

Faculty of Social Sciences

M.A. (Psychology)

1. Psychology: Nature and definitions; Fields: Basic and Applied, Methods: Experimental, Introspection and Observation. Variables: concept and types; Techniques to control confounding variables: Randomizations, Elimination and Double blind technique.

2. Psychophysics: Basic concept of psychophysics, sensitivity, stimulus and differential threshold, point of subjective equality (PSE). Methods: method of limits, method of constant stimuli, method of average error. Signal Detection Theory: Sensitivity Vs Response criteria.

3. Biological basis of behavior: Receptor and Effector mechanisms; Neural conduction mechanism; neurons, synapses, reflexes and the nerve impulse. Structure and Functions of Autonomic nervous system and Central nervous system.

4. Sensory-perceptual Process: Concept of sensation and perception; Classification and attributes of sensation; Principals of perceptual organizations: Law of Proximity or Nearness, Law of Similarity, Law of Good Figure or Symmetry and Law of Continuity or Common direction. Visual depth perception- monocular and binocular cues.

5. Attention: Nature of attention, Concept and definition of Selective Attention and Sustained Attention; Factors influencing attention; Theories of attention: Filter Theory and Attenuation theory.

6. Motivation: Concept of Motivation. Process and characteristics of motivation, Types of Motivation: Biological and Social motives, Theories of Motivation: Maslow's need hierarchy theory and Two-Factor theory, Frustration and conflict of motives.

7. Emotion: Concept and Aspects of Emotion: Theories of Emotion: James-Lange theory and Cannon Bard Theory.

8. Social Perception and Cognition: Perceiving oneself: self concept, self-esteem and self presentation. Perceiving others: Forming impressions, Role of verbal and non-verbal cues. Attribution: understanding the causes of others behavior; Attributional biases.

9. Attitude and Prejudices: Nature and determinants of attitude. Measurement of attitude: Likert and Thurstone Scales. Nature of prejudice and Discrimination: its origin and control.

10. Group processes and Leadership: Nature and Function of Group; Task performance: Social facilitation and Social loafing; Conformity; factors affecting conformity, Group cohesiveness; Leadership: definition, nature and function of Leadership, Types and qualities of Leadership. Theories of Leadership: Trait, situational and Interactional approach.

11. Nature and Criteria of Abnormality: Nature and criteria of abnormal behavior, Causes of Abnormal Behaviour: Biological, Psychological and Social. Approaches to study of abnormal behavior: Freud-level of consciousness, structure of personality, Psycho-sexual development. Defence mechanism. Jung-Personal and Collective unconsciousness, personality types. Adler-Striving for security, style of life.

12. Anxiety Disorders: Obsessive compulsive disorder and Generalized anxiety disorder; their symptoms and etiology; **Somatoform Disorder:** Hypochondriasis symptoms and major characteristics, conversion disorder: symptoms-sensory, motor, visceral; **Mood disorders:** general characteristics of depression and mania: chronic mood disorders: etiology- psychological and biological; **Schizophrenia:** clinical symptoms and etiology of Schizophrenia.

13. Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities: Concept of mental retardation, levels and organic factors in mental retardation; **Developmental disabilities:** Autism: clinical picture and causal factor; Learning disabilities: Clinical picture and causal factor, Child Abuse: Causal factor and prevention.

14. Descriptive and Inferential Statistics: Classification and tabulation of data: frequency distribution; **Measures of central tendency and variability:** computation of mean, median and mode. Meaning, uses and calculation of Standard deviation and variance. Graphical presentation of data. Correlation: meaning, assumption and types. Normal probability curve: nature, meaning, properties and uses, deviation from normal probability curve. Population and sampling: nature and types.

15. Learning: Nature, Types and measurement of learning, Theories of Learning: Classical conditioning, Basic processes-Extinction, Spontaneous recovery, generalization and discrimination. Application of Classical conditioning: Phobias, drug dependence and taste aversion. Instrumental Conditioning: Operant conditioning, Avoidance conditioning and Escape conditioning. Transfer of Training: Methods-Specific and non-specific Transfer.

16. Memory and Forgetting: Information processing model of memory: Sensory memory, Short term memory and Long term memory. **Forgetting:** concept and Theories of forgetting: Decay theory, Interference theory, Two factor theory of forgetting: response competition and unlearning with experimental evidences, Motivation theory of forgetting: repression with experimental studies. Techniques for improving memory: Study habits, Mnemonic devices.

17. Measurement: Nature and significance of measurement, Distinction between assessment and measurement. Levels of measurement: Nominal, Ordinal, Interval and Ratio. Techniques of attitude measurement-Likert scale, Semantic differential scale, Thurstone scale and Guttman scale.

18. Psychological Tests: Definition of Psychological test, Brief history of Psychological testing: test administration. Types of test: Group Vs Individual, Typical Vs Maximum performance tests, Objective Vs Projective tests, Speed Vs Power tests, limited response Vs Free response tests; Characteristics of tests:

Reliability- concept of reliability and methods for determining reliability-Test-Retest-Same test, Parallel forms; Internal consistency- Split-half, Cronbach alpha. **Validity:**

concept of validity and its types: Face validity, content validity, criterion-related validity and construct validity. Factors influencing Reliability and Validity. Standardization and Norms. Applications of testing: assessment in educational setup, occupational setup, clinical setup and counseling.

19. Personality: Nature and definitions of personality: Western and Eastern perspective. Personality as a set of traits and as types. Biological basis of Personality: Role of genes and endocrine glands. Role of physical environment: Natural environment, Constructed environment and behavioural setting. Role of social and cultural environments: early social experiences and impact of parenting style. Nature-Nurture controversy: Historical background, relative importance of nature and nurture in personality development. Methods of personality assessment: Testing and observational method. Major theoretical approaches to the study of personality: Psychoanalytic approach (Freud's view), Type approach (Jung's view), New Freudian approach, (Horney's views), Trait Approach (Allport's view).

20. Self-Concept: Nature and development of self-concept. Theories of self comparison: Central theory of self regulation: Self-Discrepancy theory, Measurement of self-concept, changes in self-concept. Self-esteem: development and consequences of self-esteem.

21. Fatigue: Determinants of Fatigue: Physiological, Psychological and Industrial Fatigue. Causes of Fatigue; controlling fatigue effects.