

AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI
School of Undergraduate Studies

LIST OF PSYCHOLOGY COURSES
WINTER SEMESTER 2012-2013

Semester 2

P01: Human Cognition

Compulsory for Major in Psychology

No prerequisites.

Course coordinator: Gangmumei (gangmumei@aud.ac.in)

This is a compulsory course for those pursuing a Major in Psychology. It is also available to students of other streams as an optional discipline course in Psychology. This course introduces students to the area of human cognition: what are the ways in which we come to know ourselves and the world in which we live. Questions such as how does the human mind develop, how do we perceive and remember, how is intelligence understood, how does culture influence what we know will be taken up. The course will cover the historical development of the field of cognitive psychology, approaches to cognition, and contemporary issues in thought and memory. The course will benefit the beginners by opening the window to the world of Psychology and how our mind works. Most of the readings will be based on text books and recent developments in the discipline through some journals and magazines.

P02: Understanding Personality

Elective for all students

Course coordinator: Mamatha (mamatha@aud.ac.in)

No prerequisites

Personality is a key area of research and scholarship in contemporary and historical psychology. Being equipped with the conceptual handles to think about what might be underlying one's own and others' characteristic ways of thinking, feeling and acting is crucial for social scientists' informed and tolerant engagement with the world – both in their personal lives as well as their varied professional lives. The course introduces students to

various approaches to the understanding of personality, the methods of personality assessment, and familiarizes students with contemporary personality research through its many illustrations. The course asks and attempts to answer questions such as: Are all aspects of personality in our awareness? How do the person and the social context interact? How can we begin to understand what makes some people more aggressive and others helpful? What is the relationship between personality and distress?

Semester 4

P07 Methods in psychology Credits 4

Compulsory for Psychology

Course coordinator : Deepti Sachdev (deepti@aud.ac.in)

This is an innovative course that introduces students to the issues of research and the methods of data generation through some classic works in Psychology. Students will read one major work each that has employed a laboratory experiment, field experiment, observation, case study, correlational studies. The development of some classical psychological tests including the Stanford Binet, MPI and Rorschach will also be discussed. Issues of sample selection, the determination of variables, designs will be discussed through the studies we chose. We hope the course will help to understand the multiple ways of doing psychology, to see the relationship between the questions asked and the methods followed and the impossibility of determining any one method to grasp the entire complexity of humans.

The specific study and the readings will be determined each year by the course instructors.

P08 Understanding Childhood

Credits 4

Compulsory for Psychology, elective for all

Course coordinator Vinod (vinod@aud.ac.in)

The adult human develops through multiple complex processes starting even before birth. Studying the lives of children throws light on the processes and contexts within which these transformations take place. The course introduces students to the varied familial contexts in which children grow up. The development of emotion and self within families is studied with

an emphasis on the socialization of children in India. This section draws upon the theoretical work of Bronfenbrenner, Piaget, and Vygotsky, Erikson and Bowlby. One primary requirement of the human self is moral regulation. The course introduces students to the theories of Kohlberg and Gilligan as they present alternative stories of the development of morality. A final section of the course familiarizes students with the rights of children and childhood at the margins.

P 10 Practical 1: Experiments in Psychology

Credits 4

Compulsory for Psychology Honours students. Open to students who have successfully completed P01, P03 and P07.

Course coordinator: Bibinaz (bibinaz@aud.ac.in)

This is a basic requirement to be taken by students of Psychology. The course will equip students with the theory and practice of experimental method and its application in Psychology. Students will conduct 4 experiments in the field of Psychology from the domains of learning, cognition, social psychology and child development. In the process they will be provided an understanding of central concepts of the field such as designing an experiment, variables, hypothesis etc. Each experiment will be written up in the form of a report. The evaluation of the course will be on the basis of the written reports submitted throughout the year and an oral examination.

Semester 6

P15 Psychology for India

Compulsory for Psychology honours students, elective for others.

Prerequisites P03

Course coordinator Anshumita Pandey (anshumita@aud.ac.in)

This paper shall arrive at a possible 'Psychology for India' through a critical reading of three kinds of material, a) What has come to be known as 'Indian Psychology' b) Writings on the

Psychology of Indians by modern day psychologists and social theorists c) Writings *by* select Indian Psychologists, Psychoanalysts and Psychiatrists.

The course, premised on the limits of a universal psychology, shall first circumscribe what passes off as the discipline of psychology into a culturally located form: located in a primarily western European context. The paper would then ask whether such a psychology (emanating from west/Europe) is relevant to non-western and non-European cultures, experiences and psyches. It will then look for resources for a culturally sensitive psychology in the Indian material and in psychological material produced by Indians. It will also see whether India indeed has a tradition of Psychology and what one can draw from that tradition.

Course Title: Organizational Behaviour (OB) **P16**

Credits: 4

Individuals and groups of people, who are dedicated, motivated and direct their efforts in achieving organizational goals effectively and efficiently play a vital and pivotal role in today's modern organizations. The course on Organizational Behaviour (or OB) introduces the students to how individuals, groups, and organizational structure have influence on behaviour within organizations. Basically, OB refers to the study of people at work. OB focuses on the three determinants of behaviour in organizations: individuals, groups and organizational structure. It opens the door for the students to some of the most important issues and challenges that our modern organizations are facing today such as motivation, decision making, interpersonal communication, leadership, job satisfaction, organizational culture, stress management etc in organizations.

Psychological Testing: P17

Credits 4

Compulsory for Psychology. Elective for others

Prerequisites: P02, P07

Course coordinator: Rachana Johri

This course will introduce the fundamental principles of the measurement of individual differences to students. The domain of psychological testing is concerned with creating tools to measure the differences between persons on specific dimensions. The most significant of these are aspects of ability such as intelligence, aptitude and creativity as well as aspects of personality. Students will learn how to use tests and interpret scores. They will also be familiarized with all the fundamentals of test construction and psychometrics. By the end of the semester students must write up reports on 3 tests conducted in class. Assessment will be based on the reports and an oral examination.

Course Title: Dissertation:P18

Course Coordinators Rachana Johri and Neetu Sarin (rachana@aud.ac.in, neetu@aud.ac.in)

Credits 4

Elective for students of Psychology Program only

This course will take the form of a small guided research project conducted by the student under the supervision of a member of the faculty. The dissertation will provide students to apply the learning of the earlier semester to formulate a research question, collect data in a manner appropriate to the question, analyze the data and finally write up a small report.