



INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE

C6F6063, Mental Health Research: Methods and Approaches, 1.5 credits (hec)

Forskning om psykisk hälsa: Metoder och förhållningssätt, 1,5 högskolepoäng

Third-cycle level / Forskarnivå

Approval

This syllabus was approved by the The Committee for Doctoral Education on 2025-02-17, and is valid from autumn semester 2025.

Responsible department

Institute of Environmental Medicine, Faculty of Medicine

Prerequisite courses, or equivalent

No prerequisite courses, or equivalent, demanded for this course.

Purpose & Intended learning outcomes

Purpose

The purpose of the course is to enable doctoral students without a clinical background in psychiatry or psychology to obtain an overview of mental health research from a clinical, epidemiological, and research perspective.

Intended learning outcomes

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- describe common approaches to the diagnosis and treatment of the most prevalent psychiatric disorders
- illustrate the distribution and risk factors of these psychiatric disorders
- evaluate different measurements of mental disorders, including questionnaire and register-based diagnoses
- adapt emerging research approaches in mental health research, including brain imaging, multiomics and precision psychiatry

Course content

Lectures delivered by expert clinicians and researchers will cover the diagnosis, treatment, and measurement of psychiatric disorders (including depressive and mood disorders, anxiety disorders, and psychotic disorders), in addition to emerging research approaches in the field (e.g. brain imaging, multiomics).

Forms of teaching and learning

The course will consist of five days, scheduled over the course of two weeks to allow for students to do reading of the course literature in between sessions, and consolidate what they have learnt and discussed in class. The course will comprise lectures given by expert clinicians and researchers, group discussion seminars and discussion sessions, and an oral presentation seminar given by the students.

Language of instruction

The course is given in English

Grading scale

Pass (G) /Fail (U)

Compulsory components & forms of assessment

Compulsory components

Compulsory attendance at all lectures and seminars, in order to achieve the intended learning objectives. Students who are absent from any of the lectures or seminars will be provided with compensatory reading, and will need to complete the formative assessments (quizzes and group assignments) individually. Students who are absent from the oral presentation examination, or do not obtain a passing grade in the first examination, will be offered a second examination.

Forms of assessment

Formative assessment will comprise quizzes and group assignments, while individual oral presentations will form the summative assessment at the end of the course.

Course literature

Key chapters from the following textbook (digital access via KI library) will be given as reading before lectures: Textbook of Psychiatric Epidemiology, 3rd Edition, 2011. Ming T. Tsuang (Editor), Mauricio Tohen (Editor), Peter Jones (Editor). ISBN: 978-0-470-69467-1

Peer-reviewed scientific articles will also be provided by the course organisers for lectures and/or seminars.