

Psychology courses for incoming students:

Erasmus+ and others

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Latest version available under:

<http://www.allgemeinepsychologie.uni-wuppertal.de/team/dr-markus-hofmann.html>

I. General remarks from your departmental coordinator

The actual times and dates of courses will be available on
<https://wusel.uni-wuppertal.de>

-> Vorlesungsverzeichnis -> Fakultät für Human- und Sozialwissenschaften -> Psychologie, and then choose the BA or MA program. The German title of the respective seminar, an English version of the course descriptions from our examination regulations (German: Prüfungsordnung¹), and the module numbers are given below.

Because we can only offer a limited number of English courses for incoming students, **it is possible to take courses from the other program** under certain constraints. For **MA** students, it should be no problem to take **BA** courses.

For **BA students**, in some circumstances it is also possible to gain course credits from the MA courses. Students should, however, have some prior background knowledge in Biological Psychology, Neuropsychology, or Cognitive Neuroscience to optimally benefit from both offered MA courses.

The **ECTS** credit points below are suggestions given the standard workload of the course. However, if you need more or less ECTS points for your planned curriculum, please contact the responsible person. (S)he can lower or extend the workload for the course. Please contact the course instructor for recommended literature. If you want to be tested about this literature, this can be used to enhance the gained ECTS credit points.

If you have any questions or remarks, please **contact** me. However, if your questions take more than 3 sentences, then please give me a call (+49 202 439 2340).

Best wishes,

Dr. Markus Hofmann

¹ The present examination regulations for the BA and MA can be found here (in German):

<https://www.zpa.uni-wuppertal.de/de/studiengaenge/bachelor-ein-fach-studiengaenge/psychologie-bsc/pruefungsordnungen.html>

<https://www.zpa.uni-wuppertal.de/de/studiengaenge/master/master-ein-fach-studiengaenge/psychologie-msc/pruefungsordnung-2017.html>

II. Winter term

Courses of the winter term start in the first half of October and typically end in early February. There is a 1-2 week winter-break around Christmas.

The following courses are available at present:

1. **Mysteries of Cognition I: Perception and attention (BA)**

German title: Vertiefung Kognitive Prozesse I (cognitive processes)

Module number: 2.1b)

ECTS: 4

When you plan to visit this course, please contact:

Prof. Dr. Radach, radach@uni-wuppertal.de,
allgemeinepsychologie@uni-wuppertal.de **and**
Dr. Markus Hofmann, mhofmann@uni-wuppertal.de

In this seminar, students give a talk about a topic in General Psychology, with a focus on perception and attention. There is a wide range of topics, including attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder, autism, embodied cognition, sensory deprivation, synesthesia or visual illusions and other 'magic' tricks of cognition.

The seminar deepens the knowledge gained from the accompanying lecture "Cognitive Processes I". For students planning to learn German, we suggest visiting the accompanying lecture – however, the knowledge of this lecture is not necessary to successfully complete this seminar for incoming students.

2.) Emotional and motivational processes (BA)

Lecture: Motivation and Action Regulation

German title: Motivation und Handlungsregulation

Module number: 2a)

ECTS: 3

If you plan to enroll in this course, please contact:
Dr. Christian Vorstius, vorstius@uni-wuppertal.de

This lecture provides an introduction to classic and contemporary approaches in the fields of motivational and emotional psychology. In the motivation part, historic perspectives are used as a background for modern action regulation theories. The second part of the lecture is focused on the interplay of emotion and cognition and the resulting effects on behavior.

2b) Seminar: Emotional processes

German title: Vertiefung emotionale Prozesse

Module number: 2.2b)

ECTS: 4

If you plan to enroll in this course, please contact:
Dr. Christian Vorstius, vorstius@uni-wuppertal.de

This seminar is supposed to deepen your knowledge about motivation and emotion gained from the lecture. Papers on classic and current issues in motivation and emotion research are discussed. Possible topics include self-regulation, ego-depletion, power, achievement, and affiliation motives, action- and state-orientation, emotional intelligence, and discreteness of emotions. There is usually one reading assignment per week for all participants and group discussions during class.

2. Lecture: Theories and Methods in Neuroscience (MA)

German title: Theorien und Methoden der Neurowissenschaften

Module number: B.1a)

When you plan to visit this course, please contact:
Prof. Dr. Radach, radach@uni-wuppertal.de,
allgemeinepsychologie@uni-wuppertal.de **and**
Dr. Markus Hofmann, mhofmann@uni-wuppertal.de

ECTS: 4

In this lecture, we introduce mental chronometry mainly based on electroencephalographic methods and eye tracking. The third method to be mediated is functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). At the end of this course, you should be able to conduct your own study with all of these methods. The theoretical part of this lecture focuses on artificial intelligence, machine learning and connectionist models of cognition.

III. Summer terms

Summer terms start in the first half of April and last until middle/end of July.

1. *Mysteries of Cognition II: Memory, language, and problem solving (BA)*

German title: Vertiefung Kognitive Prozesse II (cognitive processes)

Module number: 2.1b)

ECTS: 4

When you plan to visit this course, please contact:

Prof. Dr. Radach, radach@uni-wuppertal.de,
allgemeinepsychologie@uni-wuppertal.de **and**
Dr. Markus Hofmann, mhofmann@uni-wuppertal.de

In this seminar, the students give a talk about a topic in General Psychology. In this course, there is a focus on memory, learning, language as well as logical thinking and problem solving. We offer topics such as for instance childhood amnesia, cognition in animals, consciousness, giftedness, hypermnesia, lucid dreaming, or sex differences in cognition,

The seminar deepens the knowledge gained in the accompanying lecture “Cognitive Processes I”. For students planning to learn German, we suggest to visit the accompanying lecture – however, the knowledge of this lecture is not necessary to successfully complete this seminar for incoming students.

2. *Laboratory training: The psychological experiment (BA)*

German title: Experimentalpraktikum

Module number: 1.3b)

When you plan to visit this course, please contact:

Dr. Markus Hofmann, mhofmann@uni-wuppertal.de

ECTS: 6

Depending on the available knowledge about psychological methods, designs, and statistics, the students can either join a pre-designed experiment, or they can also choose to answer a hypothesis designed by themselves. Designing an experiment starts with posing the question, finding literature to see the state of the art, implementing an experiment and finding appropriate materials and/or participants, collecting the data, doing the statistical analyses, and finally writing a scientific paper. Questions from the field of general psychology are preferred, but the topic is not restricted to this field.

3. Mysteries of Cognitive Neuroscience (MA)

German title: Gehirn und Verhalten

Module number: B.1a)

When you plan to visit this course, please contact:

Prof. Dr. Radach, radach@uni-wuppertal.de,
allgemeinepsychologie@uni-wuppertal.de **and**
Dr. Markus Hofmann, mhofmann@uni-wuppertal.de

ECTS: 4

The summer course applies the methods learned in the winter courses (cf. II.3). However, for the incomings passing this course is not necessary, but of course helpful to have some background knowledge. Please contact mhofmann@uni-wuppertal.de to obtain recommended literature.

In the seminar, there will be talks about mysterious topics in cognitive neuroscience. We offer topics like electroencephalography as a method for lie detection, childhood amnesia, or take a closer look at the brain of psychopathic individuals.