

## Chapter 1 – Learning Objectives

After careful reading and study of Chapter 1, students should be able to do the following:

1. Define psychology.
2. List and discuss the goals of psychology.
3. Discuss the principles of critical thinking, and explain how they may be applied to the subject matter of psychology.
4. Describe the scientific method.
5. Describe the sampling procedures used by psychologists.
6. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the various methods of observation.
7. Explain the correlational method, and when it is used.
8. Discuss the use of the experimental method and various constructs associated with it, such as: independent variable, dependent variable, experimental group, control group, placebo, blind studies, double blind studies, experimenter bias.
9. Outline the history of psychology, for example: Wundt's contribution to psychology, the goals and methods of structuralism, functionalism, and Gestalt psychology. Explain how behaviorism differed from the earlier schools of thought.
10. Compare and contrast the seven major theoretical perspectives in contemporary psychology: biological, psychoanalytic, behavioral, cognitive, humanistic, evolutionary, and sociocultural.
11. Identify and explain the different areas of psychological specialization, such as: research, teaching, clinical, counseling, school, educational, developmental, personality, social, experimental, industrial, organizational, consumer, and health psychologists.