

Adult Psychopathology

Code: 105775
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Psychology	OT	4

Contact

Name: Susanna Subira Alvarez

Email: susana.subira@uab.cat

Teachers

Ana Belen Barajas Velez

Eduardo Fuente Díez

Jordi Vicens Vilanova

Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

To study the subject of Adult Psychopathology it is necessary to have up-to-date knowledge of the subject of Psychopathology Across the Life Cycle.

In this course the different psychopathological disorders of adults are described, and therefore, it is essential to master clinical semiology.

Since we work on the etiology and pathogenesis of these disorders it is also useful to have basic knowledge of psychobiology, psychogenetics and psychoendocrinology

Objectives and Contextualisation

Psychopathology is the area of knowledge that studies mental disorders in humans. We know that the appearance of these has to do with the biology of the subjects, their development and their interaction with environmental factors. In the professional practice of psychology, knowledge of adult psychopathology is essential for those psychologists who want to dedicate themselves to clinical psychology or who want to opt for this specialization. On the other hand, it is also valuable knowledge in other areas of psychology such as health and educational psychology.

Objectives:

- Recognize the different psychopathological disorders that occur in adulthood.
- Know the risk factors that are linked to each of the psychopathological disorders and their underlying pathophysiological bases.

- Know the clinical manifestations and the evolutionary course of psychopathological disorders in adulthood.
- Identify the clinical differences between the different psychopathological disorders in adulthood.
- Know the relevance of psychopathology in the field of clinical psychology.

Competences

- Actively listen to be able to obtain and synthesise relevant information and understand the content.
- Analyse and interpret the results of the evaluation.
- Formulate hypotheses about the demands and needs of the recipients.
- Recognise the determinants and risk factors for health and also the interaction between people and their physical and social environment.
- Recognise the diversity of human behaviour and the nature of differences in it in terms of normality abnormality and pathology.
- Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse the content of clinical interviews related case studies in the field of clinical psychology with adults.
2. Analyse the risk factors affecting practical clinical cases.
3. Analyse the sex- or gender-based inequalities and the gender biases present in one's own area of knowledge.
4. Communicate in an inclusive manner avoiding the use of sexist or discriminatory language.
5. Formulate a clinical case including the results of the evaluation and the gender perspective.
6. Formulate hypotheses and identify factors that determine the current problematic behaviour.
7. Identify functional variables of acquisition and maintenance of problems in examples of clinical cases.
8. Indicate the differential diagnosis.
9. Make diagnoses of psychological disorders in practical clinical cases presented.
10. Recognise the main etiological influences of clinical problems and disorders in adults.
11. Recognise the psychopathological manifestations of each disorder, associated symptoms, and epidemiological tendencies taking the gender perspective into account.
12. Summarise the essential information to facilitate the process of formulating a clinical case and a differential diagnosis incorporating the gender perspective.
13. Use techniques facilitating the clinical interview.

Content

- T1. Dementias and other neurocognitive disorders.
- T2. Schizophrenia and other non-schizophrenic psychoses.
- T3. Affective disorders: generalities. Depressions; Bipolar disorder.
- T4. Anxiety disorders: generalities. Panic attacks and agoraphobia. Specific phobia and social phobia.
- T5. Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
- T6. Post-traumatic Stress Disorder
- T7. Somatoform disorders.
- T8. Dissociative and factitious disorders.
- T9. Personality disorders.
- T10. Disorders due to substance use and alcoholism.
- T11. Sexual disorders

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Clinical Seminars	12	0.48	1, 13
Theoretical Courses	24	0.96	2, 9, 6, 7, 8, 10
Type: Supervised			
Resolution of clinical cases	10	0.4	1, 9, 6, 8
Tutorials	2	0.08	1, 9, 6, 7
Type: Autonomous			
Reading text	17	0.68	1, 2, 10
Study	81	3.24	2, 9, 6, 7, 8, 10

Theoretical classes are in group format 1/1 and are carried out:

Theoretical presentation and participatory debate

Practical examples

Multimedia support

The clinical case seminars are in a small group format and are conducted:

Presentation of clinical cases

Visualization of video-recorded interviews

Participatory case resolution debate

The autonomous and supervised activities include the documentary search of a topic, the comprehensive reading of texts and the individual or group work of all the material available in the classes.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Ev1. Exam	40	2	0.08	2, 9, 6, 7, 8, 11, 10
Ev2. Exam	40	2	0.08	2, 9, 6, 5, 7, 8, 11, 10, 12

The evidències are aimed at demonstrating the capacity of the student to apply the concepts and the theories treballades to the teaching directed and the autonomous study of the compulsory lectures, així also the competencies worked in the clinical seminars:

- Evidence 1 (EV1): Prova written face-to-face, individual, type test. It will evaluate the compressed material on Items 1 to 3 (including the lectures corresponding to those items in the bibliography, not just the content strictly exposed to class). Total qualification value: 40%. It is carried out during the first appraisal period.
- Evidence 2 (EV2): Prova written face-to-face, individual, type test with open questions and resolution of cases. It will evaluate the subject matter of Items 1 to 11 (including the lectures corresponding to items in the bibliography, not just the content strictly exposed to class). Total qualification value: 40%. It is carried out during the second evaluation period. It is mandatory to pass the multiple choice part. In case of not passing the test, the mark that will be taken into account for this evidence on the final mark of the final grade will be the result of the test.
- Evidència 3 (EV3): Work of individual practices linked to tasks carried out in the sessions of seminars of clinical cases. The student has to show the theoretical and applicable connections (psychopathological exploration, diagnostic and prognostic arguments). Total qualification value: 20%. Sequenced delivery in the seminar sessions and the week after the second evaluation period.

The final grade of the continuous assessment will be obtained from the weighted sum of the scores of the evidences (final grade = Ev1 + Ev2 + Ev3). For students who have not passed the EV2 test, the grade that will be considered for this evidence will be that obtained in the test part.

Resit

- The reassessment test is only for failed students, not to raise the grade.
- Who is eligible for reassessment? Students with a final grade between 3.5 and 4.9 and have presented evidences with a weight that is equivalent to at least 66% of the grade (that is, that at least they have done Ev1 and Ev2).
- The reassessment will have format test on all the content subjects of the course.
- The reassessment grade will be weighted at 50% with the weighted final grade of the continuous assessment.

- For the recovery of the single assessment, the same resit process as the continuous assessment will be applied.

Review of the final grade. It will take place in the form of face-to-face tutoring between the students who request it and the teaching staff of the subject. In the case of a single assessment, the revision of the final qualification follows the same procedure as for the continuous assessment.

Every student who attends either Ev1 or Ev2 (being evaluated at least 40%) will be considered as assessable and will receive a final qualification. For the single assessment, the same non-evaluable criterion will be applied as for the continuous assessment.

No unique final synthesis test for students who enrol for the second time or more is anticipated.

Link to the assessment guidelines of the faculty:

<https://www.uab.cat/web/estudiar/graus/evaluacions-1345722525858.html>

Name and description of the evidence	Weight	Duration (minutes) of the face-to face exam	Date of realization
Written, individual, multiple choice test. It will evaluate all the material of the course (Items 1 to 11) based on the bibliography of the course. You must have a minimum of 5 out of 10 in this test to pass the course	50%	60 min	Second evaluation period
Individual face-to-face oral test in which open questions will be asked about all the course material (Topics 1 to 11) based on the mandatory bibliography.	20%	45 min	Second evaluation period
Individual oral test will resolve a clinical case in which you must indicate the psychopathological examination, justify the diagnosis and the differential diagnosis. Attendance is required at the 6 practice sessions scheduled at the end of the course in order to pass this test.	20%	45 min	Second evaluation period
Individual oral exam in which a video recording is presented and it will answer some open questions. Attendance is required at the 6 practice sessions scheduled at the end of the course in order to pass this test.	10%	45 min	Second evaluation period
The recovery is for the students who have failed, not for bidding grades. It is possible to present to the recovery the students with a final grade between 3.5 and 4.9.			The week after desecond evaluation period

E

Bibliography

- Required reading articles will be provided through the moodle classroom
- Belloch, A. (2020). *Manual of psychopathology I and II*. McGraw-Hill / Interamericana de España, S.A.
- Sadock, B.J. y Sadok, V.A. (2015) *Sinopsis de Psiquiatría 1^a Ed.*. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. Wolters Kluwer Health

Other reference manuals:

- Vallejo Ruiloba, J. (2015). *Introducción a la psicopatología y psiquiatría*. (8^a Ed.) Barcelona: Masson.
- Spitzer, R.L., Gibbon, M., Skodol, A.E., Williams, J.B.W., First, M.B. (2016). *DSM-5 Libro de casos*. Barcelona: Masson.
- American Psychiatric Association. *DSM-5 Manual Diagnóstico y Estadístico de los Trastornos Mentales* (2016). Barcelona: Masson
- Barlow D. and Nathan, P. (2010) *The Oxford Handbook of Clinical Psychology*. Oxford University Press

- *Kaplan and Sadock's Synopsis of Psychiatry*. Behavioral Sciences/Clinical Psychiatry, 11th Edition (2014). Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
- Caballo V.E., Salazar, IC., Carrobles J.A. (2011). *Manual de psicopatología y trastornos psicológicos*. Madrid: Piramide.
- Obiols, J. (Ed.) (2008). *Manual de psicopatología general*. Madrid: Biblioteca nueva.

Software

No one

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(SEM) Seminars	111	Spanish	first semester	morning-mixed
(SEM) Seminars	112	Spanish	first semester	morning-mixed
(SEM) Seminars	113	Spanish	first semester	morning-mixed
(SEM) Seminars	114	Spanish	first semester	morning-mixed
(SEM) Seminars	115	Spanish	first semester	morning-mixed
(SEM) Seminars	511	Catalan	first semester	afternoon
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan/Spanish	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	5	Catalan	first semester	afternoon