

PSYC 465-003 HISTORY & SYSTEMS IN PSYCHOLOGY
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
SPRING 2008, TR 3:00 – 4:15 PM
ROBINSON A247

Instructor Dr. Christopher Monk **Office:** David King 2059, (703) 993-3408
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Office hours Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-2:55pm (right before class) or by appointment.

Course Objectives

This course will introduce you to the philosophical foundations and major theoretical systems in modern psychology. Emphasis will be on the development of psychology as a science. Although the format will be primarily lecture-based, in-class discussion is encouraged.

Textbook (required)

Thorne, B. M. & Henley, T. B. (2005). *Connections in the History and Systems of Psychology*, 3rd Edition, Houghton Mifflin: Boston, MA.

Examinations and Grading

Exams: There will be four (4) non-cumulative exams, including the final, based on readings and lectures. Your lowest score from Exams 1-3 will *not* count towards your grade. Exam 4 is mandatory. Each exam will count 25% towards your grade (75% total for exams). The exams will consist of multiple-choice, short answer questions, and brief essays.

Term Paper: Paper dealing with the History of Psychology on a pre-approved topic of your choice. Guidelines and grading for this paper will be discussed in class. The term paper will count for 25% of your course grade. Five percent (5%) will be docked for each day late.

Grades: A (100-90); B (89-80); C (79-70); D (69-60); F (below 59). Please note that the actual grading standard will be based on class performance on each exam and the term paper. **I reserve the right to adjust grades favorably for students who participate in class.**

Extra Credit and Make-Up Exams

Extra credit may be obtained by participating in experiments sponsored by the Psychology Department. Each hour of extra credit will raise your final grade by 0.5%. Students may receive up to 3 additional percent (3%) in their final grade (6 hours max). However, participation in experiments is not a course requirement, and non-participation will not reduce the final grade.

Because the lowest exam score will be dropped, no make-up exams will be given. If more than one exam is missed, please consult with me.

Honor Code

All exams must follow the guidelines of the GMU Honor Code. Students may consult with other students and use books, notes, and other sources in preparing for exams. However, when taking exams, no books, notes, or student interaction will be allowed.

Attendance

Class attendance is essential, as the lectures will frequently present information not found in the textbook, and the material for the exams will be drawn from both lectures and readings. The lecture slides will be made available before each lecture via the web. However, please note that having access to the lecture slides is NOT a substitute for attending class AND taking notes. Relying only on the lecture slides will not be sufficient for you to score well on the exams.

Special Help

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me during the first week of class and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Access to Computers

Students must have access to their GMU Email account. Students should feel free to communicate with me via email. Updates and notifications will be sent to the class email list using your GMU email address. If you need to use university facilities, you can find out about location and hours of university facilities at <http://www.labs.gmu.edu/> or ask at the information desk at the Johnson Center.

I will ONLY use your GMU Email address to contact you. Please use and check this address frequently. You may forward your GMU Email to another address if you like, but please ensure that you are receiving the email to your GMU Email address.

Important Dates

First Day of Class	Jan. 22
Last Day to Add	Feb. 5
Exam 1	Feb. 14
Last Day to Drop	Feb. 22
Elective Withdrawal Period	Feb. 23 – Mar. 21
Exam 2	Mar. 6
Spring Break	Mar. 10 – 16
Exam 3	Apr. 8
Exam 4	May 13 – Finals week: Tues. 1:30pm – 4:15pm
Paper Deadline(s)	To be announced in class

Course Outline

Any schedule changes or changes in assignments will be announced in class in advance. After an absence, students are responsible for contacting the instructor to obtain accurate information. Please note that all dates are subject to change to accommodate the actual pace of the class.

Wk	Date	Topic	Ch.
1	1/22	Introduction and Syllabus	
	1/24	Introduction and Philosophical Foundations	1
2	1/29	Precursors in Ancient Greece	2
	1/31	Roman Period and Middle Ages	3
3	2/5	Roman Period and Middle Ages	3
	2/7	The Renaissance	4
4	2/12	Empiricism, Associationism, Positivism, Common-Sense	5
	2/14	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5)	
5	2/19	Rationalism, Romanticism, and Existentialism	6
	2/21	Physiological Influences	7
6	2/26	Origins of Psychology in Germany	8
	2/28	Origins of Psychology in Germany	8
7	3/4	Darwin's Influence	9
	3/6	Exam 2 (Chapters 6-9)	
8	3/11	**** SPRING BREAK ****	
	3/13		
9	3/18	Early American Psychology	10
	3/20	Functionalism	11
10	3/25	Functionalism	11
	3/27	Animal Psychology and Early Behaviorism	12
11	4/1	NeoBehaviorism	13
	4/3	NeoBehaviorism	13
12	4/8	Exam 3 (Chapters 10-13)	
	4/10	Gestalt	14
13	4/15	Gestalt	14
	4/17	Psychoanalysis	15
14	4/22	Psychoanalysis	15
	4/24	Mind and Brain: Clinical meets Brain Science	16
15	4/29	Applied Psychology	17
	5/1	The Cognitive Revolution	18
	5/13	Exam 4 (Chapters 15-Epilogue) 1:30pm – 4:15pm	