

Fall 2017  
Psychology 470: 01  
MTh 10:20 – 11:40 pm Tillett 242  
Sept 5 – Dec 13

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Read this syllabus all the way to the end. It contains important information. On the first day of class, please ask questions about anything you do not understand. Your continued enrollment in the course implies your understanding and acceptance of the information in the syllabus.

There are two scheduled online classes which will be delivered by pre-recorded VoiceThread. The lectures will remain available once posted.

The required text book for this course is *Pioneers of Psychology* by Fancher and Rutherford. In addition, there are some required readings. It is available in print and ebook format from Barnes and Noble and a variety of vendors.

You will learn and retain the most information, and benefit from it, if you do assigned readings before coming to class and actively participate in class discussions.

Objectives of the course

1. Students will develop an understanding of the historical and philosophical antecedents and contexts of psychology.
2. Students will be able to describe the development of psychology as a scientific discipline.
3. Students will be able to characterize major relationships between developments in psychology and other disciplines, particularly philosophy, biology, the other social sciences, and mathematics.
4. Students will develop skills in reading and analysis of primary source material.
5. Students may choose to investigate a topic appropriate to the content of the course, find and read primary source material and trace the history of that topic and prepare a paper in APA format summarizing their findings.

**Required readings:** A number of historical works and specific papers will be assigned as course reading associated with particular topics. If these are not available on the PsychClassics website <http://psychclassics.asu.edu/>, these documents will be posted on Sakai in the Resources section, in a clearly labeled folder.

**On-line quizzes:** There will be periodic online quizzes to help you review material. These are NOT part of your grade but will help your grade if you complete them and review them.

**On-line reviews before exams:** Before the midterm and the final exam, review exams will be posted on the Sakai site. The reviews are NOT required, though they will help you prepare for the exams. Scores on these reviews will not affect your grade.

## OPTIONAL TERM PAPER

Q: Why should you consider writing an optional term paper in history of psychology? A#1: It might improve your grade. A#2: You may learn more about a topic that interests you. A#3: It gives you one more thing to speak intelligently about in graduate or professional school interviews. A#4: It gives you practice in one of the skills (writing clearly) most valued by employers of recent college graduates.

So, a 10 page APA format term paper is **OPTIONAL**. Papers will be automatically submitted to Turnitin for evaluation of similarity to published sources. However, even if Turnitin does not flag unattributed material, if I or the TA recognize unattributed material, your paper will be rejected and an academic integrity incident report may be filed.

**Annotated bibliography:** Submit an annotated bibliography by November 13 (see below). You may add references to those summarized in your submitted annotated bibliography. The annotated bibliography counts for up to 10 of the 100 total points for the term paper. If you submit an annotated bibliography, but no paper, you lose the points associated with the annotated bibliography.

If you choose to write a paper, you have alternatives for the focus of your paper. For example:

- 1) You may use primary sources to trace the **historical development** of an idea, important in psychology (e.g., free will, memory, attention, happiness, individual differences, inherited versus experiential contributions to behavior, the nature and role of consciousness) over an extended period (somewhere between 50 and 3,000 years). You should identify and read historical primary sources related to the topic and relate the topic to contemporary psychology.
- 2) You may examine some of the more shameful episodes in the history of psychology or neuroscience (For example, “scientific racism”, organized psychology’s involvement in the eugenics movement; the treatment of Saartjie Baartman, before and after her death; the treatment of Joseph Altman’s and Das’ (1967) and later Michael Kaplan’s findings on neurogenesis in adult brains.)
- 3) You may focus on the history of a public policy issue (e.g. the death penalty for adolescents, DSM classification of homosexuality, same sex marriage, child custody and adoption rights for same sex parents, intelligence testing and special education classification, the efficacy of torture, the ethics of psychologists advising on torture, “gay conversion therapy”) and the role individual psychologists and institutional psychology (e.g. the APA, APS, SIOP, Psychonomic Society, etc.) played in shaping debates and resolution of issues.
- 4) A topic of your choosing, that you discuss with me.

In short, your paper must concern **BOTH** history and psychology and cover a time period of at least 50 years. It must rely mostly on primary sources (original writings) with some reliance on secondary sources (topical or historical reviews) and essentially no reliance on text books or websites (e.g. Wikipedia is invaluable, but is not an appropriate source for an academic paper).

Papers that do not conform to the requirements, poorly researched papers, papers with improper/inadequate citations or with plagiarized passages may receive **0** points. For example, a paper about employment testing would not meet the requirements **UNLESS** it traced the history of development of employment testing, understanding, and controversies surrounding employment testing, over at least the required 50 year period.... and did this using primary sources (original papers, court decisions, contemporary journalistic accounts). Text books are not acceptable sources for research papers. A formal statement of your paper topic and an annotated bibliography are due on **Monday, November 13**. A useful guide to developing an annotated bibliography in APA style can be found at <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/03/>. **If you have not turned in an annotated bibliography by the deadline, you may not turn in a paper.**

Poorly written papers will lose points for the mechanics of writing. Papers that do not conform to APA style will lose points (up to 5)

Papers must be submitted electronically (through Sakai, which will upload the paper to Turnitin.com).

The final version of the paper is due before midnight **on MONDAY, December 4**. Turnitin.com will stop accepting papers at midnight the following day. A 1-point penalty may be charged for every hour that a paper is late. Papers may be submitted at any time prior to the deadline. Turning your paper in early gives you time to correct any improper citations that Turnitin may identify. The following URL contains an extensive explanation of the University's academic integrity policy.

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml>

**Exams:** There will be **two mid-term exams** and a **final**. The first two exams will consist of multiple choice questions. The final exam will be cumulative and may include essay questions (or may not).

**Learning and remembering the material covered in this course:** Preview the readings before you begin any serious reading. Admittedly, for the historical works, this will be more difficult than previewing a text book. Take notes, in longhand! Recent research indicates that students who take notes on laptops are doing verbatim transcription (of lectures too), which tends to be automatic, less thoughtful, and leads to lower retention of material.

You will learn and retain much more if you attend class regularly and read all assigned material before class. You are also much more likely to be able to earn a few extra points for class participation.

**Extra credit opportunities:** There may be opportunities to participate in research for a limited amount of extra credit. These sometimes, but not always, arise.

**Behavior in the classroom:** As adults, students are expected to behave in a manner that is conducive to learning in a classroom environment. However, should a student's behavior be perceived by the instructor to be disruptive to fellow students in the class, the instructor will ask the student to leave the classroom, and if this recurs, then the disruptive student may be judged unable to successfully complete the course with a passing grade.

**Participation and attendance:** I expect you to attend most classes and to participate in class discussions.

The previously posted schedule is subject to minor changes. The schedule of chapter and topic coverage may slip or accelerate, but the exam dates will not change.

**Grading:** Grades will be based on a point system with 400 points (if you submit a paper) OR 300 points (if you do not submit a paper).

### Grading standards

A 90% of points

B 80% of points

C 65% of points

D 50% of points

F < 50% points

If you need a certain average graduate, to get into graduate or professional school, or just to keep your parents happy, attend ALL CLASSES, study actively, do all of the reading, write the paper

if needed, turn your paper in on time, and review frequently **starting at the beginning of the term.**

**Exam conflicts:** If an exam is scheduled on a religious holy day that you observe, let me know in advance and we will schedule a make-up. If you have three or more exams (mid-terms or finals) within a 24 hour period, with documentation, we will schedule a make-up.

**Missed exams:** If you miss an exam, in general, you get a zero. Don't miss exams. **BE ON TIME FOR EXAMS.** In the case of extraordinary circumstances (hospitalization, death in the family) you will have to produce documentation; with acceptable documentation, we can make arrangements for a makeup. Makeup exams will be of the same approximate difficulty as those administered to the class, but may be a different format and contain different questions.

**Special arrangements:** If you are entitled to extended testing time or other testing accommodations, provide me with the documentation from the Office of Disability Services, and I will work with them to arrange alternate administration of your exams. **DO THIS ASAP** or you will not have an accommodation for the initial exam.