

# Unit 1: History, Perspectives and Research Methods

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Psychology**  
Time Period: **September**  
Length: **4 blocks**  
Status: **Published**

## Transfer

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History, Perspectives, and Research Methods: Psychology utilizes science to explain and predict behavior

## Enduring Understandings

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Psychology is empirical.

Ethics are important in both scientific research and the practice of psychology.

Psychology is theoretically diverse.

Case studies, surveys, naturalistic observation, and experimentation are methods psychologists use to study behavior.

Psychology requires understanding how to design, interrupt, and apply a variety of ethical research methods.

## Essential Questions

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What is psychology and what makes it a science?

How do the schools of psychology compliment or disparage each other?

How do researchers study behavior?

How do psychologist design their research and what special problems can arise?

## Content

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Psychology, Hypothesis, Theory, Basic Science, Applied Science, Scientific Method, Introspection, Psychologist, Psychiatry, Survey, Case Study, Naturalistic Observation, Correlation, Experimentation, Dependent Variable, Independent Variable, Control Group, Experimental Group, Placebo Effect, Single-Blind Study, Double-Blind Study.

## **Resources**

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### ***Introduction to Psychology***

Google Slides

Google Docs

Chromebooks

NewsEla

Selected Articles

Statistics Practice Handouts

Review Guide

## **Important People**

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Wilhelm Wundt, William James, Sigmund Freud, John B. Watson, B.F. Skinner, Abraham Maslow, Carl Rogers, Jean Piaget, Edward Titchener, Max Wertheimer, Carl Rogers,

## **Skills**

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Compare the relationship between psychological theories and scientific research.

Categorize basic elements of an experiment.

Explore the careers in the field of Psychology.

Evaluate trends in psychology past and present.

Assess early psychologists' effort to understand the structures of the mind.

Compare the different perspectives from which psychologists examine behavior and mental processes.

Appraise the relationship between psychological theories and scientific research

## **Assessments**

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**Entrance/Exit pass**

Formative: Other Evidence: Other: Student Portfolio  
Entrance/Exit pass

### **Peer evaluation**

Formative: Other Evidence: Other: Peer Assessment  
Peer evaluation

### **Journaling**

Formative: Other Evidence: Written: Journal/ Diary  
Journaling

### **Debate**

Formative: Other Evidence: Oral: Debate  
Teacher monitored debate on which type of research is most effective

### **Thematic class discussion**

Formative: Other Evidence: Oral: Discussion  
Thematic class discussion

### **Test/Quizzes**

Summative: Transfer Tasks: Test: Common  
Test/Quizzes

### **Biography**

Written: Report  
Write a biography of one of the important contributors to psychology

### **Primary Document Analysis**

Written: Informative  
Analyze and summarize primary documents from psychology's beginnings

### **Essay Paper**

Written: Report  
Write a research paper using an experimental method and APA guidelines.

### **Essay**

Written: Report  
Write an essay discussing ethical guidelines and Milgram's obedience study.

### **Job Flyer**

Project: Visual Arts  
Create a job flyer about different careers in psychology

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## **Standards**

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|-------------------|--|
| SCI.9-12.SI.1     | Perspectives in Psychological Science  |
| SCI.9-12.SI.1.1   | Development of psychology as an empirical science  |
| SCI.9-12.SI.1.1.1 | Define psychology as a discipline and identify its goals as a science                            |
| SCI.9-12.SI.1.1.2 | Describe the emergence of psychology as a scientific discipline                                  |
| SCI.9-12.SI.1.1.3 | Describe perspectives employed to understand behavior and mental processes                       |
| SCI.9-12.SI.1.1.4 | Explain how psychology evolved as a scientific discipline  |
| SCI.9-12.SI.1.2.2 | Describe the major subfields of psychology   |
| SCI.9-12.SI.1.2.3 | Identify the important role psychology plays in benefiting society and improving people's lives  |
| SCI.9-12.SI.2.1   | Research methods and measurements used to study behavior and mental processes                    |
| SCI.9-12.SI.2.1.1 | Describe the scientific method and its role in psychology  |
| SCI.9-12.SI.2.2.1 | Identify ethical standards psychologists must address regarding research with human participants |