



**Welcome to  
Introduction to Psychology  
PSYCH 1001 Sec. 1**

- **with Dr. Linda L. Walsh**
- **Our syllabus is at:**
- <http://www.uni.edu/walsh/linda8.html>

\*\*\*\*Note: This is NOT on E-learning.

Our Text by  
David Myers &  
Nathan DeWall



## Knowing Something About Professionals in the Field

How many of you already know a psychologist or related professional?

Of "What qualifies him/her to give me advice?"

### Becoming a Psychologist:

- Earn the Ph.D.(4-5 years grad work + a major research project called your *dissertation*) OR
- A smaller number earn the Psy.D. (less emphasis on research, more on therapy) or Ed.D. (psych applied to Education)
- All psychologists specialize (perspective & subfield) as they earn their degrees.
- *Clinical* psychologists also need 1 yr. internship & must pass licensing exam

See pages 4-5 & Appendix C

Psychology's Current Perspectives Table 1.1 on p.4 (learn these on your own)

- Behavioral
- Cognitive
- Sociocultural
- Neuroscience
- Evolutionary
- Behavior Genetics
- Psychodynamic

### Current Perspectives

- Behavioral
- Cognitive
- Sociocultural
- Neuroscience
- Evolutionary
- Behavior Genetics
- Psychodynamic

Psst...

Yep, you guessed it - a couple test questions will be on these perspectives

Research areas or subfields (learn about these **on your own** on p. 5 & Appendix C) i.e.:

- Biological psych
- Developmental psych
- Cognitive psych
- Personality psych
- Social psych
- Counseling psych
- Clinical psych
- Health psych
- Industrial/organizational psych
- and 9 others in Appendix C

## Some of the subfields in psych

- Biological psych
- Developmental psych
- Cognitive psych
- Personality psych
- Social psych
- Counseling psych
- Clinical psych
- Health psych
- I/O psych
- and 9 others

Psst...

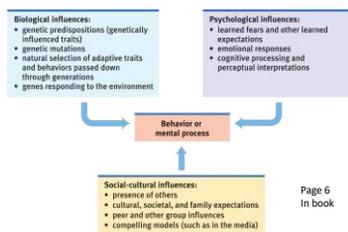
At least 3 test questions will ask about these subfields



Psychology is both a science & a profession. It can take you down many different career paths!

**PSYCHOLOGY IN COURT** Forensic psychologists apply psychology's principles and methods in the criminal justice system. They may consult on witnesses, or testify about a defendant's state of mind and future risk.

## Multiple Factors Influence Human Behavior: Biopsychosocial Approach



## Other Degree Options:

- M.A. in Psych or Counseling or Social Work (takes ~2 years; more limited job opportunities)
- To become a *psychiatrist* you first earn your M.D., then specialize in clinical psych
- A *psychoanalyst* is a psychologist or psychiatrist with special training in Freud's approach to revealing the unconscious
- A large variety of psychology-related jobs are available to those with a B.A. in Psych, as well as jobs where insight into behavior is a plus (sales, management, marketing, education, criminal justice, service jobs)
- (see link to my Careers page at bottom of syllabus)

Where do the 190,000 U.S. psychologists work?

- ~35% at colleges/universities
- ~21% self-employed
- ~18% business, industry, for profit practices
- ~10% local, state, fed government agencies
- ~9% nonprofit organizations
- ~7% in K-12 school settings
- Only ~ 47% are in clinical/counseling; the other 53% in very diverse work settings.

- Note:
- Lecture will often include material that is NOT in our text.
- And we can't cover everything in the text in our limited lecture time – college students must learn much of course material by reading outside of class.

TIP:

- On average, there will be 7-8 questions on the content related to each class period on our exams.
- Right now, while class is fresh in your mind, try to guess what 7-8 things we will have questions on. Write them in the margin next to today's notes.

Human Behavior is Influenced by a Two-Track Mind (Dual Processing)

- **Much processing of input and triggering of responses occurs outside awareness.**
- The brain works on two tracks:
  - Conscious mind
  - Unconscious mind
- Contemporary psychology investigates both tracks.

Psychology's Current Perspectives

Perspective	Focus	Sample Questions	Examples of Sub-fields Using This Perspective
Behavioral	How we learn observable responses	How do we learn to fear particular objects or situations? What is the most effective way to alter our behavior, say, to lose weight or stop smoking?	Clinical; counseling; industrial-organizational
Cognitive	How we encode, process, store, and retrieve information	How do we use information in remembering? Reasoning? Solving problems?	Cognitive neuroscience; clinical; counseling; industrial-organizational
Social-cultural	How behavior and thinking vary across situations and cultures	How are we alike as members of one human family? How do we differ as products of our environment?	Developmental; social psychology; clinical; counseling

Psychology's Current Perspectives

Perspective	Focus	Sample Questions	Examples of Sub-fields Using This Perspective
Neuroscience	How the body and brain enable emotions, memories, and sensory experiences	How do pain messages travel from the hand to the brain? How is blood chemistry linked with moods and motives?	Biological; cognitive; clinical
Evolutionary	How the natural selection of traits passed down from one generation to the next has promoted the survival of genes	How has our evolutionary past influenced our modern-day mating preferences? Why do humans learn some fears so much more easily than others?	Biological; developmental; social
Behavior genetics	How our genes and our environment influence our individual differences	To what extent are psychological traits such as intelligence, personality, sexual orientation, and optimism products of our genes? Of our environment?	Personality; developmental; legal/forensic
Psychodynamic	How behavior springs from unconscious drives and conflicts	How can someone's personality traits and disorders be explained in terms of their childhood relationships?	Clinical; counseling; personality

- **Science: the careful, systematic, unbiased gathering of knowledge** about the universe & the organizing & condensing of that knowledge into **testable** laws and theories.
- The success & credibility of science are anchored in the willingness of scientists to:
  - Expose their ideas & results to **independent testing and replication by others.**
  - Abandon or modify previously accepted conclusions when confronted with more complete or reliable experimental or observational evidence.
  - These provide a mechanism for **self-correction** that is the foundation of the credibility of science.

Scientific Method

