

PSYCHOLOGY 332

HISTORY OF PSYCHOLOGY

FALL 2008

INSTRUCTOR:

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OFFICE HOURS:

Before and after class

TEXTBOOK:

Thorne, B. M., & Henley, T. B. (2005).
Connections in the History and Systems of Psychology (3rd Ed). New York: Houghton Mifflin.

COURSE DETAILS:

Class: Tuesday night 6:00 – 8:50 PM
Credit: Three (3) hours

COURSE PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS:

History of Psychology is a course designed to introduce students to the historical antecedents of modern thinking in psychology, and how the past influences the present. It is also hoped that each of you will take away a greater appreciation for your own “philosophy of psychology” or that you will find an area of greater interest in which to specialize. And perhaps most importantly of all, I hope you work on your ability to think critically, to be skeptical, and to improve your problem-solving abilities.

COURSE FORMAT:

This course will be taught as a lecture and discussion course. Your participation is encouraged, and indeed, I will stir the pot whenever possible. However, you will not be graded on your participation as I do not believe a grade should be based on one’s personality – some people are introverts, and should not be penalized for that.

COURSE EVALUATION:

There will be three exams, all of which will be multiple choice, unless I decide to add some short answer/fill in the blanks. The number of questions will be determined by the material; expect a minimum of 50 questions per test, but most will have more. Each question will be worth one point, but short answers will be worth multiple points – I will put the points each question would be worth with the question so you will know. Your grade will be determined by the total points accumulated. The person with the highest total points will represent 100% for an “A”, and all other totals within 90% of this total will also be an “A”; from 80 – 89% will be a “B”; 70 – 79% will be a “C”; 60 – 69% will be a “D”; and let’s not contemplate below 60%! Bonus points, if you earn them through attendance, will be added in after the parameters for the grades are determined. In other words, if you have five extra credit points and you are only three points from an “A” after the test grades have been added up, you will receive an “A”. I do not convert scores to the classic 100 points as I only work off total points. For example, after three tests, if you have 150 points because you got all the questions right and all the tests were 50 point tests, (obviously) you would get an “A”. If someone else in the class has 150 points and you have 145 points, you also get an “A”. If you have 133 points, and have earned the five bonus points for attendance (see below), you will get a boost up to an “A”.

Make-ups are a pain; I don’t know of a single professor who likes to give them. This semester I am instituting a new policy. The make-up exams will all be given during the last class of the semester before the final (December 10th). And that includes both of the previous tests on the same night if you don’t make either one, as has happened in the past. The type of test it will be is still under consideration, but I can guarantee it won’t be the same test given on the first test night. I don’t need an excuse for why you missed, as I’m quite sure I’ve heard them all, but if you have a particularly funny, original, or clever one, by all means share it with me.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance will be taken during each class, and I will follow university policy of allowing you two absences without penalty. However, my attendance policy also comes with a reward. Should you not miss more than one lecture class, I will give you five points of extra credit toward your final grade, as mentioned above. This is based on the assumption you will have learned at least that much simply by being in class and listening to and participating in scintillating discussions and lectures that will be over information that will not wind up on your tests.

I expect adult behavior in class. This includes respecting your fellow students' desire to learn – they also paid inflated tuition prices and spent too much for textbooks. Keep side-talking to a minimum; no food products; if you must leave, do so quietly and return quietly. Cell phones off or turned to vibrate. If one of your neighbors appears distracted or upset about your talking or behavior, either police yourself or expect a comment from me.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

The faculty and administration of Sam Houston expect that students will conduct their studies with honesty and integrity. Failure to do so may result in failing the course and dismissal from the University. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: cheating on a test, plagiarism, collusion – the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit, the abuse of resource materials, and misrepresentation of credentials or accomplishments as a member of the college.

The University's policy on academic honesty and appeal procedures can be found in the manual entitled Student Guidelines, distributed by Division of Student Services (reference section 5.3). Or see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>.

Note: You are cheating if I think you are cheating. Don't make me think you are cheating.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State that no individuals otherwise qualified shall, solely by reason of their disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic program or activity. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage to you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk to me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center. For more detailed information see: http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:

University policy provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

COURSE OUTLINE (TENTATIVE):

- Unit 1: Chap 1. Introduction
Chap 17. Applied Psychology
Chap 16. Mind and Brain: Clinical Psychology meets Neuroscience
Chap 15. Psychoanalysis
- Test 1: Sept 24th
- Unit 2: Chap 13. Neobehaviorism; Chap 12. Animal Psychology and Early Behaviorism
Chap 11. Functionalism; Chap 10. Early American Psychology
Chap 9. Darwin's Influence; Chap 8. Origins of Modern Psychology In Germany
- Test 2: Nov 5th
- Unit 3: Chap 7. Physiological Influences on the Development of Psychology
Chap 6. Continental Philosophies: Rationalism, Romanticism, And Existentialism.
Chap 5. Empiricism, Associationism, Positivism, and Common-sense Psychology
Chap 4. The Renaissance and Early Modern Philosophers; Chap 3. The Roman Period and the Middle Ages
Chap 2. Precursors to Psychology in Ancient Greece.
- Test 3: Dec 17th