

Course Description:

In this course, you will be introduced to the concepts that form the foundation of psychology. You will learn about the discipline's history, including its evolution as a science over time and the different fields of study that have arisen. You will explore scientific research methods and understand how statistics and systematic procedures have shaped the way we view psychological concepts. You will trace the development of a lifespan, starting at the prenatal stage, moving through infancy and childhood to adolescence, adulthood, and the late stages of life. You will learn about the differences between motivation, emotion, and personality, and the theories behind the ways they shape who you are. You will delve deeper into human biology, focusing on how the central nervous system, hormones, and heredity influence the ways our brains and bodies function. And you will understand the differences between sensation, perception, and consciousness, and how all three influence each other.

Along the way, you will read articles providing real-world insights into some of the topics covered. You will also be presented with two projects that span multiple lessons: one a closer look into the application of the scientific method in research experiments, and the other a chance to explore the ways personality tests measure the characteristics that define us. Occasionally, you will participate in discussion boards that provide you with the opportunity to engage with your teacher and classmates on important concepts. And you will be presented with different forms of assessment questions to test your knowledge to prepare for two Multi-Unit Exams, one at the end of the first half of the course and the other at the end of the second half.

Through the lessons provided in this course, you will get a first look into the ideas that have formed and continue to shape the discipline of psychology.

Course Objectives:

- Explore the history of psychology.
- Identify major theories of psychology and subfields of study.
- Recognize basic and applied research methods and ethical practices.
- Engage in systematic procedures and data analysis related to scientific studies.
- Learn about statistics and how they are used with psychology experiments.
- Trace the development of a lifespan, from prenatal to elderly life.
- Understand the differences between motivation, emotion, and personality.
- Discover the factors that influence motivation and emotion.
- Interact with objective and subjective personality tests.
- Identify the basic elements of the central nervous system and the idea of plasticity.
- Recognize the effects of hormones on the human body.
- Learn about advances in neuroscience.
- Contemplate the influence of heredity and environment on people.
- Differentiate between sensation, perception, and consciousness.
- Distinguish between the different states of consciousness.

Required Materials:

In course.

Course Overview:

Unit 1: Perspectives in Psychology

- Introduction: Lessons 1–4
- Direct Instruction: Lessons 1-4
 - Direct Instruction Workbooks: Lessons 1-4
- Explore Further: Lesson 1
- Discussion Board: Lesson 4
- Let's Review: Lesson 3
- Checkpoint: Lessons 2, 4

Unit 2: Scientific Inquiry

- Introduction: Lessons 5–8
- Direct Instruction: Lessons 5-8
 - Direct Instruction Workbooks: Lessons 5-8
- Explore Further: Lesson 6
- Discussion Board: Lesson 5
- Project: Lessons 6-7
- Let's Review: Lesson 8
- Checkpoint: Lessons 6, 8

Unit 3: Lifespan Development

- Introduction: Lessons 9–14
- Direct Instruction: Lessons 9-13
 - Direct Instruction Workbooks: Lessons 9-13
- Explore Further: Lesson 10, 13
- Discussion Board: Lesson 9
- Let's Review: Lesson 13
- Checkpoint: Lessons 10, 11, 13
- Multi-Unit Vocab Review: Lesson 14
- Multi-Unit Exam 1 Review: Lesson 14
- Multi-Unit Exam 1: Lesson 14

Unit 4: Individual Variation and Personality

- Introduction: Lessons 15–20
- Direct Instruction: Lessons 15-20
 - Direct Instruction Workbooks: Lessons 15-20
- Explore Further: Lessons 16, 20
- Discussion Board: Lesson 18
- Project: Lessons 19-20
- Let's Review: Lesson 20
- Checkpoint: Lessons 17, 19

Unit 5: Biological Bases of Behavior

- Introduction: Lessons 21–24
- Direct Instruction: Lessons 21-24
 - Direct Instruction Workbooks: Lessons 21-24
- Explore Further: Lessons 21, 23
- Discussion Board: Lessons 21, 23, 24
- Let's Review: Lesson 24

- Checkpoint: Lessons 22, 24

Unit 6: Sensation and Perception

- Introduction: Lessons 25–30
- Direct Instruction: Lessons 25-29
 - Direct Instruction Workbooks: Lessons 25-29
- Explore Further: Lesson 26
- Discussion Board: Lesson 27
- Let's Review: Lesson 29
- Checkpoint: Lessons 25, 27, 29
- Multi-Unit Vocab Review: Lesson 30
- Multi-Unit Exam 2 Review: Lesson 30
- Multi-Unit Exam 2: Lesson 30