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**GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (COURSE OF LECTURES, SEMINARS AND
TEST TASKS FOR STUDENTS'INDEPENDENT WORK)**

The course of lectures on the subject of general psychology covers a number of basic topics: historical development of the science; psychology methods; psychic processes; individual psychological features of the personality; the concepts of social groups. The manual is intended for students of the higher educational institutions.

The term psychology comes from two Greek words: «psyche» – shows and «logos» – apprentice, science, word. Psychology as a science was born in the depths of philosophy and its roots in antiquity; it is older than two millennia. Mental process as well as a reflex includes external stimulus effects and engine response thereto. At the same mentality as a function of the relevant parts of the brain is to control the response that provides adaptation of the organism to the changing conditions of life. Thus, psychology is the science that studies the mind as a property of the brain which reflects the objective reality and performs the functions of regulation of behavior. Thus, psychology is the science that studies the mind as a property of the brain which reflects the objective reality and performs the functions of regulation of behavior.

Psychic phenomena is a response of the brain to external situation (environment) and internal effects (reactions of the organism), it controls the activities of all the organs and tissues that currently act (feeling and perception), or were once (memory), or activate and inhibit the activity (feelings and will), or find a difference in people's behavior (temperament, character).

Psychology at the present stage of development is a complex and extensive system of scientific disciplines among which there are more than 40 independent branches of psychology. General psychology explores the basic laws of mental activity of an adult normal person.

The content of the general psychology are the principles of science, its methods and system concepts. Psychology studies the psychological patterns of human development. The task of psychology is studying peculiarities of the human psyche of

different ages, finding out patterns of transition from one age to another, discovering sensitive (most favorable) period of forming different personality traits.

Educational psychology investigates the psychological foundations of education and training and is directly related to psychology. Research in the field of educational psychology makes it possible to determine the content of training and education, to find out different requirements for textbooks justifying the best practices that ensure the management of schoolchildren's mental activity and behavior contribute to their mental development.

Psychology studies the laws of mental life in order to properly understand the person and thus influence it skillfully. Therefore, the value of psychology is great in all kinds of practical activities where people come together in complex relationships, affect each other.

While studying the students will get acquainted with such significant phenomena in psychology as psychological features, mental reflection, mental development, forms of animal behavior, principles, structure and objectives of psychology, methods of psychology, main directions of foreign psychology, personality, social groups, communication psychology, feelings and some others.