

COURSE OUTLINE

First Semester

Foundation of Psychology

(Contact Hours: 3-1-0 Credits: 04)

Emergence of Psychology; Wundt, Titchner, and James: Three influential approaches: Gestalt, Psychoanalysis and, Behaviourism: Going Beyond the Euro-American Traditions of Psychology; Cultural and Psychological Processes; psychology in India; Background and Philosophical Origins, Psychology in Modern India: Research methods; Ethics in research ; Statistics in psychological research: Theories of Learning: Classical Conditioning: Concepts, types and applications; Operant Conditioning: Reinforcement, types, schedules of reinforcement, shaping and applications; S-R theories of learning: Thorndike, Guthrie, Hull; Cognitive approaches to learning: Latent learning, observational learning, and applications; Application: Awareness of media and violence.: Memory nature and concept, Types of Memory: Approaches to Understanding Motivation; Cultural Differences in the use of Praise as a motivator: Emotion; The three Elements of Emotions; Culture and Emotions: Emotions in the Indian tradition; Types of Emotion; Early theories of emotion; Cognitive Theories of Emotions: Nature and Perspectives: Psychometric approach (Spearman's 'g' factor theory), Cognitive perspective (Fluid and Crystallized Intelligence; Triarchic Theory of Intelligence), Multiple Intelligences, Managing emotions intelligently, Nature of Creativity : Psychoanalysis: Sigmund Freud, Alfred Adler and Carl Gustav Jung. Sociological school: Erik Erikson, Karen Horney, Erich Fromm, Harry Stack Sullivan.

Cognitive Psychology

(Contact Hours 3-1-0 Credits: 04)

Meaning and Nature of Cognition; Emergence of Cognitive Psychology; Contributions to Cognitive Psychology Birth: Noam Chomsky, Connectionism – Parallel Distributive Processing; Cognitive Neuroscience and Research Methods in Cognitive Psychology; The role of brain imaging in cognitive psychology (e.g., fMRI, EEG, PET scans), Eye Tracking techniques; Functional localization in the brain: Cognitive functions and brain areas; The relationship between brain damage and cognitive deficits (e.g., cases of brain lesions); Experimental designs in cognitive research Cognitive modeling and computational approaches; Ethical considerations in cognitive psychology research; Case studies and critical evaluations of key cognitive psychology experiments: Nature of perception; direct perception; Bottom- Up and Top-down process: Selective and divided attention: Neural underpinnings of attention; Theories of Attention: Filter Theory and Attenuation Theory: Key factors affecting perception and attention: Memory and the Brain: Neural Correlates of Memory Consolidation; Approaches to Study Memory: Memory Processes; Brain Areas Associated with Different Types of Memory: Three Stages of the Learning/Memory Process: Encoding, Storage, Retrieval; Autobiographical memory; Flashbulb memories, Eyewitness memory; the recovered/false memory debate.: Language

Acquisition; Brain and Language; Models of Reading and Language Comprehension; Meaning and Beyond; Language in Context; Processes of Language Production; Language, Thought: Models & theories; Human problem-solving strategies- heuristics and algorithmic; expert and novice problem solvers.

Physiological Psychology

(Contact Hours 3-1-0 Credits: 04)

Understanding Human Consciousness: a Physiological approach; The Nature of Physiological Psychology; Natural Selection and Evolution; Methods and Strategies of research : Organization and functions of the brain and spinal cord; Genetic bases of behavior. Endocrine glands and hormone products: Functions of different hormones. Hormonal imbalance and behaviour.: Generation and conduction of action potential; synaptic transmission and neuromuscular transmission.: Definition and basic concepts of sensation and perception; Role of sensory system in perception: vision, hearing, touch, taste and smell; Brain mechanism of hunger and thirst: Biological rhythms, a physiological and behavioural description of sleep; states of sleep and disorders of sleep; Biological clock: Motivation; Learning ; Memory : Emotion: Drug and behavior: Determinants of drug effects; drug abuse and addiction.

Life Span Development

(Contact Hours 3-1-0 Credits: 04)

Nature and principles of development; Genetic and environmental influences; Theoretical frameworks in human development: Methods of research in developmental Psychology: Prenatal Stage; Meaning, characteristics, fundamental principles, Stages of development, Hazard during the prenatal period; Factors influencing prenatal development; Birth Process and Infancy-Hazards: Physical and Emotional development during infancy: Attachment styles. Impact on the infant; Physical and language development; Jean Piaget: A constructivist approach; Cognitive development in childhood; Moral and Social development in childhood: Adolescence; characteristics, physical changes: Psychological aspects during adolescence. Intellectual and Moral Development (Piaget and Kohlberg theories); Attachment styles; Piaget's Stages of Intellectual Development, Kohlberg's theory of Moral development; Social and Personality development during Adolescence; Adjustment problems during puberty and adolescence; Risk Taking behavior.: Emerging Adults-Arnett, Bio-psycho-social model of development and developmental tasks- Robert Havighurst, Career and vocation changes-Super Donald, Life stages- Levinson, Erickson; Mid Life Crisis, adult attachment patterns and relationships; Sexuality and Menopause.: Become elderly, Aging process, theories of aging, Types of aging process. Physical and Mental Health: Work and Retirement; Coping with death and dying- Kubler Ross; Aging- positive and successful aging; gains and losses in later adult life.

Social Psychology

(Contact Hours 3-1-0 Credits: 04)

Nature and scope of social psychology, contemporary, cultural and cross-cultural psychology; traditional theoretical perspectives; Current trends in social psychology. Status of Social Psychology in India; Research Methods in Social psychology.: Perceiving ourselves; self concept, self esteem, self presentation and self expression: Perceiving others: Forming impressions; Role of non verbal cues; Models of information integration; Primacy and recency effect; Attribution causality; Theories and biases.: Nature and functions of attitudes; Attitude and Behaviour: Theories of reasoned and planned behavior; Formation, change and measurement of attitudes: Nature and components of prejudice; Acquisition of prejudice; Reduction of prejudice.; Introduction to Groups: Definition and characteristics of groups; Types of groups (Primary vs. Secondary, Formal vs. Informal); Functions of groups in society; Group Formation and Development: Theories of group formation (Social Identity Theory, Balance Theory, Need for Affiliation) Tuckman's Five Stages of Group Development (Forming, Storming, Norming, Performing, Adjourning); Social Influence in Groups; Group norms and their role; Conformity and peer pressure (Asch's Experiment); Compliance and obedience (Milgram's Experiment): Groupthink: Group Performance and Decision-Making: Social facilitation and social inhibition; Social loafing and diffusion of responsibility: Group polarization: Risky vs. cautious shifts; Leadership styles in groups (Autocratic, Democratic, Laissez-faire) Causes, consequences, and prevention.:Communication models: Verbal and Non verbal communication; Language and social interaction; Barriers in communication; Interpersonal attraction and its determinants.: Prosocial behavior: Co-operation and helping; Personal, situational and socio-cultural determinants; Bystanders effect; Theoretical explanations of pro-social behavior: Aggression: Theoretical Perspectives; Trait, situational and social learning approaches; Social and personal determinants of aggression; Prevention and control of aggression.