PSYCHOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS: 1.0  COURSE LENGTH: 2 Semesters

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Through the study of psychology, students acquire an understanding of and an appreciation for human behavior, behavior interaction and the progressive development of individuals. The course examines the nature of psychology as a social and behavioral science. It surveys fundamental areas in behavior including research in psychology, the brain and behavior, learning, human development and socialization, intelligence, personality, health psychology, and social psychology.

TOPIC OUTLINE

Semester 1:
1. Why Study Psychology?
2. Principles of Psychology
3. Theoretical Approaches in Psychology
4. Research Methods
5. Types of Studies
6. Test Validity and Research Ethics
7. Nervous System
8. Peripheral Nervous System
9. Central Nervous System
10. Thresholds and Sensory Adaptation
11. Sensory Mechanisms
12. Attention
13. Perceptual Process
14. Levels of Consciousness
15. Sleep and Dreaming
16. Hypnosis and Psychoactive Drugs
17. Sleeping Disorders and Dreams
18. Learning: Biological Factors
19. Learning: Classical Conditioning
20. Cognitive Processes in Learning
21. The Human Brain
22. Memory
23. Language
24. Thinking
25. Thinking and Creativity
26. Biological Bases
27. Theories of Motivation
28. Hunger, Thirst, Sex, and Pain
29. Social Motives
30. Theories of Emotion
31. Stress and Health

Semester 2:
1. Development: Infancy to Early Childhood
2. Development: Language and Emotions
3. Theories of Development
4. Socio-Cultural Issues in Early Childhood Development
5. Adolescence
6. Theories of Personality
7. Personality Theories and Approaches
8. Types of Tests
9. Intelligence
10. Heredity, Genetics, and Intelligence
11. Cross-Cultural Psychology
12. Causation vs. Correlation
13. Definitions of Abnormality
14. Theories of Psychopathology
15. Diagnosis of Psychopathology
16. Anxiety Disorders
17. Somatoform Disorders
18. Mood Disorders
19. Schizophrenic Disorders
20. Dissociative Disorders
21. Functions, Needs, and Advancement on the DSM-IV
22. Modes of Treatment
23. Treatment Approaches in Psychotherapy
24. Alternative Treatments
25. Community Health and Prevention
26. Attitudes and Attitude Change
27. Attribution Theory
28. Interpersonal Perceptions
29. Conformity, Compliance, and Obedience
30. Aggression
31. Culture in Psychology
32. The Nature of Sleep and Dreams