

Instruments of Experimental Psychology (H002035)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 4.0 Study time 120 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2016-2017

A (year)	Dutch	seminar: practical	30.0 h
		lecture	15.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2016-2017

Dirix, Nicolas	PP02	staff member
Teuchies, Martijn	PP05	staff member
Demanet, Jelle	PP02	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2016-2017

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Science in Psychology (main subject Theoretical and Experimental Psychology)	4	A
Linking Course Master of Science in Psychology (main subject Teacher Education and Training)	4	A
Linking Course Master of Science in Psychology (main subject Theoretical and Experimental Psychology)	4	A
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Psychology (main subject Teacher Education and Training)	4	A
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Psychology (main subject Theoretical and Experimental Psychology)	4	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Experimental psychology, programming, experiments

Position of the course

This course contributes to the following competence areas:

- Know and use key concepts, theories, theoretical frames of reference, explanatory models, methods and techniques of psychological science.
- Initiate problem-driven psychological research.
- Critically apply methods and research/design techniques of psychological sciences.
- Select, use, motivate and value models for psychological research or design purposes.
- Interpret, report and assess the results of existing/one's own initial psychological research or design.

Contents

This course covers the following topics:

- A series of expositions and exercises on the basis of the programming language C (Tscope library) and the software-package E-prime. Both methods allow developing a computer-guided experiment. First, we go through the basis of computer-guided experiments. Those will be translated in specific assignments that can be performed using the provided software. A large amount of self-study is expected of the students.
- In this course students will learn how to use computers to read data, how visual and audio stimuli can be shown, how reactions can be registered and how complex randomization schemes generated and implemented.
- A brief overview of the possibilities, limitations and usage of other apparatuses available in the experimental psychology lab of the department (eyetracking, ERP, fMRI).

Initial competences

Psychologische functieleer I, Psychologische functieleer II, Methodologie, Statistiek II

Final competences

- 1 To choose from a multitude of research approaches and techniques.
- 2 To design and to evaluate research.
- 3 To operationalise or to carry out a research plan.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Lecture, seminar: practical PC room classes

Learning materials and price

Slides, examples and exercises available on Minerva

References

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support via Minerva (FAQ, e-mail ...)
By appointment

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Skills test

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods

The student receives an experimental design and a description of a paradigm (together with a roadmap and a start file). Students are asked to translate this experimental design into a working experiment by using the provided software and library.

Calculation of the examination mark

The final score is a weighted average of 5 interim evaluations throughout the year. Each of the first 4 evaluations count for 1/8 of the final score, while the final test counts for 1/2 of the final score.