

## The Science of Psychology

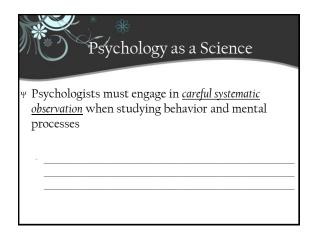
<u>Chapter 2</u> Psychology's Scientific Method



- Ψ Why is Psychology a Science?
- $\Psi$  What is the scientific method?
- Ψ Why should I believe what researchers say?
- Ψ <u>NEXT CLASS</u>:
- ч How do Psychologist's design a study?
  - Types of research



When Psychologists perform research they begin by asking questions through critical thinking...





"We must keep our minds open but not so open that our brain falls out."

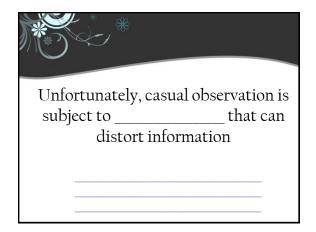
(Oberg, 1995)

THINK



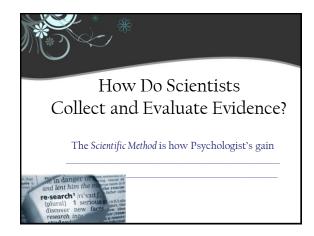
Why can't scientists base their research off of casual, everyday observations?

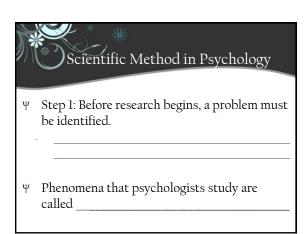
(AKA, People watching)

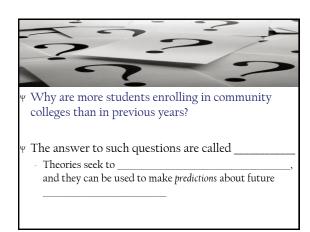




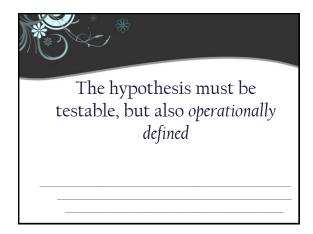








## Make a Prediction! Ψ Step 2: Develop \_\_\_ a specific prediction about how one factor is related to another. Drinking excessive amounts of caffeine before the exam will increase my score...how can we make this testable? What is your Hypothesis? What could help us understand why Jack and Jill fell down the hill? Step 3-Testing through Empirical Research It's time to design the study to test



	Examples of Operational Definitions
Ψ	Aggressive behavior – the number of times a child punches a
Ψ	punching bag over the course of one hour
Ψ	Happiness – the number of times a person smiles while
	watching a Disney movie
Ψ	<u>Intelligence</u> – a score on an IQ test
Ψ	Anxiety – the number of pencils a student brings to an

## Was my prediction correct? Step 4- Drawing Conclusions Presearchers draw conclusions about the results of the study. Upon't forget...this information MUST be replicated to be accepted as valid.

