Detailed Course Syllabus

Academic year: 2026/2027	**Semester:** Summer semester
Year of study: 2	**Study programme:** Psihologija (R) (elective) (Diplomski)

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
Office Hours: According to the published schedule
Course Assistant

III. DETAILED COURSE INFORMATION

Teaching Language: English	
Course Description	**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. **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.

Educational Outcomes	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.
Textbooks and Materials	
Required	Denes, G. (2023). *The psychology of lying and misrepresentations: Behavioural, neuroscientific and neuropsychological perspectives.* Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003355892 Ekman, P. (2009). *Telling Lies: Clues to Deceit in the Marketplace, Politics, and Marriage* (3rd ed.). W.W. Norton. Ekman, P. (2007). *Emotions revealed: Recognizing faces and feelings to improve communication and emotional life (2nd ed.).* Henry Holt and Company. Vrij, A. (2008). *Detecting lies and deceit: Pitfalls and opportunities*. Wiley.
Supplementary	Clearfield, D. (2016). *Micro-expressions: Reading anyone's secret thoughts.* G. Stempien Publishing Company. Ekman, P. & Friesen, W. V. (2003). *Unmasking the face: A guide to recognizing emotions from facial clues.* Prentice-Hall. Ekman, P., Friesen, W. V., & Ellsworth, P. (2013). *Emotion in the human face: Guidelines for research and an integration of findings*. Pergamon Press. Ekman, P. & Friesen, W. V. (2003). *Facial Action Coding System (FACS): Manual.* Research Nexus. Street, C. N. H. (2023). *An Introduction to the Science of Deception and Lie Detection.* Routledge.
Examination and Grading	

To Be Passed DA	**Exclusively Continuous Assessment** NE	**Included in Average Grade** DA

Prerequisites to Obtain Signature and Take Final Exam	Regular class attendance (minimum of 70% attendance) Obtaining a minimum of 35% points (out of a total of 100 points) during classes (Seminar work, Mid-term Colloquium, Class and Homework Activities)
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)

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