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PSYC 4030-E01 History and Philosophy of Psychology  
Spring 2020 / Online

**General Information**

Professor: John L. Roberts, Ph.D.

Office: Melson 203

Email: Please use the email interface on Course Den on all course-related matters; however, if the request is urgent you may email me also at: jroberts@westga.edu

**Course description**

An intensive exploration of the major themes in psychology in historical and contemporary contexts.

**Learning Outcomes**

Demonstrate understanding of the historical development of psychology as a scientific discipline; exhibit knowledge of the different theoretical approaches to psychological life, and related methods and techniques, within socio-historical contexts.

**Required Texts:**

*A History of Modern Psychology in Context*, Wade E. Pickren & Alexandra Rutherford, Wiley, 2010

Other readings as supplied by instructor on Course Den

**Course Requirements:**

Engagement: Because the course is offered online, it is up to you to make the most of the materials: PowerPoint lectures, readings, videos, etc.

Examinations: There will be *four (4) regular examinations*, to cover each section of term, and *one (1) comprehensive exam*, totaling five (5) equally weighted exams. Exams will cover the reading assignments, lectures, videos, and discussion. Exams will likely be comprised of essay/long answer. Exams may be turned in late for a penalty of 10% (of total points for that exam). No work may be turned in after the final deadline for late work.

Extra Credit: *Up to 50 extra points* available for regular, consistent, engaged participation that is sustained throughout the course on the Discussion Board on Course Den relating to issues that are substantive (i.e., meaningfully contribute to ongoing discussion) for course content (i.e., not administrative or procedural). To participate, students may engage in ongoing discussion or start their own threads.

**Course Evaluation**

Grading follows the academic catalog, with the following breakdown for emphasis:

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Exams (5): 200 pts each  
Total: 1000 pts  
Extra Credit: Up to 50 pts (see above)

Final Grades:

A: 900-1000 pts  
B: 800-899 pts  
C: 700-799 pts  
D: 600-699 pts  
F: 0-599 pts

### Course Expectations

**Preparation and Discussion:** This is an upper-level course. Please prepare by doing all the assigned work, taking time to reflect on what you have read or viewed. The discussion board will be open on Course Den for discussion of administrative details of assignments, due dates, etc. as well as the content of the course to further understanding. Content related discussion forums may close after that module has concluded. Participation in these forums is purely discretionary on your part but could give you valuable extra credit, and makes the course much more interesting.

**Academic Honesty:** Students are responsible for upholding the honor code as set forth in the University's Student Handbook.

**Disability:** If you have a registered disability that will require accommodation from me, please contact me at the beginning of the semester.

**Open Door & Grades:** I have an "open door" policy and encourage students to communicate their understanding of course content, as well as discuss direction of their academic interests, education/career, or other concerns they may have. Please do not ask for your grade at any point during the term. You are responsible for keeping track of your grades and estimating your performance.

Students should carefully review information here:

[http://www.westga.edu/assets/Dept/vpaa/Common\\_Language\\_for\\_Course\\_Syllabi.pdf](http://www.westga.edu/assets/Dept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf)

It contains important material pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester.

### Course Announcements, Assignments, & Readings

Announcements concerning the course – including changes in readings, policies, instructions for papers, exam times/content, etc. – will occur via Course Den.

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### Online Delivery & Pacing

Though this course is offered online, efforts will be made to mirror live delivery of material. Consequently, you will need to devote your efforts to each section's readings as they are available. Exams will be made available after the beginning of each section. Online instruction requires a much higher degree of discipline, self-reflection, and self-study because there will not be opportunity for live discussion and dialogue. Please submit written work in a Word document (preferred) or PDF. Students are responsible for the successful uploading/submission of work to Course Den.

### Online Technical Support

For technical support for the online interface, please contact:

678-839-6248 or 1-855-933-UWGO (8946) or [online@westga.edu](mailto:online@westga.edu)

You may access live chat support directly from your Course Den course webpage.

### Tentative Course Schedule & Assignments

#### Section 1 (Jan4 – Jan 31): Psychology as a Science of Mind

##### Origins of a Science of Mind

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: The Lost Art of Automatons

Video: Ceaseless Motion – William Harvey's experiments in circulation

Video: Descartes (The School of Life)

Video: Phrenology and Localization

Video: Steven Pinker on Human Evolution

Video: Steven Pinker on Human Nature

Reading: Chapter 1, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: John Cartwright, from *Evolutionary Explanations of Human Behavior*

##### Everyday Life & Psychological Practices

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: John Locke (The School of Life)

Video: Charles Taylor – The Self in Historical Context (Pt 1)

Video: Charles Taylor – The Self in Historical Context (Pt 2)

Video: Charles Taylor – The Self in Historical Context (Pt 3)

Reading: Chapter 2, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: Charles Taylor, "Locke's Punctual Self," from *Sources of the Self: The Making of the Modern Identity*

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### Subject Matter, Methods and the Making of New Science

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Beginner's Guide to Kant's Metaphysics and Epistemology

Video: William James (Philosophize This!)

Video: Thorndike's Puzzle Boxes

Video: Baby Albert Experiments

Reading: Chapter 3, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: John Watson, "Psychology as the Behaviorist Views It" (York Classics in the History of Psychology)

Reading: William James, "The Stream of Consciousness" (York Classics in the History of Psychology)

Exam 1 Available on January 26 and Due on February 1 at 11:59pm EDT

### Section 2 (Feb 1– Feb 28): Psychology and its Uses

#### Creating an American Psychology

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Taylor & Scientific Management

Video: Ford and Taylor in the 1920s, Pt. 1

Video: Ford and Taylor in the 1920s, Pt. 2

Video: William James & Psychical Research

Reading: Chapter 4, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: Hugo Münsterberg, from *Psychology and Industrial Efficiency*, Chapter 4, "Vocation and Fitness" (York Classics in the History of Psychology)

#### Psychiatry & Psychoanalysis at the Interface with Psychology

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Freud (School of Life)

Video: Freud on Sublimation (School of Life)

Video: Century of the Self, Pt. 1 ("Happiness Machines")

Reading: Chapter 5, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: *Freud & Beyond*, Preface and Chapter 1

#### Psychologists as Testers

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Controversy of Intelligence (Crash Course)

Video: Brains vs. Bias (Crash Course)

Reading: Chapter 6, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: Lewis Terman, "The Uses of Intelligence" (York Classics in the History of Psychology)

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Exam 2 Available on February 24 and Due on March 1 at 11:59pm EDT

### Section 3 (Mar 1 – Mar 31): Psychology Between and After War

#### American Psychology Between the Wars

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Logical Positivism (Philosophize This!)

Video: Rorschach Inkblot Test (Ted)

Video: BBC History of Racism, Pt. 2 (esp. 26:30–End, on scientific racism)

Reading: Chapter 7, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: Edward Tolman, “A New Formula for Behaviorism’ (York Classics in the History of Psychology)

Reading: Robert Guthrie, from “Even the Rat was White,” Chapter 2

#### Psychology in Europe Between the Wars

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Perception (Crash Course)

Video: Interaction Design and Gestalt Principles

Video: Vygotsky (Khan)

Video: Shell Shock in WWI (The History Room)

Reading: Chapter 8, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: Christopher Green, Introduction to Koffka (York Classics in the History of Psychology)

Reading: Wolfgang Köhler, “Gestalt Psychology Today” (York Classics in the History of Psychology)

#### The Golden Age of American Psychology

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Reinforcement Theory

Video: Operant Conditioning

Video: Carl Rogers on Empathy

Video: Thomas Szasz – Does Mental Illness Exist?

Video: R. D. Laing

Video: Maimie and Kenneth Clark

Reading: Chapter 9, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: Kenneth Clark & Mamie Clark, “The Development of Consciousness of Self and the Emergence of Racial Identification in Negro Preschool Children” (York Classics in the History of Psychology)

Reading: B. F. Skinner, “Superstition in the Pigeon” (York Classics in the History of Psychology)

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Exam 3 Available on March 26 and Due on April 1 at 11:59pm EDT

Section 4 (Apr 1 – Apr 30): Psychology in the Mid-Twentieth Century and After

Internationalization and Indigenization of Psychology after World War II

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Introduction to Frantz Fanon (Macat)

Video: Paulo Freire Documentary

Video: African Psychology for the Confused (Kopano Ratele)

Reading: Chapter 10, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: Frantz Fanon, from *Black Skins, White Masks*

Reading: Ignacio Martín-Baró, "Towards a Liberation Psychology"

Feminism and American Psychology

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Carol Gilligan, On Women and Moral Development

Video: Ruth Howard (University of Akron)

Video: Rhoda Unger (Pt. 1)

Video: Rhoda Unger (Pt. 2)

Reading: Chapter 11, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: Carol Gilligan, from *In a Different Voice* (Chapter 2)

Reading: Rhoda Unger, "Toward a Redefinition of Sex and Gender"

Inclusiveness, Identity, and Conflict

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Joseph White, Father of Black Psychology, An Interview

Video: Thomas Parham and Joseph White Interview

Video: Tuskegee Syphilis Study

Video: APA and Torture

Reading: Chapter 12, Pickren & Rutherford

Reading: Robert Williams, "A 40-year History of Black Psychologists"

Reading: David Elkins, "The APA and the Hoffman Report"

Brain, Behavior, and Cognition Since 1945

PowerPoint

Mini-Lecture(s)

Video: Growth of Knowledge (Piaget) (Crash Course)

Video: Noam Chomsky on the Emergence of Language

Video: Noam Chomsky on Language and Thought

Video: Steven Pinker on Human Nature and the Blank Slate

Reading: Raymond Fancher and Alexandra Rutherford, "Minds, Machines, & Cognitive Psychology" (Chapter 14), from *Pioneers of Psychology*

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Exam 4 Available on April 20 and Due on April 26 at 11:59pm EDT

Exam 5 (comprehensive) Available April 20 and Due on May 4 at 11:59pm EDT

**All Late Work - Late Exams with Penalty - Due on May 6 at 11:59pm EDT. No work accepted after this deadline.**

*Syllabus is subject to change at any time, like people.*