

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

COURSE CODE: SO 1111

HOURS TAUGHT: 3 hrs per week

PREREQUISITES: None

PURPOSE OF COURSE

This course is to introduce to students the study of human behaviour from a nature-nature perspective. The second purpose is to systematically present, describe, speculate and hypothetically assess observable and non observable phenomena involved in the external and internal environments that uncertain extent determines the individuals' behavioural development, and the emergency, expression and inhibition of over all human behavior.

The ultimate focus is to enable students to develop insights on the nature of inborn behavior and learned behaviour and how to interfere and analyses and direct the complex nature of human behavior.

The course brings out the approaches to the study of human behaviour from sociology, anthropology and evolutionary psychology

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course unit students should be able to;

- Identify and apply the concepts behaviour analysis of human behaviour from situational analyze, learning perspectives and evolutionary psychological approach.
- Critically assess human behaviour and culture as adoptive responses to internal and external environments.
- Assess how this knowledge can be applied to present human societies.
- Analyze the nature nurture of human behavioural phenomena
- Critically assess human behaviour and culture as adaptive responses to internal and external environments.

- Apply methods for testing the learning hypothesis, adaptive hypothesis and evolutionary, psychogogy hypothesis.

COURSE CONTENT

Introduction to behavioural science

- Nature and scope of study
- Method of study

The study of human behaviour and society

- Sociological approach anthropological approach
- Evolutionary psychology approach
- The science of behaviour and society

Proximate functional causation versus ultimate causation of behaviour

Human adaptation

- Problems of survival
- Combating the hostile forces of nature
- The food
- Acquisition and selection hypothesis in humans
- The sickness response hypothesis
- The hunting hypothesis
- The provisioning hypothesis
- The show off hypothesis
- The gathering hypothesis
- Shelter and landscape preferences
- Combating predators, environmental dangers fears, and evolutionary memories

Problems of parenting and human socialization

- The nature of parenting
- The nature of human socialization
- The structure of the human family
- Trivers' hypothesis of intent-mother conflict
- Problems of behavioural adaptation
- Combating the hostile forces of nature

- The hunting hypothesis
- The gathering hypothesis
- The fear of diseases
- The show off hypothesis
- The lend preference hypothesis
- Environmental dangers hypothesis

The nature of human competition

Problems of group living

- The evolution of cooperation

Problems of human aggression and warfare

- Aggression as a solution of adaptive problems

The biological evolution of humans and culture

Conflict between the sexes

- The incompatible male female behavioural strategies

The emergence of dominance hierarchies

- Human dominances in the formation of societies. Status and social stratification of social groups

MODE OF DELIVERY

- Lectures
- Reading assignments
- Practical assignments
- Field trips
- Documentaries

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND / OR EQUIPMENT

- Whiteboard and Markers
- Flip Charts
- LCD Projectors
- CDs, DVDs and Tapes

COURSE ASSESSMENT

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| • Continuous assessment tests | 20% |
| • Group and individual project (course work) | 20% |
| • End-of-Semester Examination | 60% |

Total	100%
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READING MATERIALS / LIST

John R. Week (2007), population. An introduction to concepts and issues

Benedict. B (1972), social regulation of fertility in the structure of human population

AdlakhaArjun and Judith Banister (1995), demography perspectives on china and India