



Testing times

What did it take to be a War Officer in WWII?

Using materials uncovered in the Tavistock Institute's archive, join us for a series of events to recreate war period psychology recruitment methods.

Test your mettle through a combination of individual and group tests, including word association, thematic apperception, and some moustaches that Henry Wellcome himself would have been jealous of.

War Officer Material, watercolour on Langton paper, 148 x 105 mm by Juliet Scott.



tihar-archive.tavinstute.org

tavinstute.org

wellcomelibrary.org

(Search the Tavistock Institute archive using the reference SA/TIH; for papers specifically relating to war officer selection: SA/TIH/B/2/1/1).

Why were psychological tests used in WWII for selecting war officers? How does going through the testing process make you feel? How has the social sciences grown as a subject in post-war Britain? How is testing used today?

Pop by the Reading Room to explore these questions and more and to experience being a War Officer yourself:

Wednesday 16 November, 15.00-17.00

Thursday 24 November, 19.00-21.00

Friday 2 December, 19.00-21.00

Thursday 15 December, 19.30-21.30

This is a drop in event, but please note places are limited.

A discussion will follow to question, challenge and debate the role of tests in society and our attitudes towards them. The papers relating to the Tavistock's involvement in war officer selection have recently been catalogued and are available for research in the Wellcome Library. For more information, visit the Wellcome Library website and browse the online catalogue (ref: SA/TIH).

These events are curated by the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations in collaboration with the Wellcome Library, as part of an archive project to catalogue the 70 year history of the Tavistock Institute.

#archive2017

Tavistock Institute 2017 is a cultural project which aims to celebrate and re-imagine the work of the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations by making its archival material accessible and engaging newly with it.

The archive provides a comprehensive record of the formation, establishment, and development of the Tavistock Institute, charting the emergence of integrated multi-disciplinary research in the social sciences and organisational design in the twentieth century.

These papers document the working methods and processes of this pioneering group of social scientists, including anthropologists and psychoanalysts. The archive contains lively and reflective traces of their methodological workings and practices in key industrial and organisational projects.

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