

# MICHIGAN TEST FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION (MTTC)

## TEST OBJECTIVES FIELD 015: BEHAVIORAL STUDIES

Subarea	Approximate Percentage of Questions on Test
Foundations of Behavioral Studies	16%
Psychology	33%
Social Psychology	27%
Sociology	24%

### FOUNDATIONS OF BEHAVIORAL STUDIES

#### **Understand research techniques used in the behavioral sciences.**

Includes types, characteristics, and applications of research techniques used in the behavioral sciences; experimental principles and procedures appropriate for various situations; and techniques for studying individual and group behaviors.

#### **Understand characteristics, objectives, and issues in behavioral studies.**

Includes the functions, goals, ethical guidelines, and standards used in contemporary behavioral studies.

#### **Apply procedures for locating and gathering social science information.**

Includes note-taking skills and the identification and use of appropriate reference materials.

#### **Apply procedures for translating, synthesizing, and organizing social science information.**

Includes the interpretation of information in written and graphic form; the synthesis of information from two or more sources; and the categorization and sequencing of data.

#### **Apply critical thinking skills in social science.**

Includes drawing conclusions; evaluating sources of information; identifying assumptions; and assessing the validity of stated conclusions.

#### **Apply problem-solving and research skills.**

Includes topics and thesis statements appropriate for social science research tasks; steps in problem solving; research methods or models for solving problems; and long-range and short-range goal-setting strategies in research.

**TEST OBJECTIVES**  
**FIELD 015: BEHAVIORAL STUDIES**

**PSYCHOLOGY**

**Identify historical aspects of psychology and its major schools of thought.**

Includes major individuals, events, ideas, and trends in the history of psychology; and the proponents, characteristics, significance, and limitations of the major schools of psychological thought.

**Understand human development from birth through childhood.**

Includes the characteristics, changes, and needs associated with biological, cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and moral development; and the development of self-concept from birth through childhood.

**Understand human development in adolescence and adulthood.**

Includes the characteristics, changes, and needs associated with biological, cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, and moral development; and the development of self-concept in adolescence and adulthood.

**Understand the effects of heredity and environment on human development.**

Includes inherited and acquired characteristics; techniques used to study the effects of heredity; the relationship between environment and human development; and the interaction between heredity and environment in influencing human traits and development.

**Identify physiological elements related to behavior.**

Includes the major components and functions of the nervous system, the brain, and the major glands; and the states of consciousness.

**Understand factors and processes of sensation and perception.**

Includes major components, functions, and processes associated with sensation; factors that influence the degree of attention given and maintained with respect to various stimuli; the effects of experience on sensory perception; and the differences between sensation and perception.

**Understand learning factors and processes.**

Includes major concepts related to learning; principles of classical and operant conditioning; and concepts and processes related to types of learning that do not depend on conditioning.

**TEST OBJECTIVES**  
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**Understand factors and processes related to thinking, creativity, and intelligence.**

Includes terms associated with thinking, creativity, and intelligence; factors and processes associated with thought, information processing, and concept formation; conditions that promote creativity; and characteristics associated with creativity, giftedness, and handicapping conditions affecting the intellect.

**Understand the effects of emotional state and motivation on behavior.**

Includes terms and concepts related to emotion and motivation; theories of emotion and motivation and their characteristics; physiological and behavioral changes that accompany various emotional states; and phenomena that are motivated by a combination of biological and learned elements.

**Understand explanatory theories of personality development.**

Includes major concepts, processes, strengths, and limitations of psychodynamic, social learning, behavioral, and humanistic theories of personality.

**Understand behavioral/emotional disorders.**

Includes major categories, characteristics, causes, and effects of behavioral/emotional disorders; and the problems related to their definition, diagnosis, and categorization.

**Understand techniques and issues in psychological measurement.**

Includes terms and concepts associated with testing; characteristics and functions of major types of psychological tests; examples of common personality and IQ tests; and issues and controversies related to psychological testing.

**SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY**

**Understand socialization processes.**

Includes agents and processes of socialization; types, characteristics and goals of socialization at various stages of the life cycle; the influence of group membership, social norms, and group dynamics on individual socialization; and the relationship between socialization and gender roles.

**Understand the formation of individual values, beliefs, and attitudes.**

Includes the formation of values, norms, beliefs, and attitudes; and their relationship to social, cultural, and economic factors.

**TEST OBJECTIVES**  
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**Understand prejudice and propaganda.**

Includes attitudes, concepts, and causal factors related to prejudice; factors and processes in attitude formation and change; relationships between personality and prejudice; and techniques and factors that determine the effectiveness of propaganda.

**Understand group structures and functions.**

Includes characteristics, structures, and functions of various types of groups.

**Understand the formation and acquisition of roles in various kinds of societies.**

Includes factors that determine roles; role types; and the consequences of multiple roles on the individual.

**Understand the determination and implications of social status in various kinds of societies.**

Includes types and characteristics of status; factors that determine an individual's status; and the effects of various status designations on the individual.

**Understand group processes related to norms, persuasion, and conformity.**

Includes factors that affect individual conformity to group norms; and the implications of cognitive dissonance theory in relation to individual attitudes and behaviors.

**Understand major forms of social interaction and communication.**

Includes examples of altruism, aggression, cooperation, and competition; and factors that influence socially competitive and aggressive behaviors, cooperative and altruistic behaviors, and social communication.

**Understand theories and consequences of deviance and methods of social control.**

Includes theories of deviance; individual and social consequences of deviance; and agents and methods of social control.

**SOCIOLOGY**

**Identify sociological terms, concepts, and theories.**

Includes characteristics of the sociological perspective; sociological terms and concepts; and major sociological theories and theorists.

**TEST OBJECTIVES**  
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**Understand kinship, marriage, and the family.**

Includes types, characteristics, roles, and functions related to various kinship, marriage, and family systems.

**Understand types of social institutions.**

Includes the structure, function, and role of political, economic, educational, and religious institutions; and the interrelationship of these institutions.

**Analyze social stratification based upon biological characteristics in contemporary society.**

Includes factors, effects, and significance of social stratification based upon race, ethnicity, gender, and age.

**Analyze socioeconomic stratification and class in contemporary society.**

Includes forms of inequality and their bases, characteristics, effects, and significance; and factors contributing to class distinctions.

**Understand variation and change in societies.**

Includes sources and explanations of cultural variation; factors that promote or inhibit cultural variation; and sources, processes, and mechanisms of social integration, continuity, conflict, and change in societies.

**Understand contemporary population and ecological issues in the United States.**

Includes trends, processes, and characteristics of population growth; ecological problems and their relationship to demographic trends; and urban trends and problems.

**Analyze poverty and the social welfare system in the United States.**

Includes contributing factors and effects of urban and rural poverty; and the major characteristics, goals, programs, benefits, and limitations of the U.S. social welfare system.

**Understand crime and the criminal justice system in the United States.**

Includes types and characteristics of crime and their trends; factors that promote crime; and components, characteristics, goals, and current issues in criminal justice.