

**School of Psychology
Information Sheet**



**The University of
Nottingham**

UNITED KINGDOM • CHINA • MALAYSIA

Title of Project: Assess critical thinking ability of Psychology MSc students

Study ID: 20

Ethics Approval Number: F1595

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Welcome to our study on critical thinking and how it develops!

Before you decide if you wish to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully.

This study will investigate your understanding of critical thinking as well as some of your critical thinking skills. As we are particularly interested in the development of critical thinking, this study aims to collect data from MSc Psychology (conversion) students across all two years. If you agree to participate in this project, you will be asked to complete **3 tasks**:

1. **A short questionnaire** to tell us about your perceived critical thinking skills.
2. **Judging 20 statements** to indicate your understanding of what critical thinking is and how it develops.
3. **A task of 12 descriptions** of common psychological concepts (e.g., stereotypes, face perception). Each description will be accompanied by an explanation of the phenomenon. You will be asked how well you know the described concept (don't worry if some are unfamiliar), and then to rate how satisfying the explanation is.

In addition, we will ask you some demographic questions (e.g., age, gender, native English speaker status, main subject and year of study). Overall, the study will take approximately **20-30 minutes**.

Participation in this study is totally voluntary and you are under no obligation to take part. It will not be an evaluation of you in any way and will not result in any direct personal intervention to address critical thinking skills. You are free to withdraw at any point before or during the study by aborting the task.

All data collected will be kept confidential and used for research purposes only. Data will be stored in compliance with the Data Protection Act. As an online participant in this research, we are obliged to make you aware that there is always a potential risk of intrusion by outside agents, for example through hacking, and therefore the possibility of being identified.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask. We can also be contacted after your participation at the above email address.

If you have any complaints about the study, please contact:
Stephen Jackson (Chair of Ethics Committee)
stephen.jackson@nottingham.ac.uk