

TECEP® Test Description for PSY-270-TE

PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN

This exam assesses students' understanding and knowledge of concepts in the developmental and topical approaches to important facets of women's lives. Topics include general concepts and research methods, stereotypes, the life cycle, gender, work, love relationships, health, and aging. (3 credits)

- **Test format:**
 - 60 multiple choice questions (1 point each)
 - 4 essay questions (10 points each)
 - **Passing score:** 65% (65/100 points). Your grade will be reported as CR (credit) or NC (no credit).
 - **Time limit:** 2 hours.
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OUTCOMES ASSESSED ON THE TEST

- Explain how and when the discipline of the psychology of women was founded.
 - Identify the main research paradigms in the field.
 - Describe issues in gender development across the lifespan.
 - Elaborate on gender differences and similarities in cognitive abilities, achievement motivation, communication patterns, aggression, and power.
 - Articulate the issues concerning women and work, love relationships, and aging.
 - Discuss the major issues regarding women's physical and psychological health and safety.
 - Demonstrate knowledge of the global issues related to the psychology of women.
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TOPICS ON THE TEST AND THEIR APPROXIMATE DISTRIBUTION

The table below indicates the main topics covered by this exam and the approximate percentage of the exam devoted to each main topic. Under the main topic heading is a list of related—but more specific—topics.



It is important to review these topics to determine how much prior knowledge you have and/or how much additional study is necessary.

Topic	Percentage
<p>Psychology of Women as a Discipline, Research Paradigms, Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sex and gender, social biases, gender biases ● History of psychology of women, psychological research methods, gendered research ● Definition of liberal, cultural, radical feminism ● Ethnicity as it relates to women's lives 	10%
<p>Gender Development Across the Lifespan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prenatal sex development ● People's responses to infant girls and boys ● Gender typing and children's knowledge about gender ● Puberty, identity and interpersonal relationships during adolescence and young adulthood ● Education and career planning 	15%
<p>Influences on Gender Roles, Norms, Stereotyping, Orientation, and Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gender differences in cognitive abilities ● Attributions of success and self-esteem ● Communication patterns, helping and caring behavior, aggression and power ● Sexual orientation, intersex and transgender persons ● Gender and race stereotypes in Western and other cultures ● Androgyny 	15%
<p>The Content of Women's Lives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Women and work ● Discrimination and harassment ● Love relationships, marriage, divorce ● Pregnancy and motherhood ● Traditional marriage, egalitarian marriage, issues in these marriages ● Marriage and partnership between two women ● Women and aging and issues of older women 	30%



<p>Women's Physical and Psychological Health and Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women in sports • PMS as a cultural concept of distress • Reproductive health, hormone replacement therapy • Depression and therapy • Substance abuse, addictions • Eating disorders • Sexual assault and rape • Cycle of abuse • Pornography 	15%
<p>Inclusive Psychology of Women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women of color and the feminist movement • The men's movement • The women's movement worldwide • Gender role transcendence 	15%

STUDY MATERIALS

Below is a list of recommended study materials to help prepare you for your exam. Most textbooks in this subject include the topics listed above and will prepare you for the test. If you choose another text, be sure to compare its table of contents against the topic list to make sure all topics are covered.

Title
Matlin, M. W. <i>The Psychology of Women</i> (current edition). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth

In addition to the materials above, you may wish to review the resources below. We encourage you to explore these resources to make sure that you are familiar with multiple perspectives on the topics above.

- Etaugh, C., & Bridges, J. *Women's Lives: A Psychological Exploration* (current edition). Boston, MA: Pearson.
- St. Francis College. (2012, April 30). [Deborah Best: Cross-cultural views of gender in changing world](#) [video file].
- The Institute of Art and Ideas [IAI]. (2013, February 13). [Lewis Wolpert: Physical & psychological differences between men and women](#) [video file].
- University of Houston [UHouston]. (2013, February 21). [Psyc 331: Psychology of gender](#) [video file].



- Wiley [johnwileysons]. (2014, May 7). [British journal of developmental psychology, special issue: Gender and relationships, 2011](#) [video file].
 - Psychology's Feminist Voices. [The changing face of feminist psychology](#) [video file].
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SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The questions below are designed to help you study for your TECEP. Answering these questions does not guarantee a passing score on your exam.

Please note that the questions below **will not** appear on your exam.

Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Which of the following statements describes an important bias in the research on achievement motivation?
 - a. Almost all of the researchers are male.
 - b. The studies typically measure achievement in traditionally masculine areas.
 - c. The operational definition of the term motivation is not well-defined.
 - d. The current research seldom includes many women participants.
2. What are the children in Miss Laura's kindergarten class likely to believe about occupations?
 - a. Women can be anything they want to be.
 - b. There is no relationship between gender and occupation.
 - c. Women have jobs with the most prestige.
 - d. Teachers are women.
3. Sex role stereotypes are based on
 - a. culture-bound beliefs about females and males
 - b. psychological differences between males and females
 - c. biological restrictions on females and males
 - d. the legal status of women
4. Research about reactions to divorce reveals that
 - a. divorce is not particularly stressful for many women
 - b. men are much more likely than women to be angry about a divorce
 - c. some women find that a divorce helps them recognize their own strength
 - d. women typically report that, once the decision is made, they adjust to divorce



5. What is the medical term for the start of menstruation?
- Menarche
 - Menopause
 - Menyanthes
 - Amenorrhea
6. A person who says, "I studied hard and therefore did well on the test" is high in
- fear of success
 - fear of failure
 - attributions of success
 - attributions of failure
7. Deliberate or repeated comments, gestures, or physical contacts of a sexual nature that are unwanted by the recipient are known as sexual
- innuendo
 - harassment
 - discrimination
 - impediments
8. Jess and Ernie are married. Ernie has a job, but Jess doesn't work outside the home. Ernie makes all the major decisions and controls the money. This couple has a _____ marriage.
- bipartisan
 - modern
 - traditional
 - peer
9. Which of the following is an example of heterosexist thinking in research on love relationships?
- Interviewing husbands but not wives for a study of perceptions of marriage
 - Interviewing women for a study and assuming that none are lesbian or bisexual
 - Assuming that all couples who are interviewed for a study are sexually active
 - Assuming that all people who are interviewed for a study are in a relationship
10. Most batterers are men who were raised in families where
- violence was common and their mothers were abused
 - violence was common but their mothers were not abused
 - violence was common but their mothers were respected except during a violent episode
 - there was some violence and their mothers were not respected



11. Which of the following is true about the women's movement throughout the world?
- France was the first country in the world to allow women to vote.
 - All of the countries in which women have been the heads of state are in Europe.
 - Women throughout Africa share a similar set of concerns about their life situations, regardless of their specific nation.
 - Women in developing nations are likely to have a different set of concerns from women living in developed nations.
12. When the youngest child leaves home, his or her mother is most likely to
- experience less marital satisfaction than when her children lived at home
 - become depressed and stay depressed
 - feel the same as before her children left home
 - feel as happy or happier than when her children lived at home

Essay Question:

13. Define and compare liberal feminism, cultural feminism, radical feminism, and women-of-color feminism.

Your essay answers should be *at least* 2 paragraphs long and will be graded on the following basis:

Criteria	Points
Your response must demonstrate accurate factual knowledge of the concepts.	5 points
You must support your answer with considerable depth and detail which may include examples/evidence/discussion.	5 points



ANSWERS TO SAMPLE QUESTIONS

Multiple-Choice Questions:

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|--------|--------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 5. (a) | 9. (b) |
| 2. (d) | 6. (c) | 10. (a) |
| 3. (a) | 7. (b) | 11. (d) |
| 4. (c) | 8. (c) | 12. (d) |

Essay Question:

13. When discussing feminism, there is not just one way to view it. There are different theoretical perspectives.

Liberal feminism concerns itself with the goal of gender equality. Women and men should have the same opportunities and rights and the way to achieve this is by passing laws that guarantee equal rights. Liberal feminism de-emphasizes biological differences and believes that when opportunities are equal, gender differences will be small.

Cultural feminism emphasizes qualities considered more characteristic of women, such as nurturing and caretaking. Gender differences are real but seen as strengths, not weaknesses. Cultural feminism believes that we should actively foster peace, caring, and cooperation. Gender differences of women are valued, unlike the emphasis of liberal feminism on gender similarities.

Radical feminism believes that sexism is so ingrained in society that it cannot be eliminated by changing laws. Society will have to change its basic beliefs about women and dramatically change its structures so that sexism does not permeate how we think. Radical feminists advocate redesigning society in basic ways.

Women-of-color feminism believes that we must give considerable attention to questions of race, ethnicity and social class and not overemphasize gender. We cannot simply make the changes suggested by the other feminist perspectives. We must understand the unique life circumstances of each woman so we can see her life from her own perspective. Only then can we respond in a sensitive and responsible way.

