**Psychology 4006 – History of Psychology - Fall 2019**

COURSE INFORMATION

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TEXTBOOK

There’s no book, but, there will be readings, oh will there be readings.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is a broad overview of the history of our discipline. We will talk about the philosophical underpinnings of psychology, how it became a science and how the growth of psychology is related to changes in society in general.

EVALUATION

10 % Academic genealogy assignment. Pairs (might be trios, depending on enrolment) will be assigned a current full time faculty member to research. The idea is to find out who each faculty member did their PhD with, and who that person did their PhD with and so on. Go as far back as you can. Then, present it to the class.

10 % Class participation. This is a fourth year class, and a small class. Ask questions, discuss stuff, etc.

15 % Historical Trends assignment.

This assignment is designed to expose you to the ways in which the knowledge and research in psychology has changed, or not changed, over a relatively brief period by examining articles from different time periods from the same source journal. You are to select one volume from the journal *Psychological Bulletin* for each of the following time periods: 1905-1915; 1930-1940; 1960-1970. For each volume selected describe both the structure (types of articles, e.g. essays, experiments, length of articles, etc.) and the content (types of issues/problems addressed, theoretical emphases, areas of focus, e.g. clinical, social, cognitive etc.). Also select one article from each of the three volumes you chose and provide a brief summary and critique focusing on the relevance and importance of the article when it was published and commenting on whether or not you think the article still has some relevance today. That is comment on whether or not you think a current psychology student would obtain some value from reading the article and being exposed to the ideas, theories, and findings within it.

The assignment should be written in APA format and so should include a title page and a reference page, be double spaced and use 12 point font. The assignment should be no longer than six pages in total length. That is no more than four pages of text.

Due October 3, 2019.

Classic Research Paper Presentation 20 %

Pick a classic paper in psychology. Make it old enough that you can look at its impact over time (So, you know before oh, before the first Nirvana album……) These presentations should last about 10 minutes apiece.

Final Presentation (20%) and Paper (25%).

Pick a psychologist, any psychologist! Well, I mean it makes the most sense to pick someone famous, and write a biography of them, of their work, that sort of thing. Or, pick more of a zeitgeist thing (when I took a course like this I did ‘Why Was Behaviourism So Readily Accepted In America?’).

You will give a presentation on your paper in class, that should not last more than 15 minutes. You will also, of course, write a paper on the same topic. The paper should be about 2500 words long. Oh, it should be in APA format and all of that. It is due on the last day of classes.

LECTURE SCHEDULE

Typically I’ll give a lecture for some of the class, then we’ll discuss the paper assigned. Read the paper. Have questions ready. Have answers ready.

Date Topic Reading

September 5 Introduction

10 Philosophical Roots Silverstein & Trombetti

12 Medieval Period Kemp

17 Rationalism and Empiricism

19 19th Century Precursors Robinson

24 Wundt et al Nicolas & Ferrand

October 1 Wundt et al Greenwood

3 (Trends assignment due) James et al Viney

8 Psychoanalysis Pines

10 Behaviourism Clark

22 Gestalt Psychology Kohler

24 The Cognitive Revolution Mandler

29 Classic Paper Presentations

31 Classic Paper Presentations

November 5 Classic Paper Presentations

7 Classic Paper Presentations

12 Academic Genealogy Presentations

14 Academic Genealogy Presentations

19 Final Presentations

21 Final Presentations

26 Final Presentations

28 Final Presentations

December 2 (Final paper due) Final Presentations

Readings:

1. Silverstein, A., & Trombetti, I. (2013). Aristotle’s account of moral development. *Journal of Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology, 33,* 233-252. doi: 10.1037/a0031013
2. Kemp, S. (1998). Medieval theories of mental representations. *History of Psychology, 1,* 275-288.
3. Robinson, D. K. (2010). Fechner’s “Inner Psychophysics”. *History of Psychology, 13,* 424-433. doi: 10.1037/a0021641
4. Nicolas, S., & Ferrand, L. (1999). Wundt’s laboratory at Leipzig in 1891. *History of Psychology, 2,* 194-203.
5. Greenwood, J. D. (2003). Wundt, *Volkerpsychologie,* and experimental social psychology. *History of Psychology, 6,* 70-88. doi: 10.1037//1093- 4510.6.1.70
6. Viney, W. (2001). The radical empiricism of William James and philosophy of history. *History of Psychology, 4,* 211-227. doi: 10.1037//1093.4510.4.3.211
7. Pines, M. (1999). On history and psychoanalysis. Psychoanalytic Psychology, *6,* 121-135.
8. Clark, R. E. (2004). The classical origins of Pavlov’s conditioning. *Integrative Physiological and behavioral Science, 39,* 279-294.
9. Kohler, W. (1959). Gestalt psychology today. *American Psychologist, 14,* 727-734.
10. Mandler, G. (2002). Origins of the cognitive (r)evolution. *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences, 38,* 339-353. doi: 10.1002/jhbs.10066

CELLPHONE/COMPUTER/TABLET POLICY

If you prefer to take notes with your laptop or tablet that is fine. If I find you chatting or checking out youtube videos or doing anything that has nothing to do with the class you will be asked to leave (and it won’t really be a request….).

Your phone MUST be turned off, or set to do not disturb, in class. This is common courtesy. I do NOT want to hear a phone ring. I do NOT want to have to pick up your phone and tell the person on the other end of the call that he or she is a jerk who is interrupting my class. No texting, no talking.

Do NOT wear headphones in class. Don’t do it.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Please consult your course calendar for details, definitions and penalties.

MISSED TESTS/ASSIGNMENTS

Please contact me ASAP so we can set something up. An acceptable excuse (e.g., illness) will likely result in a make up test. Workload is NOT an acceptable excuse (i.e., “But I have three papers due and a test next week.” My response to this is “Welcome to University!”)

As noted in the section on the paper, the paper is due at the start of class on the due date. It is not due later in the day, it is not due 30 min after the class starts, it is not due at midnight via email or slipped under my door. Late papers get 0, this is non negotiable, so do not try.