



MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH OF UKRAINE
NATIONAL O.O. BOHOMOLOTS MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
General & Medical Psychology and Pedagogic Department

OLENA O. LAZURENKO

PSYCHOLOGY

Educational and methodical guideline
of the LECTURE course

For the students of pharmaceutical faculties

Kyiv
2012



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“APPROVED”

Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs
Professor O.P. Yavorovskiy

“ _____ ” 2012

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Approved by methodical council of
General & Medical Psychology and Pedagogic Department
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INSTITUTIONAL APPROVAL

PSYCHOLOGY

Educational and methodical guidelines
of the FUTURE course

For the students of the Department of Psychology

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UNIT I. INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

T O P I C: PSYCHOLOGY AS A SCIENCE, ITS OBJECT AND TASKS

Key words: *psychology, behaviour, consciousness, self-consciousness, psychic activities, psyche, psychic processes, properties and states, general psychology, history of psychology, age psychology, pedagogical psychology, social psychology, psychology of activity, medical psychology, pathopsychology, ethnopsychology, animal psychology, engineering psychology, military psychology, Introspective psychology, Associative psychology, Psychological approach, Analytic psychology, Cognitive psychology, Behaviorism, Gestalt psychology, Humanistic psychology*

1. Psychology as a science, its subject and object.
2. Main stages of psychology evolution.
3. Functions of psyche.
4. Psychological processes, properties and states as forms of the psyche.
5. The consciousness as the highest form of a psychic life. The Conscious and Unconscious.
6. The tasks of modern psychology.
7. The principal branches of psychology.
8. Psychology and other sciences.
9. Orientations and schools of psychology.

Psychology is a field of knowledge about inner world of a person. It is one of the sciences of a human being.

A science is an organized body of reliable information. Such a body of knowledge does not grow as a result of speculation alone, nor does it develop from random observations. Its accumulation depends on the use of special procedures that constitute scientific method. In the early stages of a science, moreover, the importance of the procedure used far outweighs that of the information obtained.

Psychology, like every other science, acquired scientific status when (1) its observations became systematic rather than aimless; (2) its observation became impersonal – that is to say, when psychologists honestly sought information instead of attempting to prove their own ideas by a prejudiced selection of facts, and (3) it possible for any qualified investigator to repeat the observations of another, under essentially the same conditions and to verify the results.

The requirements of science are most closely fulfilled when investigators use experimental methods, when instead of observing what occurs spontaneously, they change aspects of nature and note the effect of these changes on phenomena that come within the range of their inquiry.

Psychology achieved scientific status when it became experimental. As we shall see, experimental procedure in psychology was first applied to analyses of conscious experience.

The term “psychology” is derived from the Greek: “psycho” (soul, psyche) and “logos” (learning, word), meaning, “study of the mind or soul”. So in the definition of psychology there are three basic words: “science”, “behaviour”, “mental processes”.

“Science” means rational investigation of processes and phenomena. By “behaviour” psychologists mean everything that people and animals do actions, emotions, and ways of communication, developmental processes. “Mental processes” characterize the work of the mind and the nervous system.