Chapter 1: Introduction to Psychology and Methods of Research

Module 1.1 Foundations of Modern Psychology

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After you have mastered the information in this unit, you will be able to:

- Understand the basic meaning of psychology—what it is, and what it does
- Know the origins of psychology—its roots are in philosophy, but it is practiced like a science
- Know key individuals who were instrumental in shaping modern psychology
- Name and describe the early schools of thought in the field of psychology
- Discuss the six contemporary perspectives in psychology

Module 1.2 Psychologists: Who They Are and What They Do

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After you have mastered the information in this unit, you will be able to:

- Understand the two basic types of research conducted by psychologists
- Name and define the major areas of specialization within the field of psychology
- Identify and explain the four emerging specialty areas within psychology
- Discuss the changing ethnic and gender characteristics of psychologists through the years

Module 1.3 Research Methods in Psychology

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After you have mastered the information in this unit, you will be able to:

- Name and explain the four major goals of science
- Describe the general steps when using the scientific method
• Describe the major research methods used in psychology
• Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each research method
• Understand the important role of ethics in psychological research
• Identify and explain major ethical guidelines for treatment of research participants

Module 1.4 Application: Becoming a Critical Thinker

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

After you have mastered the information in this unit, you will be able to:

• Describe the key features of critical thinking