

CARIBBEAN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Educating and training ministerial leadership



PSY212 Introduction to Psychology

Mission Statement

CST is committed to connect, serve, and train for Pentecostal ministry, leadership, and missions throughout the world.

Professor

Course Description

This course traces the development of the science of psychology to the beginning of the twenty-first century. Students will learn the basic scientific principles and methodologies of psychology from a Christian perspective. This interpretive study of psychology enhances the student's understanding of intrinsic values, motivational responses, relationships, and other psychological concepts as they apply to all aspects of Christian life and service.

Resources

You will use *Introduction to Psychology: A Christian Perspective, an Independent-Study Textbook* by Raymond T. Brock as both the textbook and study guide for the course. The Holy Bible is also required. Bible quotations in the *Independent-Study Textbook* are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. Most assignments require you to access the Global University Library Web site. Instructions for accessing the Internet are provided in the Undergraduate Writing Assignment Guidelines (UWAG) in the Student Packet.

Objectives

The key concepts presented in the lesson are derived from the objectives. Study each objective carefully as you begin each lesson. First, identify the key concepts presented in the objective, and second, identify what each objective is asking you to do with the key concepts. For example, in the objective, *Assess the positive and negative ways that colonialism affected the spread of Christianity*, the key concept is colonialism affected Christianity. In this objective you are asked to assess positive and negative ways—or show the good and bad effects colonialism had on the spread of Christianity.

Course Procedures

Classroom lectures, group discussion, audio-visual presentations, handouts, and case studies constitute some of the various methods that will be utilized in order to attain the course objectives.

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Course Introduction

Psychology is the systematic scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Introduction to Psychology: A Christian Perspective not only explores traditional psychological theories and research methods, but adds the Bible-based dimension to the study of human behavior.

Psychology, as a discipline of study, is as old as humanity, since humans have always been interested in themselves. From the beginning, the Divine Creator saw that it was not good for man to live alone, so He introduced human interaction. Since the time God made the second human, individuals have interacted with others and with their environment and we call this interaction the human personality.

Basically, this course explores who we are, why we act the way we do, what is adaptive thinking and behavior, what can be done about maladaptive thinking and behavior, and how can one change his or her attitude and behavior. From the time of conception to the time life ceases to be, change is inevitable. How one copes with change is the key to living a healthy, productive life. Bible-based principles are central in the life of a Christian and should guide the choices that shape one's existence. Therefore, practical application of Bible-based psychological principles in everyday life are explored in this course.