

# Grade 12 Psychology (40S): Manitoba Curriculum Framework of Outcomes

## Overview

### Introduction

Grade 12 Psychology (40S): Manitoba Curriculum Framework of Outcomes (January 2010 Unedited Draft) identifies specific student learning outcomes for use in all Manitoba schools teaching *Grade 12 Psychology (40S)*, an optional course.

### Rationale for Teaching Psychology in High School

Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and mental processes. It uses the scientific method to discover ways of understanding the complexities of human thought and behavior, as well as differences among people.

Studying psychology gives students lifelong skills such as dealing with issues proactively, solving problems, learning, and nurturing healthy relationships. It helps students understand themselves, and deal with issues in their own lives such as inner conflicts, relationships with parents and peers, and intimacy. It also helps students understand societal problems like drug dependency, aggression, and discrimination.

This course exposes students to the major topics found in the field of psychology. It also emphasizes the issues that are of particular direct interest and relevance to students completing high school. Students explore the scientific methods upon which psychology is based. They can then apply what they learned to their daily lives.

### Implementation

Schools may voluntarily implement *Grade 12 Psychology (40S)* starting in February of 2009. System-wide implementation will start in the 2010–2011 school year. *Grade 12 Psychology (40S)* assumes 110 hours of instruction, including formal assessments, field excursions, and related co-curricular efforts.

### Scope of Grade 12 Psychology (40S)

This curriculum contains the Themes, Topics, and Specific Learning Outcomes for the course. The 5 themes represent broad content areas. They are:

1. Introduction and Research Methods
2. Biopsychology

3. Developmental Psychology
4. Cognitive Psychology
5. Variations in Individual and Group Behaviour

Themes are then broken down into one or more topics, under which are listed the various specific learning outcomes (SLOs). SLOs are concise statements of the learning that students are expected to demonstrate once they have completed *Grade 12 Psychology (40S)*.

**For more information or to provide feedback, please contact:**

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