



Queen Margaret University
EDINBURGH

SCHOOL OF ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND MANAGEMENT

DIVISION OF PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIOLOGY

LEVEL 4 DIET 1

MODULE CODE: X4069

MODULE TITLE: Evolutionary Psychology

DATE: 07/12/2017	TIME: 2.00PM
WRITING TIME: 2 Hours	READING TIME: 5 minutes

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: Dr. Stuart Wilson

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

Section A: General and Conceptual Issues

1. What are the founding principles of evolutionary psychology and in what way do these principles distinguish it from other attempts to apply evolution to the study of human behaviour?
2. What's wrong with evolutionary psychology? Provide a critical account of the area, making sure to include conceptual and historical issues in your answer.
3. Why is modularity of cognition central to the evolutionary psychology agenda? Provide a critical account of the benefits and drawbacks of modular cognitive architectures.

Section B: Topics in Evolutionary Psychology

4. What have we learned about human aggression from applying an evolutionary approach to the issue?
5. Is the capacity for culture a biological adaptation? Discuss with reference to theory and research.
6. According to evolutionary psychologists, what are some of the main factors that influence cooperation and coalition-forming in human groups?
7. How can sex differences in lifetime potential reproductive rate (PRR) explain which sex is choosier with respect to mate choice?
8. Evaluate whether it is possible to test the Trivers-Willard hypothesis. Be sure to include an appraisal of research which has attempted to do so in your response.

End of Exam