



**Sub Committee for Evolutionary Psychology**  
**Curriculum Development for Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Name of Institute:** Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

**Course Name:** Evolutionary Psychology

**(UG/PG):** UG

**Number of Credits:** 4 (60 hours)

**Level:** 2

**Course Description:**

**Introduction:**

Evolutionary theory provides a powerful framework for understanding the incredible biological diversity we observe in nature. Over the past three decades or so, a growing number of researchers have begun to appreciate that the evolutionary forces that acted on our ancestors, have sculpted the human brain. They have also observed the psychological and behavioural phenomena it produces.

This course provides an introduction to the field of Evolutionary Psychology. Specifically, it covers fundamental aspects of evolutionary theory and its application to understanding human psychology and behaviour through a variety of methods, including experimental, survey, cross-cultural, and comparative research. This course will also cover topics that have been central to the field of Evolutionary Psychology, such as mating, parenting, altruism, and cooperation. In addition, a number of topics will be explored to illustrate unique areas of research that have emerged from the field of Evolutionary Psychology. The impact of Evolutionary Psychology on certain traditional areas of psychology, including the study of development, cognition, mental illness, personality, and culture, will also be considered. The overall aim of this course is to demonstrate the scientific approaches that can be used to discover how evolutionary processes influence human psychology and behaviour.