

# **Chapter 9: The Inheritance of Personality: Behavioral Genetics and Evolutionary Theory**

# Objectives

- ▶ Discuss two biologically based approaches to how personality might be inherited (genetics & evolution)
- ▶ Discuss how these approaches can be combined with each other and with other approaches

# Behavioral Genetics

- ▶ Attempts to explain how personality traits are passed from parent to child and shared by biological relatives
- ▶ Examines how genes influence broad patterns of behavior
- ▶ Controversy from associations with eugenics and cloning
  - Modern research is not concerned with these issues