

PSYCHOLOGY OF CREATIVITY

Course code: 14.4-WP-PSChM-PT

Type of course: **optional**

Language of instruction: english

Name of lecturer: prof. Margarida Pocinho

Form of instruction	Number of teaching hours per semester	Number of teaching hours per week	Semester	Form of receiving a credit for a course	Number of ECTS credits allocated
Full-time studies					4
Lecture	30	2	3	Exam	
Part-time studies					
Lecture	18		3	Exam	

COURSE AIM:

The Creativity is a very complex and multi-facet phenomenon. No wonder then, that to give it a thorough look, we have to consider the personality, cognition, biology, development of those who create, and contexts in which they create (the nature and nurture of creativity), and how best to enhance creativity (as artist, scientist, teacher, business or human service professional, or other). During this course the review of new research will be done. The course examines creativity from four main perspectives: product that meets criteria for being creative; process that leads to conceiving of a creative product, person that is capable of engaging in such process, and people that form social context for creativity.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Basic knowledge about human development and general psychology

COURSE CONTENTS:

1. Individual creativity in the long run: Breadth and depth of knowledge.
2. Group creativity: Innovation through collaboration.
3. Multicultural experience enhances creativity. Case studies of creativity. Thinking outside the box: Edward de Bono's lateral thinking.
4. A theory of unconscious thought. Perspectives on Psychological Science.
5. Individual creativity and decision making
6. Climates and cultures for innovation and creativity at work.

TEACHING METHODS:

Interactive lectures and workshops

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Outcomes	Symbol of outcome	verification
Students will describe and explain the nature of psychology of creativity as a scientific discipline (how psychology, as a social science, asks and answers questions about creativity). Students will describe and analyze major theoretical perspectives in the area of psychology of creativity, and overarching themes of psychology. Students will identify and explain different research methods used by psychologists in the area of creativity	K_W03 K_W06	Exam
Students will organize and synthesize the vast amount of information we will cover in the course. Students will demonstrate effective writing skills in the formats of summaries and integrations, and for informing, explaining and arguing purposes.	K_U02	Exam
Students will use critical thinking to evaluate popular media, scholarly literature, and empirical reports (debunking myths about creativity). Students will apply main concepts of creativity and creative thinking to issues in everyday life	K_K02	Exam

LEARNING OUTCOMES VERIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:

Success in this course depends on attending class regularly, actively participating in class and preparing one project (topics to be agreed).

STUDENT WORKLOAD:

Student workload (in hours)	Full time studies	Part-time studies
Lectures, meeting with lecturer	50	30
Independent student's work, preparation	50	70
Total:	100	100
ECTS	Full-time studies	Part-time studies
Lectures, meeting with lecturer	2	1
Independent student's work, preparation	2	3
Total:	4	4

RECOMMENDED READING:

1. Amabile, T. (2001). Beyond talent: John Irving and the passionate craft of creativity. *American Psychologist*, 56, 333-336.
2. Burroway, J. (2010). *Imaginative writing. The elements of craft* (3rd edition, Penguin Academic Series). Longman.
3. Root-Bernstein, R. & Root-Bernstein, M. (1999). *Sparks of genius. The 13 thinking tools of the world's most creative people*. Boston, MA: A Mariner Book Houghton Mifflin Company.
4. Sawyer, R. K. (2013). *Zig Zag. The surprising path to greater creativity*. San Francisco, CA: Wiley.
5. Stokes, P. (2001). Variability, constraints and creativity: Shedding light on Claude Monet. *American Psychologist*, 56, 4, 355-359.
6. Ward, T. B. (2001). Creative cognition, conceptual combination, and the creative writing of Stephen R. Donaldson. *American Psychologist*, 56, 50-353.

OPTIONAL READING:

1. To consult with lecturer