

**PSYC 465-003 HISTORY & SYSTEMS IN PSYCHOLOGY**  
**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**  
**FALL 2009, TR 1:30 – 2:45 PM**  
**ROBINSON B208**

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**Instructor**      Dr. Christopher Monk                              **Office:** David King 2059, (703) 993-3408  
[cmonk@gmu.edu](mailto:cmonk@gmu.edu)

**Web Site**            <http://archlab.gmu.edu/people/cmonk/465-003.html>

**Office hours**        Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00 – 4:00pm (right after class) or by appointment.

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**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.

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**Textbook (required)**

King, D. B., Viney, W., & Woody, W. D. (2008). *A History of Psychology: Ideas and Context*, 4th Edition, Allyn and Bacon: Boston, MA.

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**Examinations and Grading**

*Exams:* There will be four (4) non-cumulative exams, including the final, based on readings and lectures. Your lowest exam score will *not* count towards your grade. 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 for the paper and grading 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.**

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**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.

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## 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.

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## 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 for 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## Important Dates

First Day of Classes	Aug. 31
Labor Day (No classes)	Sept. 7
Last Day to Add	Sept. 15
Exam 1	Sept. 24
Last Day to Drop	Oct. 2
Selective Withdrawal Period	Oct. 5 – Oct. 30
Columbus Day	Oct. 12 – Monday classes meet Tuesday Oct. 13
Exam 2	Oct. 22
Exam 3	Nov. 13
Term Paper Due	Nov. 20 (must turn in hardcopy at <i>beginning</i> of class—no exceptions)
Thanksgiving Break	Nov. 25 – 29
Exam 4	Dec. 17 – Finals week: Tue. 1:30pm – 4:15pm

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## 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	Chapter
1	9/1	Introduction	1
	9/3	Philosophical Foundations	2
2	9/8	Ancient Philosophy	3
	9/10	Roman Period	4
3	9/15	Middle Ages	4
	9/17	The Renaissance	5
4	9/22	The Renaissance	5
	9/24	<b>Exam 1 (Chapters 1-5)</b>	<b>1-5</b>
5	9/29	Empiricism	6
	10/1	Rationalism	7
6	10/6	Mechanization and Quantification	8
	10/8	Naturalism	9
7	10/13	<b>Columbus Day change **No Class**</b>	–
	10/15	Humanitarian Reform	9
8	10/20	<b>**No Class**</b>	–
	10/22	<b>Exam 2 (Chapters 6-9)</b>	<b>6-9</b>
9	10/27	Psychophysics & Founding of Psychology	10
	10/29	Developments after the Founding	11
10	11/3	Functionalism	12
	11/5	Functionalism	12
11	11/10	Behaviorism	13
	11/12	<b>Exam 3 (Chapters 10-13)</b>	<b>10-13</b>
12	11/17	Other Behaviorisms	14
	11/19	Other Behaviorisms	14
13	11/24	Gestalt	15
	11/26	<b>Thanksgiving Break **No Class**</b>	–
14	12/1	Psychoanalysis	16
	12/3	Psychoanalysis	16
15	12/8	Humanistic Psychologies	17
	12/10	Contemporary Psychology	18
	12/17	<b>Exam 4 (Chapters 14-18) 10:30am – 1:15pm</b>	<b>14-18</b>