

Psychology

Scientific Inquiry

1 Development of psychology as an empirical science. SS.P.1

- 1 Define psychology as a discipline and identify its goals as a science. SS.P.1.1
 - 2 Describe the emergence of psychology as a scientific discipline. SS.P.1.2
 - 3 Describe perspectives employed to understand behavior and mental processes. SS.P.1.3
 - 4 Explain how psychology evolved as a scientific discipline. SS.P.1.4
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2 Major subfields within psychology. SS.P.2

- 1 Discuss the value of both basic and applied psychological research with human and non-human animals. SS.P.2.1
 - 2 Describe the major subfields of psychology. SS.P.2.2
 - 3 Identify the important role psychology plays in benefiting society and improving people's lives. SS.P.2.3
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3 Research methods and measurements used to study behavior and mental processes. SS.P.3

- 1 Describe the scientific method and its role in psychology. SS.P.3.1
 - 2 Describe and compare a variety of quantitative (e.g., surveys, correlations, experiments) and qualitative (e.g., interviews, narratives, focus groups) research methods. SS.P.3.2
 - 3 Define systematic procedures used to improve the validity of research findings, such as external validity. SS.P.3.3
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Biopsychology

4 Structure and function of the nervous system in human and non-human animals. SS.P.4

- 1 Identify the major divisions and subdivisions of the human nervous system. SS.P.4.1
- 2 Identify the parts of the neuron and describe the basic process of neural transmission. SS.P.4.2
- 3 Differentiate between the structures and functions of the various parts of the central nervous system. SS.P.4.3
- 4 Describe lateralization of brain functions. SS.P.4.4
- 5 Discuss the mechanisms of, and the importance of, plasticity of the nervous system. SS.P.4.5

5 Structure and function of the endocrine system. SS.P.5

- 1 Describe how the endocrine glands are linked to the nervous system. SS.P.5.1
- 2 Describe the effects of hormones on behavior and mental processes. SS.P.5.2
- 3 Describe hormone effects on the immune system. SS.P.5.3

6 The interaction between biological factors and experience. SS.P.6

- 1 Describe concepts in genetic transmission. SS.P.6.1
- 2 Describe the interactive effects of heredity and environment. SS.P.6.2
- 3 Explain how evolved tendencies influence behavior. SS.P.6.3

7 Methods and issues related to biological advances. SS.P.7

- 1 Identify tools used to study the nervous system, including the brain. SS.P.7.1
- 2 Describe advances made in neuroscience. SS.P.7.2
- 3 Discuss issues related to scientific advances in neuroscience and genetics. SS.P.7.3

8 The processes of sensation and perception. SS.P.8

- 1 Discuss processes of sensation and perception and how they interact. SS.P.8.1
- 2 Explain the concepts of threshold and adaptation. SS.P.8.2

9 The capabilities and limitations of sensory processes. SS.P.9

- 1 List forms of physical energy for which humans and non-human animals do and do not have sensory receptors. SS.P.9.1
- 2 Describe the visual sensory system. SS.P.9.2
- 3 Describe the auditory sensory system. SS.P.9.3
- 4 Describe other sensory systems, such as olfaction, gustation, and somesthesia (e.g., skin senses, kinesthesia, and vestibular sense). SS.P.9.4

10 Interaction of the person and the environment in determining perception. SS.P.10

- 1 Explain Gestalt principles of perception. SS.P.10.1
 - 2 Describe binocular and monocular depth cues. SS.P.10.2
 - 3 Describe the importance of perceptual constancies. SS.P.10.3
 - 4 Describe the nature of attention. SS.P.10.4
 - 5 Explain how experiences and expectations influence perception. SS.P.10.5
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Cognition

11 Encoding of memory. SS.P.11

- 1 Identify factors that influence encoding. SS.P.11.1
 - 2 Characterize the difference between shallow (surface) and deep (elaborate) processing. SS.P.11.2
 - 3 Discuss strategies for improving the encoding of memory. SS.P.11.3
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12 Storage and retrieval of memory. SS.P.12

- 1 Describe the differences between working memory and long-term memory. SS.P.12.1
 - 2 Identify and explain biological processes related to how memory is stored. SS.P.12.2
 - 3 Analyze the importance of retrieval cues in memory. SS.P.12.3
 - 4 Discuss strategies for improving the retrieval of memories. SS.P.12.4
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13 Basic elements comprising thought. SS.P.13

- 1 Define cognitive processes involved in understanding information. SS.P.13.1
 - 2 Define processes involved in problem solving and decision making. SS.P.13.2
 - 3 Discuss non-human problem-solving abilities. SS.P.13.3
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14 Obstacles related to thought. SS.P.14

- 1 Describe obstacles to problem solving. SS.P.14.1
 - 2 Describe obstacles to decision making. SS.P.14.2
 - 3 Describe obstacles to making good judgments. SS.P.14.3
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Development and Learning

15 Classical conditioning. SS.P.15

- 1 Describe the principles of classical conditioning. SS.P.15.1
- 2 Describe clinical and experimental examples of classical conditioning. SS.P.15.2
- 3 Apply classical conditioning to everyday life. Methods and issues in life span development. SS.P.15.3
- 4 Explain the interaction of environmental and biological factors in development, including the role of the brain in all aspects of development. SS.P.15.4
- 5 Explain issues of continuity/discontinuity and stability/change. SS.P.15.5
- 6 Distinguish methods used to study development. SS.P.15.6
- 7 Describe the role of sensitive and critical periods in development. SS.P.15.7

16 Operant conditioning. SS.P.16

- 1 Describe the Law of Effect. SS.P.16.1
- 2 Describe the principles of operant conditioning. SS.P.16.2
- 3 Describe clinical and experimental examples of operant conditioning. SS.P.16.3
- 4 Apply operant conditioning to everyday life. SS.P.16.4
- 5 Physical, cognitive, and social development across the life span (prenatal, infancy, childhood, adolescence, emerging adulthood, adulthood, and older adulthood.) SS.P.16.5
- 6 Identify key features of physical development from prenatal through older adulthood. SS.P.16.6
- 7 Identify key features of cognitive development from prenatal through older adulthood. SS.P.16.7
- 8 Identify key features of social development from prenatal through older adulthood. SS.P.16.8

Sociocultural Context**17 Social cognition.** SS.P.17

- 1 Describe attributional explanations of behavior. SS.P.17.1
- 2 Describe the relationship between attitudes (implicit and explicit) and behavior. SS.P.17.2
- 3 Identify persuasive methods used to change attitudes. SS.P.17.3

18 Social influence and relations. SS.P.18

- 1 Describe effects of others' presence on individuals' behavior. SS.P.18.1
- 2 Discuss how an individual influences group behavior. SS.P.18.2
- 3 Discuss the nature and effects of stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination. SS.P.18.3
- 4 Describe determinants of prosocial behavior. SS.P.18.4
- 5 Discuss influences upon aggression and conflict. SS.P.18.5
- 6 Discuss factors influencing attraction and relationships. SS.P.18.6

19 Social and cultural diversity. SS.P.19

- 1 Define culture and diversity. SS.P.19.1
 - 2 Identify how cultures change over time and vary within nations as well as internationally. SS.P.19.2
 - 3 Discuss the relationship between culture and conceptions of self and identity. SS.P.19.3
 - 4 Discuss psychological research examining race and ethnicity. SS.P.19.4
 - 5 Discuss psychological research examining socioeconomic status. SS.P.19.5
 - 6 Discuss how privilege and social power structures relate to stereotypes, prejudice, and discrimination. SS.P.19.6
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Individual Variations**20 Perspectives on motivation.** SS.P.20

- 1 Explain biologically based theories of motivation. SS.P.20.1
 - 2 Explain cognitively based theories of motivation. SS.P.20.2
 - 3 Explain humanistic theories of motivation. SS.P.20.3
 - 4 Explain the role of culture in human motivation. SS.P.20.4
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21 Perspectives on emotion. SS.P.21

- 1 Explain the biological and cognitive components of emotion. SS.P.21.1
 - 2 Discuss psychological research on basic human emotions. SS.P.21.2
 - 3 Differentiate among theories of emotional experience. SS.P.21.3
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22 Perspectives on abnormal behavior. SS.P.22

- 1 Define psychologically abnormal behavior. SS.P.22.1
 - 2 Describe historical and cross-cultural views of abnormality. SS.P.22.2
 - 3 Describe major models of abnormality. SS.P.22.3
 - 4 Discuss how stigma relates to abnormal behavior. SS.P.22.4
 - 5 Discuss the impact of psychological disorders on the individual, family, and society. SS.P.22.5
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23 Categories of psychological disorders. SS.P.23

- 1 Describe the classification of psychological disorders. SS.P.23.1
- 2 Discuss the challenges associated with diagnosis. SS.P.23.2
- 3 Describe symptoms and causes of major categories of psychological disorders (including schizophrenic, mood, anxiety, and personality disorders). SS.P.23.3
- 4 Evaluate how different factors influence an individual's experience of psychological disorders. SS.P.23.4

24 Perspectives on treatment of psychological disorders. SS.P.24

- 1 Explain how psychological treatments have changed over time and among cultures. SS.P.24.1
 - 2 Match methods of treatment to psychological perspectives. SS.P.24.2
 - 3 Explain why psychologists use a variety of treatment options. SS.P.24.3
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Application

25 Career options. SS.P.25

- 1 Identify careers in psychological science and practice. SS.P.25.1
 - 2 Identify resources to help select psychology programs for further study. SS.P.25.2
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26 Educational requirements. SS.P.26

- 1 Identify degree requirements for psychologists and psychology-related careers. SS.P.26.1
 - 2 Identify resources to help select psychology programs for further study. SS.P.26.2
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27 Vocational applications of psychological science. SS.P.27

- 1 Discuss ways in which psychological science addresses domestic and global issues. SS.P.27.1
- 2 Identify careers in psychological science that have evolved as a result of domestic and global issues. SS.P.27.2