

University Foundation Studies

BEHV0001 INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN BEHAVIOUR

2022

SUBJECT OUTLINE

Last amended:	January 2022

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Western Sydney University The College Nirimba Education Precinct Eastern Road Quakers Hill NSW 2763

Postal address:

PO BOX 224 Quakers Hill NSW 2763

Phone: 1300 897 669

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Subject name	Introduction to Human Behaviour		
Subject number	BEHV0001		
Subject Coordinator	Paul Rouillon		
Term	2022.1		
Handbook summary	This introductory subject provides foundational skills and knowledge required for entry to undergraduate programs (Diploma or degree) in Psychology or related disciplines. It provides students with an overview and evolution of Psychology and conventional scientific techniques and methods to explain and understand the causes of human behaviour and human personality. It also assists students in the development of academic skills commensurate with tertiary studies. Topics to be studied at an introductory level include: the history of psychology, intelligence, social psychology, psychoanalytic theories, behaviourist/learning theories, cognitive theories, sociobiological view, developmental psychology and abnormal psychology.		
Credit point value	10 Successful completion of this subject will not be counted for academic credit in any future studies at Western Sydney University.		
Prerequisite/s	N/A		
Corequisite/s	N/A		
Subject incompatible with and not to be counted for credit with	N/A		
Assumed knowledge	N/A		
Subject level	Level Z		
Attendance requirements	Students are expected to attend at least 80% of classes. Educational research consistently demonstrates that this attendance level is associated with a high likelihood of achieving a passing grade.		
Enrolment restrictions	Students must be enrolled at The College to enrol in this subject.		
Learning outcomes	 On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to: define and explain important concepts related to human behaviour describe the major empirical findings or theories of the domains of psychology covered in the subject distinguish key characteristics of major theories of human behaviour demonstrate knowledge of individual differences and of the influence of environmental context on behaviour 		

- 5. develop an argument in written form and apply referencing conventions, and
- 6. construct a coherent argument in oral form.

Subject content

In this subject, students will learn about:

- The history of psychology
- Characteristics of scientific psychological research
- Applied psychology
- Theories of intelligence
- The psychodynamic perspective
- The behaviourist perspective
- The cognitive perspective
- Developmental psychology
- The humanistic perspective
- Social psychology
- The biological perspective

Mode of delivery

This subject consists of six hours of face-to-face teaching (two three-hour classes each week) as well as online activities via vUWS.

Online learning requirements

Essential requirements

Essential text

Western Sydney University The College 2019/2020, 700220 Introduction to Human Behaviour textbook, Western Sydney University, Sydney.

Further resources

Benson, N 2008, Introducing psychology: a graphic guide, Australian edn, Allen & Unwin, Crows Nest, NSW.

Burton, LJ 2015, Psychology, 4th edn, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Qld.

Findlay, B 2009, How to write psychology research reports and essays. Pearson Education Australia, Sydney.

Gerrig, RJ, Zimbardo, PG, Campbell, AJ, Cumming, SR & Wilkes, FJ 2009, Psychology and life, Australian edn, Pearson Education Australia, Sydney.

O'Shea, RP, Moss, SA & McKenzie, WA 2007, Writing for psychology, 5th edn, Thomson, South Melbourne.

Passer, MW & Smith, RE 2015, Psychology: The science of mind and behaviour 2nd edn, McGraw Hill, North Ryde, NSW.

ASSESSMENT ITEMS AND WEIGHTING

Assessment for this subject will be based on the following components:

Task	Weighting	Learning outcomes assessed	Mandatory task
Critical thinking exercise (300 words)	5%	1, 2	Yes
Individual presentation PPT slides (12 slides minimum)	20%	3, 6	Yes
3. Essay (1000 words)	30%	2, 4, 6	Yes
Weekly online quizzes and Week 11 online quiz	15%	1-4	Yes
5. Online multiple-choice exam (2 hours)	30%	1–3	Yes
TOTAL	100%		

For details of assessment due dates, please refer to the learning guide for this subject.

All marks will be determined in accordance with The College Assessment Policy.

All assessment tasks are mandatory unless otherwise specified. Should a student fail to attempt/submit the first formal assessment task in a subject, they will be deemed to be at risk and will need to follow an intervention plan in order not to receive a Fail Non-Submission (FNS) grade. However, failure to attempt/submit all other mandatory assessment tasks will result in an immediate FNS grade for the subject.