

Fall 2006

Psychology 230

History, Theories, and Systems

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Class meets on Monday and Wednesday 2B (7:30-8:35am) in Hurd 232

Overview:

Historical origins of contemporary psychology, including structuralism, associationism, functionalism, behaviorism., Gestalt, and psychoanalysis, as well as recent developments in the field. *Prerequisite:* Psychology 120.

Required texts:

Leahey, T. H. (2004). *A history of psychology: Main currents in psychological thought*. New York: Wiley.

Macmillan, M. (2002). *An odd kind of fame: Stories of Phineas Gage*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Freud, S. (1989). *On dreams*. New York: Norton.

Skinner, B. F. (1976). *Walden Two*. New York: Macmillan.

Course Requirements

1. *Class participation and attendance.* This seminar requires constant attendance, active participation, and critical discussion of the readings. I expect that you will attend each and every class, and that you will come prepared to talk about—and question—what you read. Class participation is worth 20% of your final course grade.

Please note that I **will** be taking role, thus your absence from class will affect your participation grade (i.e., if you are not in class, you cannot contribute to discussion). If you miss a class, you are responsible for any material covered, notes given, announcements, etc. If you are absent, please see one of your classmates regarding that day's assignments.

2. *Short papers.* Four short papers (3-5 pages) are required across the semester. These papers are meant to organize your thinking about a topic as well as to spur class discussion.

Late Paper Policy. You have four written assignments for this class. Hard copies of all paper assignments are due at the beginning of class or in advance of the dates listed in the syllabus. Papers submitted later than this time—**for any reason**—will be penalized by 20% (i.e., a paper that would have earned a 95 on time receives a 75) on the first day and 10% each day thereafter (including weekends), up to 50%. Practically speaking, an A paper that is 5 days late receives a grade of 50 once it is turned in—if it is never submitted, then it receives a grade of 0. I will not accept electronic copies of papers sent via email, only hard copies. Plan accordingly by working ahead and consistently on your papers.

Submitting work early. I am happy to accept your papers before they are due.

3. *Exams.* Two exams, a midterm and a final exam, will be given. The exams will be comprised of essay questions requiring you to make use of course materials and discussions. Each exam will be worth 20% of your final course grade (i.e., 40% overall). We will discuss the exam formats during class. *A missed exam will be recorded as a Zero (0) grade. Make-up exams will be given at my discretion, and valid evidence for the absence will be required (e.g., emergency, documented medical excuse).*
4. *Grading.* Your final course grade will be based on the following percentage weights:

Class participation and attendance	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Short papers (10% each)	40%
Final Exam	20%

5. *Plagiarism.* Plagiarism is the intentional use of another person’s work, misrepresenting that work as your own. All outside sources (i.e., any and all ideas that are not your own) must be properly cited—these include quotations from books, articles, etc. Having someone write a paper for you, relying on the course files from a fraternity or a sorority, or purchasing papers from a “professional” writing service are **not** acceptable methods for satisfying course requirements. The Psychology Department requires that students keep notes, note cards, rough drafts, etc. for papers until a course grade is given. A course instructor may request the above materials at any time. Plagiarism will be dealt with in accordance with the new college policy on academic honesty. **In short, plagiarism will not be tolerated.**

6. Office Hours: Monday 10:15-11:15am
Wednesday 2-3pm
Friday 8:30-10:30am

When necessary appointments for other times may be scheduled.

7. *Syllabus.* I reserve the right to alter the syllabus if I decide change is necessary.

Course Outline

Week One – Organizational Meeting and Course Overview – M Aug 28 & W Aug 30

Leahey chapter 1

Week Two – The Classical World of Ideas – M Sep 4 (*No Class Meeting—Labor Day*) & W Sep 6

Leahey chapter 2

Week Three – The Middle Ages and the Renaissance – M Sep 11 & W Sep 13

Leahey chapter 3

Paper 1: In your opinion, why should we bother (should we?) to study the history of psychology? Due on Mon, Sept 11th

Week Four – The Scientific Revolution – M Sep 18 & W Sep 20

Leahey chapter 4

Week Five – The Enlightenment – M Sep 25 & W Sep 27

Leahey chapter 5

Week Six – Phineas Gage and 19th Century Psychology – M Oct 2 & W Oct 4 (*Midterm Exam*)

No class on M Oct 2

Macmillan chapters 1 - 8

Midterm point of the semester – Friday, Oct 6

Fall Recess – Sat Oct 7 – T Oct 10

Week Seven – Phineas Gage continued – W Oct 11

Macmillan chapter 8 - 16

Paper 2: In your opinion, how did the story and fate of Phineas Gage affect ideas about the mind and brain from the 19th century to the present? Critically evaluate Macmillan's position. Due on Mon Oct 16

Week Eight – The Nineteenth Century and Consciousness – M Oct 16 & W Oct 18

Leahey chapters 6 and 7

Week Nine – Freud – M Oct 23 & W Oct 25

Leahey Chapter 8

Week Ten – Freud On Dreams – M Oct 30 & W Nov 1

Read all of Freud's *On Dreams*

Film: *Sigmund Freud: His Offices and Home, Vienna 1938*

Week Eleven – Adaptation and Naturalism – M Nov 6 and W Nov 8

Leahey chapters 9 and 10

Paper 3: Evaluate Freud's theory of dreams as wish fulfillments. Due Mon Nov 6th

Week Twelve – Behaviorism – M Nov 13 & W Nov 15

Leahey chapter 11

Week Thirteen – Practitioner in Psychology – M Nov 20 & W Nov 22 (*No Class Meeting- Thanksgiving Break*)

Begin Skinner's *Walden Two*

Film: *A World of Difference: B. F. Skinner and Walden Two (NOVA)*

Thanksgiving recess begins T Nov 21 at 10pm

Week Fourteen – Skinner continued and Cognitive Science? M Nov 27 & W Nov 29

Finish *Walden Two*

Leahey chapter 12

Paper 4 due: Would you choose to live at Walden Two? Why or why not? Due Wed Nov 29

Week Fifteen – Applied Psychology - M Dec 4 & W Dec 6

Leahey chapters 13 and 14

Week Sixteen – Conclusions – M Dec 11

Final Exam period: W Dec 13 – Sat Dec 16; M Dec 18 and T Dec 19

Final Exam Date and Time to be announced: _____

Have a wonderful holiday break . . .

Acceptance of Course Requirements

To: Dana S. Dunn, Department of Psychology, Moravian College

From: _____ (Print your name)

RE: Course requirements and syllabus for *History, Systems, & Theories*
(PS 230) Fall 2006

My signature below indicates that I have read, understood, and agreed to meet the requirements and to follow the guidelines as presented in the syllabus for *History, Systems, and Theories* (Fall 2006) that I received at the beginning of the semester.

_____ Date: _____

(Your Signature)