

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

Reading and Writing Seminar in Psychology (2PS1374)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier B A - psychologie et éducation	Séminaire: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	6

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Automne

Equipe enseignante

Antti Rajala
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Contenu

The seminar will give the students an opportunity to improve their skills in academic reading and writing in psychology. The course is very useful in preparing the students to work on their Bachelor and Master theses.

Reading research articles and texts can feel difficult in the beginning of academic studies. To tackle such a task, it can be very helpful to understand key elements and typical structures of the authors' arguments in journal articles, books, and other academic texts. This seminar will guide the students in identifying main points and key elements of psychological texts. Different genres of academic writing will be covered, including classical and contemporary texts, as well as book chapters and journal articles.

The students will understand the difference between different types of articles, such as empirical, theoretical, or methodological articles. The seminar will also cover the role of theory and methods in psychological research. Exemplary studies will be used to highlight the varied ways in which how 'learning' and 'compassion' – central concepts in psychology – can be theoretically understood.

We will also discuss what this implies for the kinds of results that are possible to achieve from different theoretical starting points. The seminar will also help the students to understand how research articles are reviewed before a decision is reached whether they are published. And the students will get a chance to practice reviewing research articles. Finally, the seminar features writing exercises to harness the students' skills in engaging in academic writing and debate.
The course will be taught in English.

Forme de l'évaluation

- Submit reading and writing exercises to Moodle.
 - Produce a 2000-word essay by the end of the course. The essay can be written in French or English.
- The exercises and the essay each account for 50% of the final grade. The individual report must be delivered by January 15th 2025 on Moodle and with a paper copy.

Modalités de rattrapage

The second deadline is February 15th 2025.

Documentation

Readings are part of the course content. The reading and the exercises will be made available in Moodle

Pré-requis

No previous course is needed to attend this seminar.
We encourage students to take this course even if they are not fluent in English.

Forme de l'enseignement

This course is a seminar, it will combine presentations by the teacher, reading and writing tasks, group discussions.

Objectifs d'apprentissage

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Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Design a research argument in psychology and write a short academic text
- Identify key elements of the argument (rationale, research questions, theory, method, results, central claims, conclusions, etc) in a research text.
- Identify the argumentative structure of a research text in psychology
- Recognise and understand the typical aims and forms of different genres of research texts in psychology
- Demonstrate understanding of the the role of theory and methods in psychological studies and their implications for possible results of the study
- Review and criticise research articles in psychology

Compétences transférables

- Demonstrate capabilities to analyze academic texts across disciplines