

Syllabus for History of Psychology

Fall 2014

Psychology 470: 02

MW 5:00 – 6:20 pm LSH A142

September 3 – Dec 10

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Office: **227 Tillett Hall**, Livingston Campus

Office hours: Wednesday mornings 10 am – 11 am, AND Thursday afternoons, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm (Walk-in hours); AND AT OTHER TIMES by appointment

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. A term paper is required, and is due December 4.

Two books are required: *A history of Psychology; ideas and context* by King, Viney, & Woody, Fifth Edition (earlier editions are acceptable) and *Even the Rat Was White: A Historical View of Psychology* Second Edition, by Guthrie. King, Viney and Woody is available as an ebook on coursesmart.com. The site coursesmart.com generally offers a considerable savings over the cost of a physical book. A copy of the fourth edition of King, Viney & Woody will be on reserve in the Kilmer Library.

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 and a professional practice.
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 will investigate a topic of personal interest, find and read primary source material and trace the history of that topic. Students will prepare a paper in APA format summarizing their findings.

Required readings: A number of historical works (e.g. chapters from works of Aristotle) 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 even 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.

TERM PAPER

A 10 page APA format term paper is REQUIRED. *“Required” means that if you do not turn in a paper, you are very unlikely to receive a passing grade in the course.*

You have alternatives for the focus of your paper:

- 1) You may use primary sources to trace the **historical development** of an idea, important in psychology (e.g., free will, individual differences, group differences) over an extended period (somewhere between 50 and 3,000 years). You should identify and read selected primary sources and secondary sources related to the topic and relate the topic to a broader context within psychology.
- 2) You may focus on the work and career of a retired or deceased former member of the Rutgers University Psychology Department, tracing their professional history, including graduate education and research, tying your findings to broader themes in the history of psychology. The following site will be helpful: <http://psych.rutgers.edu/history-of-psychology>. The Rutgers library will be essential.
- 3) You may focus on the history of a public policy issue and the role psychologists and psychology played in shaping debates and resolution of issues (e.g. school segregation, the effects of child-care, capital punishment for crimes committed by children, adolescents or intellectually impaired individuals, reliability of eye witness testimony, interrogation techniques)
- 4) Some other topic that you discuss with me for approval.

Papers that do not conform to the requirements, poorly researched papers, papers with improper/inadequate citations or with plagiarized passages will receive **0** points. For example, a paper about free will would not meet the requirements UNLESS it traced the history of description, understanding, and controversies surrounding free will, over at least the required 50 year period.... and did this using primary sources (original papers) as well as secondary sources

(typically books, but also some papers). Text books are not acceptable sources for research papers.

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 Thursday, December 4**. Turnitin.com will stop accepting papers at 8 am Friday morning. A 5-point penalty will 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>

In-class quizzes: As some classes begin, there will be an essay quiz regarding previously discussed material. Your lowest essay quiz score will be dropped.

Exams: There will be a **mid-term exam** and a cumulative final. The mid-term exam will consist of essay questions. The final exam will be multiple choice.

Learning and remembering the material covered in this course: Preview the texts before you begin any serious reading. 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 or at least preview the chapters before we discuss the material in class.

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.

The schedule below is subject to change. It may be helpful to print the next page for easy reference.

Week	Dates	470:02 LSH A142 5 pm – 6 pm, Mondays and Wednesdays
1	M Sept 1 W Sept 3	NO CLASS LABOR DAY Introduction to the study of History of Psychology: methods, historiography, enduring questions
2	M Sept 8 W Sept 10	Ancient philosophies; pre-Socratic philosophy The philosophy of Classical Antiquity: Socrates, Plato, Aristotle and contemporaries
3	M Sept 15 W Sept 17	The Roman period and the Middle Ages
4	M Sept 22 W Sept 24	The Renaissance Class does not meet: podcast lecture
5	M Sept 29 W Oct 1	Empiricism and Associationism The emergence of scientific racism
6	M Oct 6 W Oct 8	Rationalism Class does not meet: podcast lecture: Mechanism and quantification
7	M Oct 13 W Oct 15	Mechanism and quantification Class does not meet: podcast lecture: Naturalism and Humanitarianism
8	M Oct 20 W Oct 22	Psychophysics and the founding of psychology Exam 1: Chapters 1 – 10 KWG, ETRWW, readings
9	M Oct 27 W Oct 29	Around and after the founding: biology and other psychologies James and American functionalism
10	M Nov 3 W Nov 5	Behaviorism: Russian objectivists, Pavlov, Watson, McDougall Other behavioral psychologies; the start of the cognitive revolution
11	M Nov 10 W Nov 12	Gestalt psychology Psychodynamic theories
12	M Nov 17 W Nov 19	Humanistic psychology Neuroscience
13	M Nov 24 W Nov 26-NO CLASS	Personality and social psychology: Allport, Murray
14	M Dec 1 W Dec 3 Th Dec 4	Clinical psychology Contemporary psychology Papers due before midnight
15	M Dec 8 W Dec 10	Contemporary psychology Review before final; LAST DAY OF CLASSES
16	Tuesday Dec 16, 8 am	Final Exam: Cumulative but with emphasis on Chapters 11 - 15

Grading: Grades will be based on a point system with 400 possible points, as follows

	Each Worth Maximum of:	Total
2 Exams	100 points each	200 points
Term Paper	100 points	100 points
In-class quizzes	Average score	100 points

Grading standards

- A 360 points
- B 320 points
- C 260 points
- D 220 points
- F < 220 points

Cut-offs for “+” grades are determined at my discretion, but will be uniformly applied. These are generally the midpoints between the cutoffs for full letter grades.

If you need a certain average to stay in school, to keep financial aid, to get into graduate or professional school, or just to keep your parents happy, attend ALL CLASSES, study actively, take the quizzes, turn your paper in on time, and review frequently **starting at the beginning of the term.**

Missed quizzes and exams: If you miss a quiz or an exam, in general, you get a zero. Don’t miss exams. Missing one quiz will have less impact, as your lowest quiz score is dropped. 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 and quizzes 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 quizzes, midterm, and final exam.