

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

Lecture 1 Introduction

Visiting Assistant Professor YEE-SAN TEOH
Department of Psychology
National Taiwan University

1

Unless noted, the course materials are
licensed under Creative Commons

[Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 T
aiwan](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/taiwan/)

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

Course Code: Psy1007

Time: *Thursdays, 9.10-12.10am*

Place: 北館 206

Professor: *Dr. Yee-San Teoh* (趙儀珊)

Office location: 北館 307

Office hours: *After class. (ysteoh@ntu.edu.tw)*

YOUR PROFESSOR....

Education

- ❖ Ph.D in Developmental Psychology, University of Cambridge, U.K.
- ❖ MPhil in Social and Developmental Psychology, University of Cambridge, U.K.
- ❖ BSc (First Class) in Psychology, University of Durham, U.K.

Previous position

- Adjunct Asst. Professor and Postdoctoral Fellow, City University of New York, Brooklyn College.

Research Interests

1. Children's autobiographical memory
2. Children's eyewitness testimony
3. Investigative interviewing of children
4. Child abuse, domestic violence, custody disputes

Selected Publications

1. Teoh, Y.S. & Lamb, M.E. (2010). Preparing children for investigative interviews: Rapport-building, instruction, and evaluation. *Applied Developmental Science*, 14(3), 154-163.
2. Teoh, Y.S. & Lamb, M.E. (2011). Interviewer Demeanor in Forensic Interviews of Children. *Psychology, Crime, and Law*.

PSY1007 SYLLABUS

Required text (on which Powerpoints are based):

Gleitman, Gross, & Reisberg. (2010). *Psychology* (8th Ed). W.W. Norton, New York.

- Language of instruction: English & Chinese
- Attendance: Departmental requirement.
- Please be punctual and courteous (you can expect the same from your professor!).
- Plagiarism will not be tolerated.
- Open Q&A.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

- Background
- Degree and future
- Learning styles
- Expectations for this course
- Specific skills you want to improve

****Q&A****

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- Explore the mental processes, social feats, and behavioral accomplishments of which the human mind is capable.
- Overview of fundamental psychological concepts and the research methodology used to study these concepts.

- Analytical and critical thinking
- Research & policy
- Discussions, presentations, brainstorming sessions.
- Essay writing
- Dissemination of research articles

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Aware of the major psychological approaches to the study of behavior.
- Aware of the major aspects of behavior investigated by psychologists.
- Familiar with the theories and contributions of major figures in the field.
- Familiar with major research findings and theories in the field.
- Conversant in the unique language of psychology.
- Familiar with the methodology of psychology and its limitations.
- Able to locate, read, and evaluate psychological resources.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Able to gain self understanding and a greater understanding of others.
- Able to apply psychological findings to everyday life.
- Appreciate the necessity of a multi-level explanation of behavior.

ASSIGNMENTS & EXAMS

Grading:

- 3 Assignments (60%)
- Mid-semester Exam (20%)
- Final Exam (20%)

Assignments:

- 2 Individual Assignments : Research article critique, Series of 3 in-class reports.
- 1 Group Assignment: Research project.

Exams:

- Multiple choice Qs & short essays (not cumulative)

ASSIGNMENT 1

Research
Article
Critique
(15%)

- Review and critique the research article provided.
- Comment on the research question or topic, methods used and the findings of the study .
- Essay should be 2-3 pages long.

ASSIGNMENT 2

3 In-Class
Reports
(15%)

- In 3 classes, you will be asked to write a report of what you learned in class.
- You will be informed in advance when you will have to write a report.
- Report should be about 1 page long.

ASSIGNMENT 3

Group Research Project (30%)

- Select any topic in this course and propose a research question.
- Instructor approval required.
- Design a research project.
- Background reading, plan methodology.
- Time allocated for discussions.
- Pilot study expected.
- Presentation will be graded.

COURSE SCHEDULE

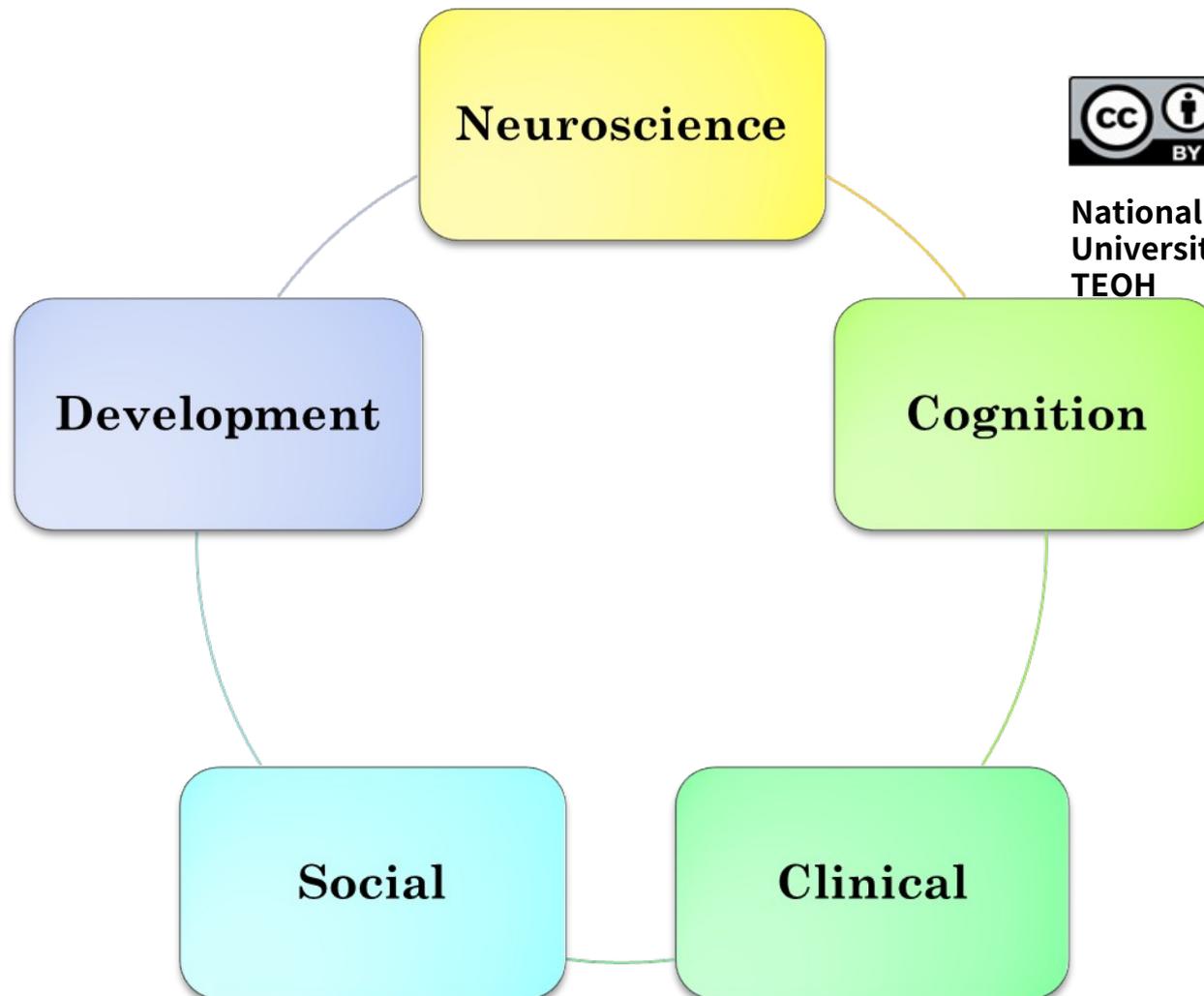
Week	Topic
1	Course Introduction: Introduction to Psychology
2	Research Methods in Psychology
3	The Genetic and Evolutionary Roots of Behavior
4	The Brain and the Nervous System
5	Sensation and Perception <i>Assignment 1 Due</i>
6	Consciousness, Learning
7	Memory, Thinking
8	Group Task: Design a Study Review for Mid-Term
9	MID-SEMESTER EXAM

Week	Topic
10	Language, Intelligence <i>Assignment 2a</i>
11	Motivation and Emotion
12	Social Psychology <i>Assignment 2b</i>
13	Development <i>Assignment 2c</i>
14	Personality
15	Psychopathology
16	Treatment of Mental Disorders
17	Review for Final Exam <i>Assignment 3 Due</i>
18	FINAL EXAM

HOW TO SEARCH FOR A RESEARCH ARTICLE

- Go to NTU Psychology webpage
- <http://140.112.62.7/>
- Click on PSYCInfo
- Enter search terms

FIVE MAJOR AREAS OF PSYCHOLOGY



National Taiwan University, YEE-SAN TEOH

Brain function and activity

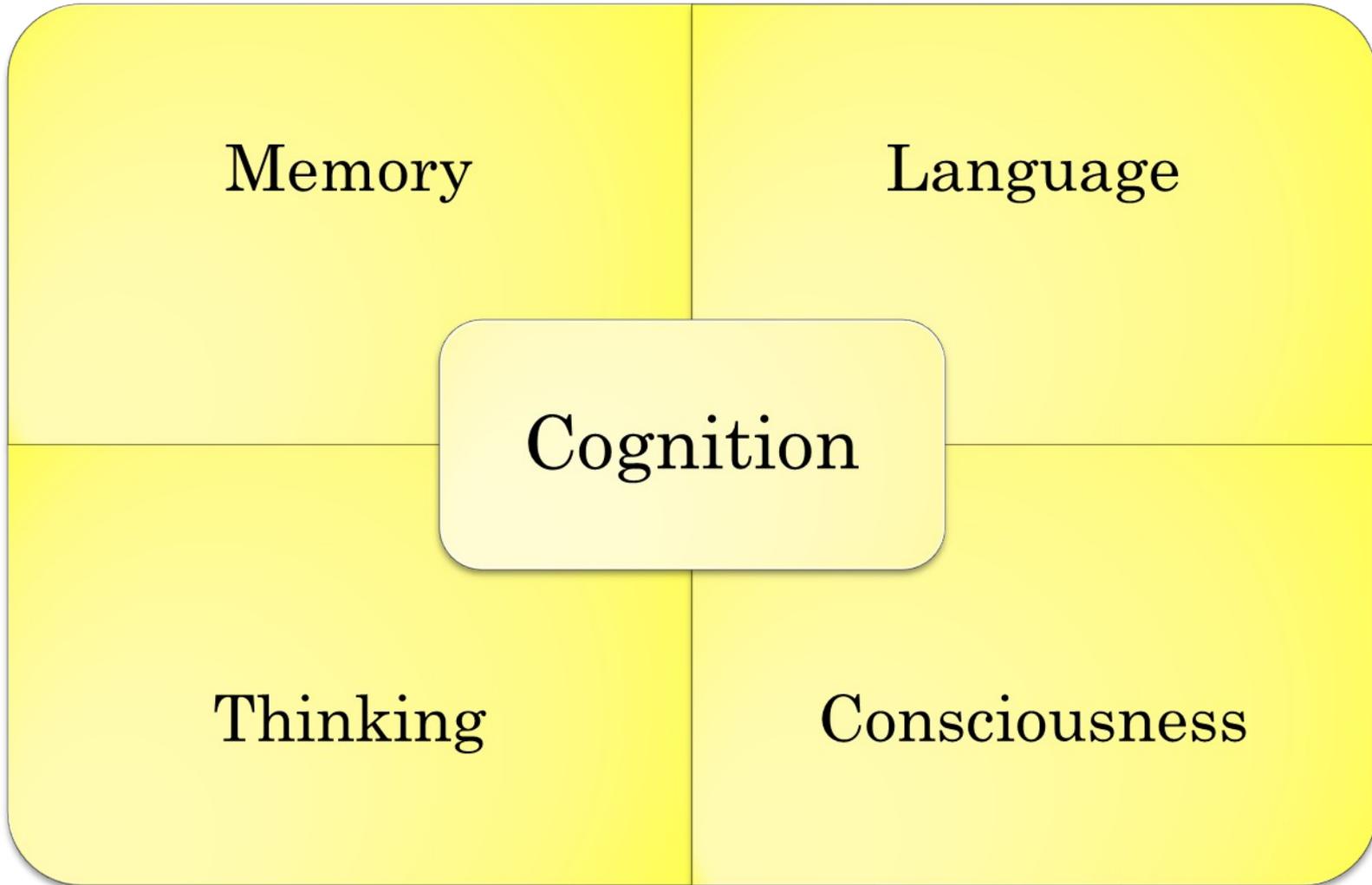
Brain scans or imaging

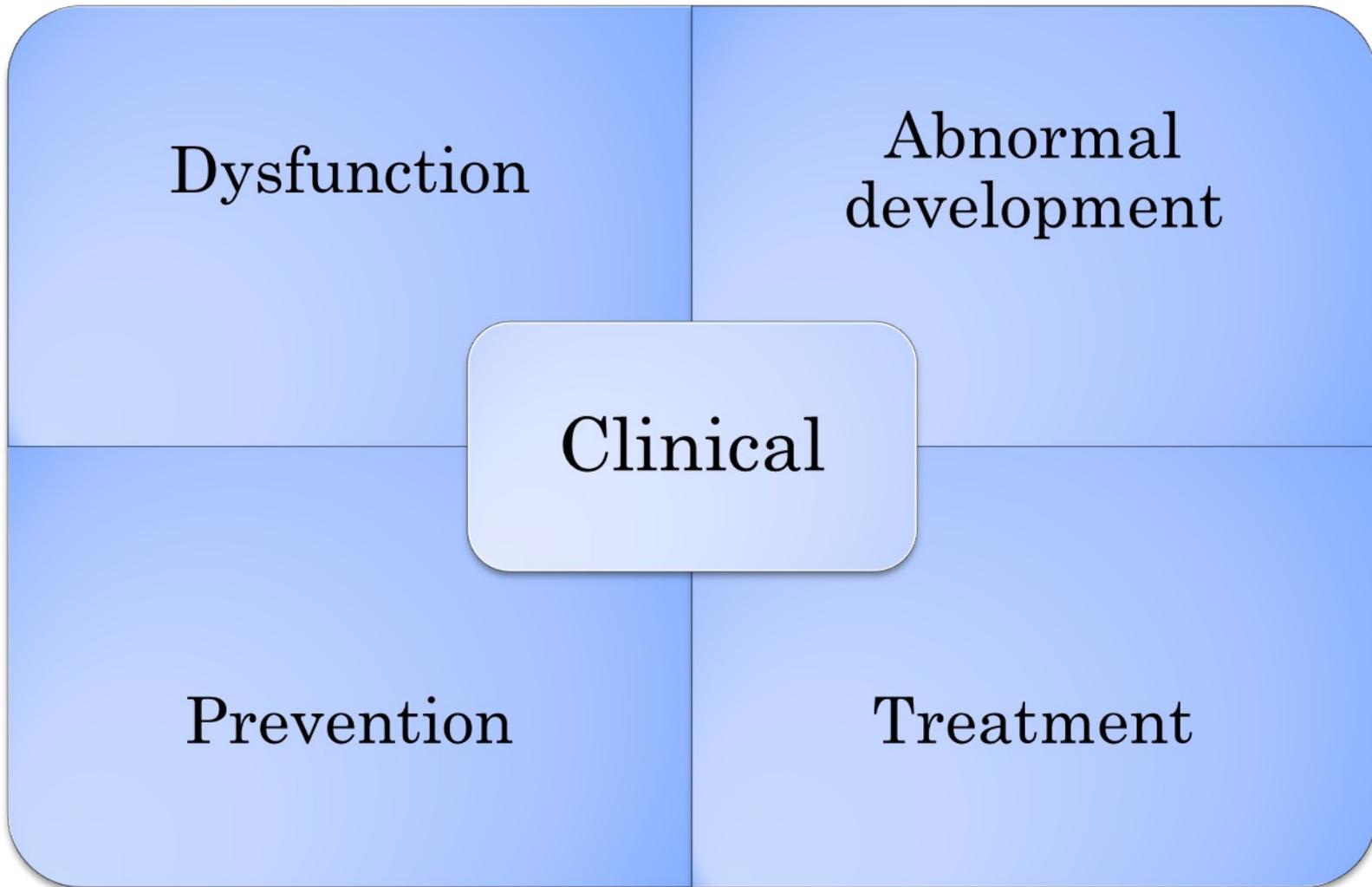
Neuroscience

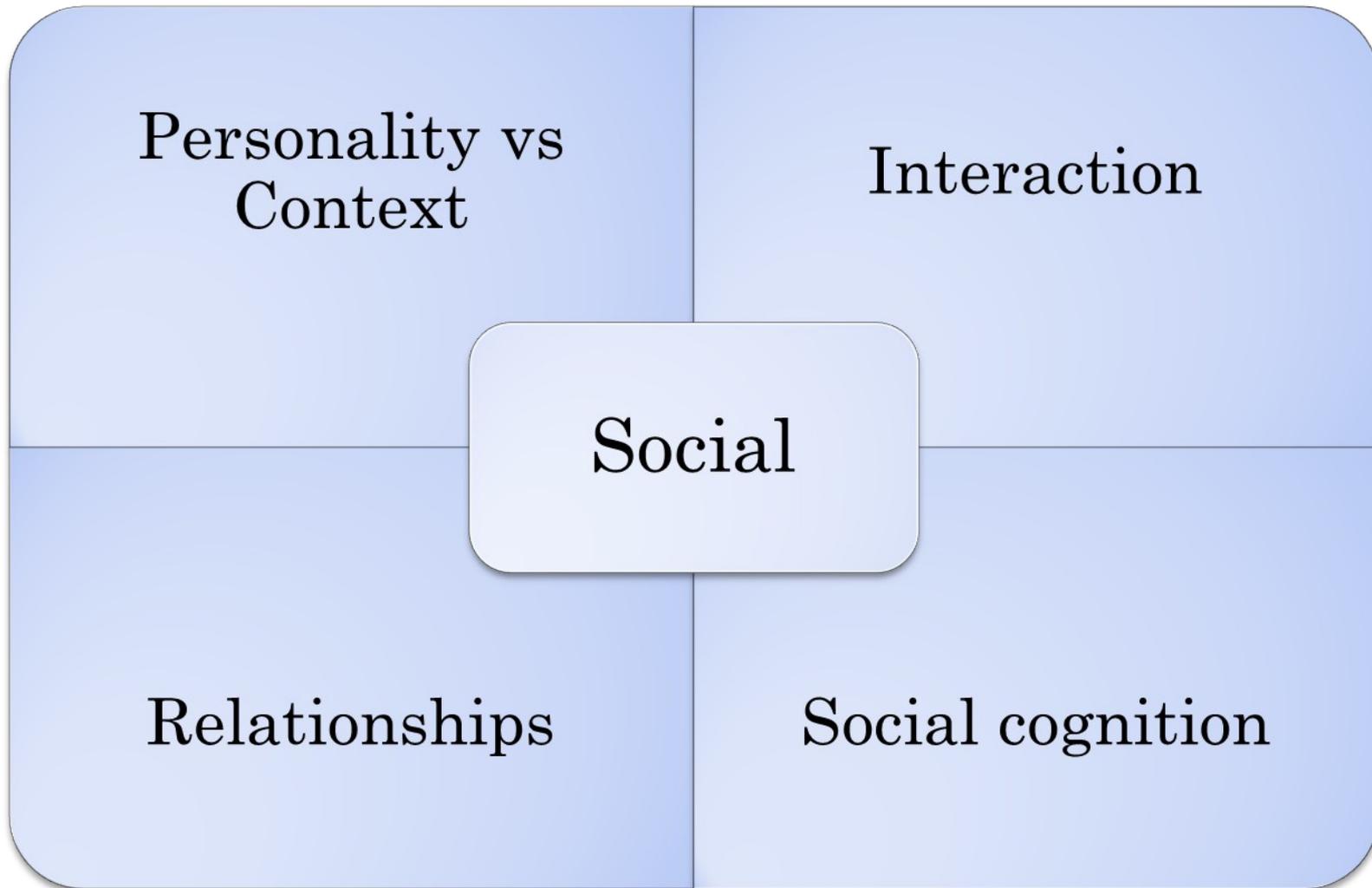
In-depth neural activity

Damage & Repair









Across the lifespan

Infancy-Childhood-
Adolescence

Development

Adulthood

Aging



THINKING ABOUT THE 5 MAJOR AREAS IN PSYCHOLOGY....

An example of psychological research

24

Are online social networking sites
affecting or changing our brains?
How?

NUMBER OF FACEBOOK FRIENDS AND DIFFERENCES IN BRAIN STRUCTURE

- Conducted by researchers at the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience at University College London.
- Brain scans on 165 volunteers were carried out.
- Volunteers also answered questions about how many Facebook and “real-world” friends they had.

QUESTIONS ASKED...

- How many were present at your 18th or 21st birthday party?
- If you were going to have a party now, how many people would you invite?
- What is the total number of friends in your phonebook?
- Write down the names of the people to whom you would send a text message marking a celebratory event (e.g. Birthday, Christmas, new job, good exam result, etc.). How many people is that?
- Write down the names of people in your phonebook you would meet for a chat in a small group (one to three people). How many people is that?

QUESTIONS ASKED...

- How many friends have you kept from school and university whom you could have a friendly conversation with now?
- How many friends do you have on 'Facebook'?
- How many friends do you have from outside school or university?
- Write down the names of the people of whom you feel you could ask a favour and expect to have it granted. How many people is that?

NUMBER OF FACEBOOK FRIENDS AND DIFFERENCES IN BRAIN STRUCTURE

- Found that Facebook users with the greatest number of friends on FB had more grey matter in brain regions linked to social skills.

Question is...

Does social networking change brain structure?

or

Are people born with these kinds of brains more likely to have many FB friends?

REFERENCE

Kanai, R., Bahrami, B., Roylance, R., & Rees, G. (2011) Online Social Network Size is Reflected in Human Structure. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, published online, 19 October 2011.

THINKING ABOUT PSYCHOLOGY....

A case study

32

Should child criminal offenders be treated as adults?

US CHILD APPEALS AGAINST BEING TRIED FOR MURDER AS AN ADULT

Ed Pilkington in New York, guardian.co.uk, Tuesday
25 January 2011 19.00 GMT

Jordan Brown was 11 when he allegedly shot and killed his father's pregnant fiancée.

His lawyers attempted to persuade an appeals court not to try him as an adult under America's harsh system of juvenile justice.

US CHILD APPEALS AGAINST BEING TRIED FOR MURDER AS AN ADULT

Ed Pilkington in New York, guardian.co.uk, Tuesday
25 January 2011 19.00 GMT

Brown is accused of having killed Kenzie Houk, in February 2009 at her home in the countryside about 35 miles north-west of Pittsburgh.

According to the prosecution, Brown shot her through the back of the head as she slept in her bedroom.

He is then alleged to have got on the school bus and gone to his elementary school as usual.

US CHILD APPEALS AGAINST BEING TRIED FOR MURDER AS AN ADULT

Ed Pilkington in New York, guardian.co.uk, Tuesday
25 January 2011 19.00 GMT

Brown allegedly carried out the killing using his own hunting rifle, a shotgun designed specifically for children.

The prosecution alleges that the killing was premeditated and they found residue from the gun on Brown's shoulder.

THINKING ABOUT PSYCHOLOGY....

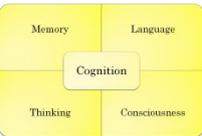
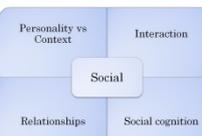
Media Discussion

37

IN-CLASS GROUP DISCUSSION

- Think about how the picture raises questions or issues about the following areas of psychology:
 1. Neuroscience
 2. Development
 3. Cognition
 4. Social
 5. Clinical

Copyrights

Page	Work	License	Author/Source
18			National Taiwan University YEE-SAN TEOH
19			National Taiwan University YEE-SAN TEOH
20			National Taiwan University YEE-SAN TEOH
21			National Taiwan University YEE-SAN TEOH
22			National Taiwan University YEE-SAN TEOH
23			National Taiwan University YEE-SAN TEOH