

Introduction to Psychology and Psychological Research

Essential Understandings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The study of psychology and psychological principles leads to a better understanding of human behavior and has the potential to enrich our lives.▪ Research in psychology requires the use of the scientific method.▪ Statistics enable researchers to organize and evaluate data collected.
Essential Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ What are the goals of psychological research?▪ What is the process of research?▪ What are the dangers of research?▪ How are statistics used?
Essential Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The goals of psychology are to describe, explain, predict, and influence behavior.▪ The seven methods of research are naturalistic observation, case studies, surveys, longitudinal studies, cross-sectional studies, correlations, and experiments.▪ Researcher bias must be avoided.▪ Descriptive statistics lists and summarizes data in a practical, efficient way.▪ Inferential statistics uses numerical methods to determine whether data support a hypothesis or whether results were due to chance.
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Terms:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ cognitive, hypothesis, theory, sample, control group, single and double-blind experiments, placebo, normal curve, correlation coefficient, variable, self-fulfilling prophecy, frequency distribution, standard deviation
Essential Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Identify cause-and-effect relationships.▪ Design plans to study correlations.▪ Interpret graphs.

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<p>Related Maine Learning Results</p>	<p><u>Social Studies</u> A. Applications of Social Studies Processes, Knowledge, and Skills A1. Researching and Developing Positions on Current Social Studies Issues Students research, develop, present, and defend positions on current social studies issues by developing and modifying research questions, and locating, selecting, evaluating, and synthesizing information from multiple and varied sources. a. Develop research questions related to a current social studies issue. b. Select and apply research methods that are appropriate for the purpose of the inquiry. c. Make judgments about conflicting findings from different sources, incorporating those from sources that are valid and refuting others. d. Synthesize information from varied sources, fieldwork, experiments, and/or interviews that reflect multiple perspectives. e. Utilize media relevant to audience and purpose that extend and support oral, written, and visual communication. f. Create and present a coherent set of findings that integrate paraphrasing, quotations, and citations. g. Develop a clear well-supported position. h. Present and defend a well-supported position to a variety of audiences using a prescribed format. i. Select and use appropriate tools, methods, and sources from government, history, geography, economics, or related fields including ethical reasoning skills. j. Access and present information ethically and legally. A2. Making Decisions Using Social Studies Knowledge and Skills Students make individual and collaborative decisions on matters related to social studies using relevant information and research, discussion, and ethical reasoning skills. a. Develop individual and collaborative decisions/plans by considering multiple points of view, weighing pros and cons, building on the ideas of others, and sharing information in an attempt to sway the opinions of others. b. Make a real or simulated decision related to the classroom, school, community, civic organization, Maine, United States, or international entity by applying appropriate and relevant social studies knowledge and skills, including research skills, ethical reasoning skills, and other relevant information.</p>
<p>Sample Lessons And Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Choose a topic/issue relative to behavior, design and conduct a research project, and present results to the class.

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Sample Classroom Assessment Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Exam: Psychological Research Methods and Statistics.
Sample Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <u>Publications:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <u>Understanding Psychology</u> - Glencoe/McGraw-Hill.▪ <u>Case Study:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ "First Impressions", <u>Psychological Research</u>, Prentice Hall▪ <u>Videos:</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <u>Discovering Psychology: Understanding Research (2)</u>