



Queen Margaret University
EDINBURGH

SCHOOL OF ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND MANAGEMENT

DIVISION OF PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIOLOGY

LEVEL 4 DIET 1

MODULE CODE: X4040

MODULE TITLE: Evolutionary Psychology

<u>DATE 14/12/15</u>	<u>TIME: 2.00PM</u>
<u>WRITING TIME: 2 Hours</u>	<u>READING TIME: 5 minutes</u>

INSTRUCTIONS: Candidates must answer ONE question from Section A and ONE question from Section B. Use a separate answer booklet for each question.

PAPER SETTER: Stuart Wilson

Answer **ONE** question from **each section**.

Section A: General and Conceptual Issues

1. Critically assess the contribution that evolutionary psychologists have made to the debate over whether the mind contains innate structure & contents
2. In what ways could it be said that an evolutionary perspective has changed (or has the potential to change) mainstream psychology? Provide a critical analysis that pays attention to historical, conceptual and empirical issues.
3. What are the primary criticisms of the “Standard Social Science Model” and why were evolutionary psychologists so keen to adopt an alternative position?

Section B: Topics in Evolutionary Psychology

4. Critically discuss some of the evolutionary explanations for the observation that some humans behave aggressively towards other humans.
5. Why is understanding the nature of human cooperation a key concern for evolutionary psychologists? Answer with reference to key theories and empirical work.
6. Why have some evolutionary theorists suggested that the human capacity for “culture” may have an adaptive function?