Lesson 1 induction worksheet

**Activity 1**: What do you know about psychology already?

Have a go at answering the following questions:

1. What is Psychology? Write a definition
2. You will study how to interpret body language in the course: True or False?
3. You will be expected to uses Maths in Psychology: True or False?
4. There is content from Biology in the course: True or False?
5. There is coursework in Psychology: True or False?
6. How many papers are there in the year 1 exam?
   1. 2
   2. 3
   3. 4
   4. 5
7. When will your exams be if you take Psychology for two years?
   1. January 2021
   2. May/June 2021
   3. January 2022
   4. May/June 2022

**Activity 2**: Spot the fake study

Here are details of each of the four studies. Only **one** is fake

Study 1



Hofling (1966) carried out a field experiment in a hospital setting. The study aimed to find out whether a group of nurses would obey an order from an authority figure (a doctor) even if this action was against the rules and meant they could lose their job. In the study, 22 nurses received a telephone call from a man who identified himself as “Dr Smith” (an investigator, pretending to be a doctor). Dr Smith asked each nurse (individually) to administer a dose of “10mg” of “Astroten” to a patient. This was not a real drug but a bottle had been made and labelled and placed in the drugs cupboard.

In the phone call the “Doctor” said he would write up the paperwork to authorise the treatment later on but that the nurse should administer the drug straight away. The dosage was twice the recommended dose printed on the bottle, and the rules stated that an order over the telephone – and from a doctor who was not familiar to them – was not allowed. Despite numerous reasons to refuse, only 1 out of the 22 refused to carry out the order.

Study 2



Radley (2006) carried out a study into the impact of the use of social networking sites on psychopathic tendencies. The researchers wanted to test whether communicating with people via Facebook, rather than face to face, may be decreasing our ability to empathize with others (feel other people’s emotions) as there are less cues available (e.g. tone of voice, facial expression) to detect the emotional state of others online.

Psychopaths are unable to feel empathy, so spending lots of time using social networking sites might lead to an increase in psychopaths and potentially more serial killers in society as a result. A group of teenage volunteers, who regularly use Facebook, underwent brain scans whilst using Facebook for 30 minutes. The activity of the empathy centers of the brain were compared with a control group of teenagers who never, or rarely, use social networks whilst using Facebook for the same period of time. The researchers found that those who used Facebook regularly showed less activity in their empathy brain centers than the control group. Radley concluded that Facebook might create a generation of Psychopaths and that further research was needed in this area to determine whether warnings should be placed on the site in the future.

Study 3



Dutton and Aron (1974) conducted a field experiment investigating whether being on a fear-arousing suspension bridge or a non-fear-arousing bridge influenced how attractive a male found a female interviewer. 85 male passers-by were contacted either on a fear-arousing suspension bridge or a non-fear-arousing bridge by an attractive female interviewer who asked them to fill out questionnaires and offered them her name and phone number. The men in the fear-arousing suspension bridge condition were significantly more likely to accept the phone number, call the woman, and ask her out on a date. After experiencing the fear-induced arousal from the bridge, the men all “misattributed” this arousal as sexual attraction when they saw the woman immediately afterward; when asked why they called her, the men often indicated that they were aroused by her, but never thought to mention anything about the fact that they had just stepped off of a terrifying bridge. They didn’t realize that the arousal they were experiencing actually had very little to do with the woman herself.

Study 4

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=Chabris+and+Simons+(2011&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0CAcQjRw&url=http://www.npr.org/2011/06/20/137086464/why-seeing-the-unexpected-is-often-not-believing&ei=ZY5cVffpEbSS7AaqpoK4Cw&psig=AFQjCNE9qYwNGgBLysFxSdC_T931LS_jXw&ust=1432215510481864)

Chabris and Simons (2011) wanted to understand whether people could unintentionally ignore a brutal assault. They conducted staged street beatings to determine if naïve volunteers could miss them. Those in the experimental group had to follow a runner and count the number of times that he touched his head. The runner was instructed to run a route that went past the staged beating. The control group followed the same runner along an identical route, however they were not asked to focus on any details of the runner. Only 35% of participants noticed the beatings when tested at night. The more closely participants attended to the runner the more likely they were to miss the beating. This is known as inattentional blindness.

**Activity 3**: What is Science?

1. Jot down any key terms you can think of related to what a ‘science’ is
2. What would you consider BAD SCIENCE?

**Activity 4:** Science in advertising

* How has ‘science’ been used to influence the viewer in the adverts?
* Are there any problems with the science/statistics mentioned?
* Why are these scientific elements included in their adverts?

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| Yakult advert | Camel cigarettes advert |
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