



HRVATSKO
KATOLICKO
SVEUČILIŠTE
ZAGREB
UNIVERSITAS
STUDIORUM
CATHOLICA
CROATICA
ZAGREBIA

Detailed Course Syllabus

Academic year:

2025/2026

Semester:

Summer semester

Study programme:

Psihologija (R) (elective)

Year of study:

2

I. BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

Name: Psychology of Lying and Deception

Abbreviation: IZBD288

ECTS: 3

Code: 292057

Prerequisites: No

Total Course Workload

Teaching Mode

Total Hours

Lecture

15

Seminar

15

Auditory exercise

15

Class Time and Place: HKS - according to the published schedule

II. TEACHING STAFF

Course Holder

Name and Surname: Nakić Radoš Sandra

Academic Degree:

Professional Title: izvanredni profesor

Contact E-mail:

snrados@unicath.hr

Telephone:

Office Hours: According to the published schedule

Course Assistant

Name and Surname: Žutić Maja

Academic Degree:

Professional Title: viši asistent - predavač

Contact E-mail:

maja.zutic@unicath.hr

Telephone:

Office Hours: According to the published schedule

III. DETAILED COURSE INFORMATION

Teaching Language: English

<p>Course Description</p>	<p>Course objectives: The aim of the course is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the psychological, social, and neurophysiological aspects of lying and deception, to develop the ability to critically analyse indicators of deceptive behaviour and evaluate different methods of lie detection, and to enable ethical and professional application of knowledge in practical and research contexts.</p> <p>Course content: Lying and Deception: Conceptualisation, Origin, Causes, and Functions. Theoretical Models of Lying. Cognitive and Emotional Processes Behind Lying. Neurophysiological Mechanisms of Lying. Psychopathology of Lying. Lying in Children and Adults in Different Contexts. Deception in Forensic, Clinical, and Organisational Psychology. Emotions in the Human Face. Verbal Indicators of Deception. Non-Verbal Indicators of Deception and Microexpressions. Modern Methods of Lie Detection. Ethical Considerations in Psychology of Lying and Deception.</p>	
<p>Educational Outcomes</p>	<p>Critically evaluate cognitive, emotional, and neurophysiological mechanisms of lying and deception. Assess and compare major theoretical models of lying and deception. Analyse the specific ways deception manifests and impacts practice in forensic, clinical, and organisational psychology. Critically evaluate verbal and non-verbal indicators of deceptive behaviour. Evaluate strengths, limitations, and applicability of modern lie-detection methods. Demonstrate ethical and professional responsibility when interpreting and applying deception-related knowledge in practice.</p>	
<p><i>Textbooks and Materials</i></p>		
<p>Required</p>	<p>Denes, G. (2023). <i>The psychology of lying and misrepresentations: Behavioural, neuroscientific and neuropsychological perspectives</i>. Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003355892</p> <p>Ekman, P. (2009). <i>Telling Lies: Clues to Deceit in the Marketplace, Politics, and Marriage</i> (3rd ed.). W.W. Norton.</p> <p>Ekman, P. (2007). <i>Emotions revealed: Recognizing faces and feelings to improve communication and emotional life</i> (2nd ed.). Henry Holt and Company.</p> <p>Vrij, A. (2008). <i>Detecting lies and deceit: Pitfalls and opportunities</i>. Wiley.</p>	
<p>Supplementary</p>	<p>Clearfield, D. (2016). <i>Micro-expressions: Reading anyone's secret thoughts</i>. G. Stempien Publishing Company.</p> <p>Ekman, P. & Friesen, W. V. (2003). <i>Unmasking the face: A guide to recognizing emotions from facial clues</i>. Prentice-Hall.</p> <p>Ekman, P., Friesen, W. V., & Ellsworth, P. (2013). <i>Emotion in the human face: Guidelines for research and an integration of findings</i>. Pergamon Press.</p> <p>Ekman, P. & Friesen, W. V. (2003). <i>Facial Action Coding System (FACS): Manual</i>. Research Nexus.</p> <p>Street, C. N. H. (2023). <i>An Introduction to the Science of Deception and Lie Detection</i>. Routledge.</p>	
<p><i>Examination and Grading</i></p>		
<p>To Be Passed DA</p>	<p>Exclusively Continuous Assessment NE</p>	<p>Included in Average Grade DA</p>
<p>Prerequisites to Obtain Signature and Take Final Exam</p>	<p>Regular class attendance (minimum of 70% attendance)</p> <p>Obtaining a minimum of 35% points (out of a total of 100 points) during classes (Seminar work, Mid-term Colloquium, Class and Homework Activities)</p>	

Examination Manner	Teaching activities (70% of the grade):
	Seminar work – 30% Mid-term Colloquium – 30% Class and Homework Activities – 10%
	Final written exam – 30% of the grade (the minimum passing score on the written exam is 50% of correct answers)

Grading Manner	Final written exam – 30% of the grade (the minimum passing score on the written exam is 50% of correct answers)
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Detailed Overview of Grading within ECTS
excellent (A) – 90 to 100% points
very good (B) – 80 to 89.9% points
good (C) – 65 to 79.9% points
sufficient (D) – 50 to 64.9% points
insufficient (F) – 0 to 49.9 % points

IV. WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE

[Predavanja]

#	Topic
1	Introductory Lecture
2	Lying and Deception: Conceptualisation, Origin, Causes, and Functions
3	Theoretical Models of Lying and Deception
4	Cognitive and Emotional Processes Behind Lying
5	Neurophysiological Mechanisms of Lying
6	Psychopathology of Lying
7	Lying in Children and Adults in Different Contexts
8	Colloquium
9	Deception in Forensic, Clinical, and Organisational Psychology
10	Emotions in the Human Face
11	Verbal Indicators of Deception
12	Non-Verbal Indicators of Deception and Microexpressions
13	Modern Methods of Lie Detection
14	Ethical Considerations in Psychology of Lying and Deception
15	Final Lecture

[Seminari]

#	Topic
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1	Introductory lecture and defining seminar topics
2	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
3	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
4	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
5	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
6	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
7	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
8	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
9	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
10	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
11	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
12	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
13	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
14	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
15	Seminar presentation of the selected topic
<i>[Vježbe]</i>	
#	Topic
1	Introductory exercises
2	Exercises related to the lecture topic
3	Exercises related to the lecture topic
4	Exercises related to the lecture topic
5	Exercises related to the lecture topic
6	Exercises related to the lecture topic
7	Exercises related to the lecture topic
8	Exercises related to the lecture topic
9	Exercises related to the lecture topic
10	Exercises related to the lecture topic
11	Exercises related to the lecture topic
12	Exercises related to the lecture topic
13	Exercises related to the lecture topic
14	Exercises related to the lecture topic
15	Exercises related to the lecture topic