

Biopsychology

master study programme, second Bologna cycle

COURSE STRUCTURE of the study programme

The study programme consists of 14 courses, practical training, and the preparation and defence of a Master's thesis. Courses are divided into compulsory courses (11 courses) and internal or external elective courses (3 courses). All courses carry 6 ECTS.

To complete the programme, students must fulfil all academic requirements and successfully defend their Master's thesis. Students may register the topic of their Master's thesis after completing all first-year requirements. All remaining academic obligations must be completed prior to the submission of the Master's thesis. The thesis is prepared under the supervision of a mentor; through this work, the student demonstrates professional knowledge of the selected study programme, a critical understanding of theories and fundamental or specialized concepts and principles, originality and creativity in the application of knowledge, and the ability to address a specific problem and develop appropriate solutions.

The topic of the Master's thesis is first presented publicly in a seminar, after which the student prepares the thesis and subsequently defends it in a public oral defence.

The following section presents the structure of the study programme by year, as well as the compulsory and internal elective courses of the programme.

Table 1: Structure of the study programme

Year of study	Study obligation	Number	ECTS-credits (ECTS)	
			ECTS	ECTS/Year of study
1.	Compulsory Course	9	54	60
	Internal / External Elective course	1	6	
2.	Compulsory Course	2	12	60
	Internal / External Elective course	2	12	
	Training in the Workplace	1	15	
	Master's Thesis	1	21	

Legend:

ECTS credits (ECTS) = credit points awarded under the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). The credit system facilitates student mobility and the mutual recognition of completed academic requirements.

ECTS credits represent an average estimate of the time required to complete a course and include both organized forms of instruction (lectures, seminars, seminar and laboratory exercises, fieldwork, practical training, etc.) and the student's independent work (exam preparation and other course-related obligations, etc.). One (1) ECTS credit corresponds to 25 to 30 hours of study workload. Credits are awarded upon the successful completion of the requirements for an individual course.

Table 2: First year of study

No.	Courses	ECTS
1.	Clinical Psychology	6
2.	Research Design and Statistical Data Analysis	6
3.	Interaction and User Experience	6
4.	Biopsychology	6
5.	Learning and Memory	6

No.	Courses	ECTS
6.	Psychotherapeutic Approaches and Psychotherapy	6
7.	Behavioural Genetics	6
8.	Advance Modeling in Psychology	6
9.	Health Psychology	6
10.	Elective Course - Internal / External 1	6

Table 3: Second year of study

No.	Courses	ECTS
1.	Research Methods in Neuroscience	6
2.	Advanced Statistical Methods in Psychology	6
3.	Elective Course - Internal / External 2	6
4.	Elective Course - Internal 2 / External 3	6
5.	Training in the Workplace	15
6.	Master's Thesis	21

ELECTIVE courses

During the course of the study programme, the student completes three internal or external elective courses, one in the first year and two in the second year.

Table 4: Internal elective courses of the study programme

No.	Courses	ECTS
1.	Molecular Basis of Neurodegeneration	6
2.	Psychopharmacology of Mental Disorders	6
3.	Public-Health Interventions: Selected Topics	6
4.	Positive Psychology	6
5.	Sports psychology	6
6.	Psychology of sexual and reproductive health	6

Table 4 lists *only internal elective courses* offered in the last two academic years, accredited within the Biopsychology study programme. In addition, students may select courses from the Master's study programme in [Psychology](#) (provided they are not compulsory courses of the Biopsychology programme), as well as Computational Social Science (offered within the Master's study programme in [Computer Science](#)), as internal elective courses. UP FAMNIT *offers only a selection of elective courses* each academic year. In doing so, the faculty takes into account its staffing and financial capacities, as well as student interest in individual courses. The final list of elective courses offered to students for the upcoming academic year is published prior to the start of enrolment for that year.

External elective courses may be selected within accredited study programmes at higher education institutions in Slovenia or abroad.

For assistance and guidance in selecting elective courses and study tracks, students may consult the study programme coordinator.

Practical training

In the second year, students are required to complete a mandatory study placement (practical training), which carries 15 ECTS and comprises 200 working hours (typically 5 weeks of 40 hours per week, or over a longer period with proportionally fewer hours per week).

Exceptionally, and based on justified reasons, a student may complete the mandatory study placement already in the first year of the Master's programme. Such requests are decided upon by the study programme coordinator.

The purpose of the practical training is to transfer theoretical knowledge into practice. Students complete their placement in various companies, non-governmental organizations, and public institutions. Each student is assigned a mentor at the host institution, who is responsible for supervising and guiding their work. For the mandatory placement, students may choose institutions where the mentor is a professional with a background in psychology or another relevant field (e.g., psychotherapist, psychiatrist, physician, educator, social worker, biologist, etc.). Approval of the placement is granted by the study programme coordinator.

Upon completion of the placement, the study placement coordinator reviews the student's report and evaluates the adequacy of the completed work.

Students independently arrange their placement with a host institution. A list of organizations that have previously hosted students for placements can be obtained from the placement coordinator.

Contact:

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