UCLouvain

## Ifial1620

2017

## Anthropology and Psychology

3 credits	30.0 h	Q2

Teacher(s)	Houssa Marine (compensates Samson Dana) ;Samson Dana ;Vuillemenot Anne-Marie ;				
Language :	French				
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve				
Main themes	Content: the course addresses central psychological and anthropological theories in order to understand the functions and processes that characterize the phenomenon of human life, taking into account biological as well as social and cultural determinants. We shall study: consciousness; affective, cognitive, and perceptual functions; the learning process and memory; learning abilities; personal and social identity; the interactive field; the cultural relativism/determinism; the cultural transmission processes; the symbolic systems (magic, religion); the relationship between tradition and modernity, psychism and culture. Reference theories and models will be situated in their historical context, and the paradigm governing different kinds of approaches will be explained and examined. Method: For the anthropological approach, after an introduction to the semantical, historical, methododological and epistemological facets of the discipline, the main anthropological theories (evolutionnism, diffusionism, culture and personality, functionnalism and structuralism) are successively presented, illustred and discussed. Each school of thought examined is also viewed like the occasion to examine the contributions to some great authors. For the psychological approach, we shall contrast the current findings concerning the mechanisms governing human behavior with the key theoretical strands that have marked psychology from its beginnings.				
Aims	To become familiar with the methods of social and cultural anthropology and of psychology; to gain some insight into how the social sciences study human activity.  The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".				
Evaluation methods	Evaluation: the evaluation will mainly bear on the evaluation of the personal work; one part of the exam could be a multiple choice questionnaire bearing on the content of the lectures.				
Teaching methods	For the anthropological approach, after an introduction to the semantical, historical, methododological and epistemological facets of the discipline, the main anthropological theories (evolutionnism, diffusionism, culture and personality, functionnalism and structuralism) are successively presented, illustred and discussed.  Each school of thought examined is also viewed like the occasion to examine the contributions to some great authors. For the psychological approach, we shall contrast the current findings concerning the mechanisms governing human behavior with the key theoretical strands that have marked psychology from its beginnings.				
Content	The first half of the course will successively examine: the field of anthropology, the epistemological and methodological foundations of anthropological practices, the main trends of anthropological thought, the relationships between anthropology and related disciplines, the main fields of anthropological knowledge (family/kinship, economics, politics, symbolic systems).  The second half of the course will address questions in contemporary psychology: schools and fields, biological foundations of behaviour, sensations and perceptions, vigilance and consciousness, learning and memory, cognitive and affective activities, psychology of health and questions related to mental health. Course materials will be available at the beginning of the class.				
Bibliography					
Other infos	Others: the lectures will be provided by two teachers; some sessions (mainly the first one) will be led by both teachers together.				
Faculty or entity in charge	FIAL				

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)					
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims	
Bachelor in History	HIST1BA	3		•	
Bachelor in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies	HORI1BA	3		0	
Bachelor in History of Art and Archaeology : General	ARKE1BA	3		0	
Bachelor in religious studies	RELI1BA	3		•	