



Queen Margaret University
EDINBURGH

SCHOOL OF ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND MANAGEMENT

DIVISION OF PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIOLOGY

LEVEL 4 DIET 1

MODULE CODE: 4069

MODULE TITLE: Evolutionary Psychology

<u>DATE: 12/12/2018</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: Dr. Stuart Wilson

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

Section A: General and Conceptual Issues

1. Where did evolutionary psychology come from? You should answer with reference to historical factors and provide a critical account of how evolutionary psychology emerged from previous attempts to apply evolution to human behaviour.
2. Why is evolutionary psychology controversial? Answer with reference to critiques from within psychology and also from other academic perspectives.
3. What does evolutionary psychology say about the mind that is not covered by other sub-disciplines of psychology? You should support your answer by referencing both theory and research.

Section B: Topics in Evolutionary Psychology

4. Do we need evolution to explain human aggression? Why/why not? Provide a critical commentary on the contributions made by evolutionary approaches to understanding why aggression exists in our species.
5. The first landmark book in evolutionary psychology was called "The Adapted Mind: Evolutionary Psychology and the Generation of Culture" (1992). In your opinion, why did the authors include the word "culture" in the title of this text? What is to be gained from explaining culture in evolutionary terms? Answer with reference to theory and research.
6. Across all cultures humans are seen to form alliances and cooperate to an extent that is rare in other species. What have evolutionary psychologists had to say about this tendency?
7. How do sex hormones affect physical appearance, and how are these differences related to mate choice?
8. What are the benefits of monogamy? Compare and contrast these with other mating systems practiced by humans.