

**Master1**

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**Psycho-pedagogy**

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**Semester 1**

## **Lectuer1 : Introduction to Educational Psychology**

### **1. Psychology**

The tem psychology originated from the Greek terms :

- Psyche which means soul, mind and spirit
- Logos which means study

If we combine the two terms, we get the word psychology which can be defined as the scientific study of mind and behaviour.

- 2. Educational Psychology** is a branch of psychology that studies how people learn and how teaching methods, learning environments and individual differences affect learning.
- It also defined by O'Donell and Levin (2001) as “the development and application of psychological principles to education, as well as the adoption of psychological perspectives.”

It is concerned with how people learn best and under which conditions.

As there is no single way or approach that suits every learner in class, there has been a search for a method generalizable to all audiences.

Student learning and development depends on many factors such as: materials, facilities, class size, teacher and motivation. Given the afore-mentioned factors, students, parents and educators still put huge responsibility on the teachers' shoulders.

### **3. Aims of Educational Psychology**

It aims at providing teachers with:

- Research evidence and research skills about the different factors that might affect student perception, understanding and performance or level of achievement.
- Research knowledge that can be effectively applied to teaching situations
- Research skills that enhance teachers' understanding of the factors that influence student learning (Glesne, 2016)

### **4. Areas of Interest of Educational Psychology**

- Learning processes: how memory, motivation, and thinking influence learning?
- Development: how students' minds and behaviours change through age?
- Individual differences: how abilities, personality and background affect learning?
- Teaching methods: what teaching practices work best?

- Assessment: how to measure learning, intelligence, and progress

## **5. Main Theories:**

Behaviourism: B.F. Skinner; learning as a response to stimuli and reinforcement.

Cognitivism: Piaget: learning is internal mental processes involving memory, and thinking

Constructivism: Vygotsky learners build knowledge through experience and social interaction

## **6. Applications**

- Designing effective lessons
- Facilitating learning to students with learning difficulties
- Motivating students
- Ensuring classroom management
- Designing fair and reliable assessment tools
- Raising learners' awareness to their learning own learning styles and strategies
- Differentiation .