

STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY
Department of Psychology

Master's program
Spring 2020

**Human development – Attachment and Relational Contexts of
Lifespan Development**
23 March – 7 June

Course leader: Joel Gruneau
Brulin and Mats Najström

Course description: Human development – Attachment and Relational Contexts of Lifespan Development (7,5 hp)

Aim

The overall aim of the course is to provide knowledge about attachment theory and to give participants in-depth knowledge of the role of attachment for the individual's social and emotional development. The theoretical content will be exemplified with a contribution of clinical and social anthropological research. Finally, a review will be made of different research methods such as observation, interviews and questionnaires which are used in the field of attachment theory research.

To pass the course, the student should be able to:

- Explain the psychobiological background of attachment theory
- Explain and critically reflect on central issues of the development of attachment patterns, in a lifespan perspective
- Demonstrate theoretical knowledge of the relationship between attachment and biological-, social- and emotional development
- Demonstrate skills required to participate in research such as formulating a research question, research design and give an oral presentation on the chosen topic

Content

The course consists of lectures, seminars and independent work.

The student shall prepare two PMs comprising of 1500 and 2000 words respectively.

The first PM (I) regards the theoretical background of attachment theory.

The second PM (II) regards an individual in-depth study of an attachment related topic, chosen by the student. The assignment is presented through a written PM and as an oral presentation, and included in the course examination.

Examination consists of a written examination, see below for instructions.

Literature

Cassidy, J., & Shaver, P. R. (2016). *Handbook of Attachment. Theory, Research and Clinical Applications* (3rd ed.). New York, NY: The Guildford Press

Broberg, A., Granqvist, P., Ivarsson, T., & Risholm Mothander, P. (2006). *Anknytningsteori – Betydelsen av nära känslomässiga relationer*. Natur och Kultur

Articles

Articles will be provided during the course, and will be available on Athena.

Course leader

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Examination

The course examination is based upon the following activities (1) two passed PMs, (2) active participation in the seminars, (3) an oral presentation of PM II, and (4) the final examination which is presented and discussed at the final examination seminar.

PM (I and II)

The student shall prepare two PMs consisting of 1500 and 2000 words respectively. The PMs are graded as pass or incomplete. Assessment of PM II is based upon the following criteria:

- Ability to formulate a written discussion related to the topic
- Content of own reflections
- Clear and informative oral presentation

Final examination

The final examination consists of four questions related to the course topic and goals, and shall comprise 4000 words

Grades for the final written exam are assigned according to a seven-point goal-related grading scale:

A = Outstanding

B = Excellent

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Sufficient

Fx = Insufficient

F = Totally insufficient

Final grade on the course is based upon the final written exam, as well as the accomplishment on PM I and II. Passing the course requires grade E or better on the written exam, and Pass on the written reports and the oral presentation.