



The Faculty of Psychology
Elective Module in the training program for researchers

RISK ASSESSMENT IN STALKERS AND SPOUSAL ASSAULT OFFENDERS

Contents

Violence risk assessment is a central problem for those dealing with offenders in both criminal-justice and forensic-clinical settings. The ability to assess and manage violence risk has improved greatly over the last decade; research and practice has evolved. Consequently, risk assessment has become a mandatory, everyday practice, among many of society's authorities (e.g. law enforcement, correctional services, social services, psychiatry), where psychologists with such competence are highly sought after.

This course explores research on offender typology among stalkers and spousal assault offenders, and strives to improve participants' understanding of the theoretical and practical issues on risk assessment in these contexts. The participants will learn how to use two state-of-the-art risk instruments (The B-SAFER/SARA:SV and the SAM) and will after the course be fully qualified to use them in clinical practice.

Objectives

The objectives of this course are to improve participants' understanding of theoretical, methodological, and empirical issues underlying risk assessment of stalkers and spousal assault offenders; and to enable them to perform risk assessments in these contexts in practice.

Learning Requirements

By the end of the module participants should be able to understand the theoretical foundation for risk instruments and how to use them in practice.

Required Prerequisites

Recommended Prerequisites

Entry into the Ph.D. program.

Description of Learning Materials and Media

The lecture portion of the seminar will employ Power Point presentations and there will be associated handouts (risk instruments, case materials).

Teaching Semester

Spring2012

Language of Instruction

Swedish – both in terms of verbal discussion in the classroom and teaching.

Teaching Methods

Lecture, classroom discussion and assessment of a case in group.

Tutorial Registration

The candidates need to sign up for the course 30 days in advance

Evaluation

Evaluation of presence during all seminar meeting times as well as level and quality of seminar participation.

Assessment / examination format

Seminar participation, amount and quality of comments and quality of the performed risk assessment in group.

Course coordinator

Lecturer: Professor II Henrik Belfrage, Ph.D., UiB:

Course coordinator: Anita Lill Hansen

Contact person

Administrative coordinator: Solveig Helene Apelthun