

Great debates.

Nature vs. Nurture

- Nature: behavior is genetically predetermined.
- Nurture: All behavior is shaped by the environment
- Truth: both are important / influential in behavior

Free Will vs. Determinism

- Free Will - we are consciously capable of choosing our behavior
 - Determinism - behavior is dictated by several unconscious influences from the environment.
- debate still continues today

Psychology

What is psychology

- hard to define
- study of the mind, brain / behavior.
- it spans mult. levels of analysis.

What makes psychology interesting / distinct?

1. behavior is difficult to predict.
2. Almost all behaviors are multiply determined.
3. Psychological influences are fairly independent from each other.
4. individual differences
5. reciprocal determinism
6. Behavior is often culturally influenced