

Program Learning Outcomes

Psychology

- I Knowledge about the Science and Application of Psychology**
 - A. Characterize the nature of psychology as a discipline**
 - 1. Understand why psychology is a science
 - 2. Understand the primary objectives of psychology
 - 3. Understand the assumptions and methods of psychology
 - 4. Understand the history of psychology (e.g., the recognition of historical figures, important theoretical foundations and conflicts)
 - B. Demonstrate Knowledge in Selected Content Areas (4 of 5 content areas)**
 - 1. Biological bases of behavior and mental processes (e.g., physiology, comparative psychology, motivation, emotion, and evolution)
 - 2. Developmental changes in behavior and mental processes
 - 3. Learning and cognition
 - 4. Personality and social psychology, including sociocultural issues
 - 5. Abnormal behavior (e.g., mental illness, substance abuse, neurodevelopmental disorders, brain disease and trauma)
- II Research Methods in Psychology**
 - A. Understand the variety of research methods used in psychology**
 - 1. Understand how different research designs address different kinds of research questions
 - 2. Understand the strengths and limitations of different research methods
 - 3. Understand issues in cross-cultural research (e.g., translation of measures, experimenter bias)
 - 4. Distinguish the features of designs that permit causal inferences from features of those that do not permit these inferences
 - 5. Understand internal and external validity
 - B. Evaluate the conclusions drawn from psychological research**
 - 1. Interpret statistical results
 - 2. Distinguish between statistical significance and practical significance
 - 3. Understand the APA ethics code regarding the treatment of human and nonhuman animals
- III Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology**
 - A. Evaluate the quality of information**
 - 1. Distinguish between empirical evidence and speculation
 - 2. Evaluate the credibility of claims about behavioral claims
 - 3. Identify claims that arise from myths, stereotypes, or untested assumptions
 - 4. Evaluate popular media reports of psychological research