



Dr. Kelemen Oguz

tanszékvezető egyetemi docens

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY, COMMUNICATION LECTURE AND PRACTICE

LEARNING-ACHIEVEMENT-BASED SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

Program:	Medicine
Course:	Introduction to Psychology, Communication lecture and practice – AOK-OAK131 and AOK-OAK132
Type of subject:	compulsory
Academic year and semester:	Year I. / Spring semester
Head of Department:	Oguz Kelemen M.D., Ph.D., Habil – associate professor
Course coordinator:	Szilvia Kassai Ph.D. - assistant professor, psychologist Department of Behavioral Sciences (6722 Szeged Mars square 20.) e-mail: kassai.szilvia@med.u-szeged.hu
Type of class:	lecture and practice
Weekly hours:	1 (for 7 weeks) and 2 (for 7 weeks)
Credit vale:	1 and 0
Type of examination:	evaluation (5) and signature
Preliminary requirements:	-

Purpose of course:

The introductory curriculum of psychology focuses on the basics of psychology, which prepares the instruction of medical psychology as practical principle during the third and fourth year. The subject of psychology directs attention on the study of human nature, introduces recent results of the psychological experiments, and formulates unanswered questions and future directions. Discussion of theoretical and practical aspects of communication is essential within the course.

Developing students' competence in order to be able to recognize the communication factors influencing the doctor-patient relationship, the importance of verbal and non-verbal channels in collaboration. During the practice, students become acquainted with different situations of communication. Situational exercises improve self-reflection and allow students to develop their own communication style through feedback from others. The methods used in practice aim to establish the right doctor-patient relationship.

Outcome requirements:

Knowledge

- Has detailed knowledge about the three main perspectives of psychology: biological, individual and social psychology.
- Knows the main concepts and theoretical background of general psychology and cognitive psychology in detail: perception, attention, memory, intelligence, emotions.
- Knows the main personality and developmental theories in depth: psychoanalytic, behaviour, cognitive and humanistic schools.
- Has general knowledge about the methods of measuring intelligence and personality (IQ tests, Big5).
- Has thorough knowledge about the regularities of social interactions.
- Knows the levels and elements of communication in great detail.

- Recognizes the factors that disturb communication, and their significance during the interactions.
- Identifies the means of verbal and nonverbal communication.
- Knows in depth the first element of the CLASS model, about *setting up the context*.

Competences

- Is able to analyze and discriminate between the perspectives.
- Recognizes the significance of general psychology and cognitive psychology related processes in student and following medical practices.
- Compares the characteristics of different schools.
- Explains the general features of measuring tools.
- Consciously analyzes the regularities of social interactions in everyday situations and in medical work environment.
- Understands the complexity of the communication process.
- Consciously processes the effects of disturbing factors in interpersonal communication.
- Implements the steps of *setting up the context* during situational exercises and interacting with patients.

Attitudes

- Shows interest in the basic questions of psychology, related to medical practice.
- Sees the effects and importance of general psychology and cognitive psychology related processes in human psychological functioning.
- Is open to apply the acquired knowledge in practice.
- Is sensitive to the ways interpersonal interactions work.
- Takes into consideration and tolerates the unique communication styles of others.
- Aims to avoid and clarify misunderstandings.
- Openness and flexibility characterizes them in personal and professional communication.
- Keeps in mind the importance of *setting up the context* in establishing a good doctor-patient relationship.

Autonomy and responsibility

- Is capable of self-monitoring and correcting errors independently.
- Ensures confidentiality during data collection and management.
- Takes responsibility for own behavior during teamwork.
- Adjusts and moderates their own communication styles according to the situation.
- Corrects the errors in communication.
- Independently creates a safe atmosphere when interacting with patients.

Topics:

LECTURE

- Scope of psychology. Contemporary themes, perspectives of psychology
- Making sense of the physical environment. Sensation, perception, schemas, top-down processes
- Attention and memory
- Motivation (drives, Maslow's hierarchy of needs). Emotions
- The psychology of social interactions
- Attitudes and cognitive dissonance
- Intelligence
- The mechanism of human behavior (classical conditioning, and its practical utility)
- The mechanism of human behavior (instrumental, observational, and complex learning, and its practical utility)
- The personality. Behaviorist, cognitive approaches
- The personality. Psychoanalytic, humanistic approaches
- Aspects of human development

PRACTICE

- The levels and elements of the communication process
- Factors that influence communication

- Verbal and nonverbal communication
- CLASS model: setting the context
- SKILL lab: practicing the learnt skills

Methods:

LECTURE

- frontal lectures, Power Point presentations will be uploaded to Coospace

PRACTICE

- case discussions
- video analysis
- training exercises
- situational exercises

Criteria of the competition of the course:

LECTURE

- Participation at the lectures as per the general regulations.
- Conditions for admission to the exam: fulfilling the requirements and receiving the signature for communication practice.
- Requirement for receiving an end semester mark: writing and passing a **TEST. (May 26., 2025.; in two rounds: at 13.00 and 14.00; University of Szeged, Klebelsberg Library, 1st floor)**. Improvement of the grade is possible during the exam period on the announced date in the form of an oral exam.

PRACTICE

- Participating in the practice according to the rules and regulations. **One absence is permitted.** If there is more than one absence a doctor's note is needed to confirm the absence. However the absences cannot exceed 25% of the classes, in this case the course is not accepted.
- **Attending the skill lab practice is compulsory.**

Evaluation:

LECTURE

- Test: 60%: passed; 70%: accepted, 80%: good; 90%: excellent

PRACTICE

- participation in class

Mandatory reading list:

- Nolen-Hoeksema S., Fredrickson B.L., Loftus G.R., Wagenaar W.A.: *Atkinson and Hilgard's Introduction to Psychology*. Cengage Learning EMEA, 2009.
- János Pilling (ed): *Medical Communication*. Medicina, 2011.

Recommended reading list:

- Introduction to Psychology and Communication e-learning material