Topic							Self-study literature
relationships. Gender differences. The impact of trauma and personality impairments on communication. Cultural differences.							
9. Group communication. The dynamics and roles of groups. Leadership. Group decision making. The psychology of crowds.	4		2			6	4	Self-study literature review: 1: p. 439-540.
10. Conflicts and conflict resolution. Different types of conflicts, their causes and dynamics. Conflict resolution and moderation. The role of aggression in communication. Passive aggression, bullying, micro-aggression. Helpful and altruistic behaviour.	4		2			6	6	Self-study literature review: 1: p. 369-398; 469-500
11. Computer mediated communication and interactions online. Remote communication. Trolling. Online aggression and bullying.			4			4	4	Self-study literature review: publications in scientific journals, for example, nr. 1, 2 or 5 from recommended literature.
Preparation for presentation							12	
Preparation for exam							16	
Total	32		16			48	82	

Assessment strategy	Mark percentage	Completion period	Assessment Criteria
Written exam (can take place in VU ELearning and Examination Centre)	70	Examination session	The test will consist of 10 questions (each question will be weighted up to 10 points). Exam rating scale: (95-100): 10 – excellent level of knowledge; (85-94): 9 – very good level of knowledge; (75-84): 8 – above average level of knowledge; (65-74): 7 – a good degree of knowledge has been demonstrated, however, there are some shortcomings; (55-64): 6 – some understanding of the module has been demonstrated, however, there are significant shortcomings in the way this knowledge has been applied; (45-54): 5 – responses to the questions are not detailed, questions are not fully answered, some of the essential knowledge about study materials is lacking; (44-0): 4 (and less) – questions are either not addressed or the provided responses are erroneous, demonstrating a significant lack of knowledge about the module and the study materials.
Presentation	30	Throughout semester	Presentations are delivered in groups (2-4 students in each group) based on a chosen topic on communication psychology. **Presentations are compulsory (students who have not delivered a presentation will not be able to take part in the exam).** The format of the presentation is as follows: 1. Students choose a topic relevant for communication psychology in order to

		analyse a specific social situation (fictional or real).
		2. The topic and the social situation must be analysed with reference to psychological theories discussed in the module.
		3. At the end of the presentation, students should prepare discussion questions or a short task for the seminar group.

Assessment criteria:
1. The presentation of scientific literature and its understanding; ability to differentiate between scientific and non-scientific forms of evidence; ability to present coherent arguments and theoretical links; critical thinking (25%).
2. The application of social psychology theories to real life situations (25%)
3. The clarity and structural cohesion of the presentation (25%)
4. The moderation of discussion questions; ability to develop critical questions and summarise the key higlights of the discussion / The development of an appropriate short task on the topic of communication psychology, its presentation and summary to colleagues (25%)

Attendance				Lecture attendance is recommended; seminar attendence is compulsory. Students should not miss more than two seminars without a justifiable reason.

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place	Access online
Compulsory Literature					
1. DeLamater, J.D., Myers, D.J., Collett, J.L	2019	Social Psychology (8th Edition)		Westview Press	
2. Myers D.G.	2015	Psychology (11th Edition)		Worth Publishers, New York	
3. Hogg M.A., Vaughan G.M.	2010	Essentials of Social Psychology		Harlow, Pearson, Prentice Hall.	
4. Burgoon, J.K., Guerrero, L.K., Kory Floyd, K.	2010	Nonverbal Communication		Routledge, New York	
Recommended Literature					
1. Pennycook, G., Rand, D. G	2021	The Psychology of Fake News		Trends in Cognitive Sciences	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tics.2021.02.007
2. Fox, J., & Moreland, J. J.	2015	The dark side of social networking sites: An exploration of the relational and psychological stressors associated with Facebook use and affordances	*45*, 168-176	*Computers in human behavior*	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2014.11.083
3. Hargie D., Ed.	2018	The handbook of communication skills, 4th ed.		London: Routledge	
4. Harris R. J.	2010	A cognitive psychology of mass communication		New York: Routledge	

5. Kaye, L. K., Malone, S. A., & Wall, H. J.	2017	Emojis: Insights, affordances, and possibilities for psychological science	*21*(2), 66-68	*Trends in cognitive sciences*	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tics.2016.10.007
6. Maguire, P., & Pitceathly, C.	2002	Key communication skills and how to acquire them	*BMJ, 325,* 697-700	British Medical Journal	https://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/Maguire%20and%20Pitceathly%20BMJ%202002_0.pdf
7. Riggio R. E., Feldman R. S. (editors)	2005	Applications of nonverbal communication		Mahwah: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.	
8. Vrij, A., Hartwig, M., Granhag P.A.	2019	Reading lies: nonverbal communication and deception	2019 / Vol/70:295-317	Anual Reviews of Psychology	https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/10.1146/annurev-psych-010418-103135