

AP Psychology Summer Work Overview of Psychological Perspectives

A **perspective** is a school of thought or a way of describing/viewing some phenomenon such as mental illness or behavior. Many topics in psychology can be viewed in a variety of ways. Consider the topic of aggression. Someone who emphasizes a **biological perspective** would investigate how the brain and nervous system impact aggressive behavior. A professional who stresses a **behavioral perspective** would investigate how environmental variables reinforce aggressive actions. A psychologist who utilizes a **humanistic perspective** might consider the behavior to be a choice with acceptable consequences, etc.

Assignment Components (1-2 typed pages per perspective like a report or paper)

1. Analyses should be typed in Times New Roman 12 point font in APA (American Psychological Association) Style. Consult Purdue University's Online Writing Lab website. https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_for_mat.html Create works cited pages if possible; running headers and abstracts are NOT required.

2. Research using one or more valid internet sites or reference texts cited in APA format (Wikipedia is **not allowed due to the fact that it is not a scholarly source).**

3. List any people associated with the founding of each along with major contributions to the formation and/or development of the perspective.

4. Create a “real to life” example of each perspective using a “real world” problem. Additional research may be required for this component of the assignment. Example: schizophrenia can be described best by the **biological or neuroscience perspective** because research states that the ventricles of the human brain are larger in people with schizophrenia. Also medication can help relieve many symptoms of the disorder.

The 7 Major Perspectives in Modern Psychology (Analyze all 7 Perspectives)

1. The Biological (Neuroscience) Perspective
2. The Behavioral Perspective
3. The Cognitive Perspective
4. The Humanistic Perspective
5. The Psychodynamic Perspective
6. The Sociocultural Perspective
7. The Evolutionary Perspective

For each of the 7 Perspectives, follow the Assignment Component directions listed above.

Analyses may be submitted electronically by email (preferred) or in printed hard copy format the first day of class. Welcome to the class. Please contact the teacher if needed.

Sincerely,

Mr. Hickey (hickey.sean@mail.fcboe.org)