

Psychology 230

History, Systems, & Theories

Fall 2014

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Fall 2014 Office hours:

Monday	By appointment
Tuesday	2 – 3pm
Wednesday	By appointment
Thursday	2 – 3 pm
Friday	8:30 – 9:30am; 1 – 2pm

Class meets on Monday and Wednesday (1:10-2:20pm) in PPHAC 103

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.

Course Goals:

1. To introduce you to the historical development of the scientific study of psychology.
2. To show you where psychology fits in the history of ideas in Western thought.
3. To understand key issues, themes, and controversies that shaped (and continue to shape) the contemporary discipline.

Required Books:

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

Leahey, T. H. (2013). *A history of psychology: From antiquity to modernity* (7th ed.). New York, NY: Pearson.

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

Course Requirements

1. *Class participation and attendance.* This course 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.* Two short papers (3-5 pages)—one a dream interpretation exercise, the other a response to *Walden Two*—are required during the semester. These papers are meant to organize your thinking about a topic as well as to spur class discussion (and our discussions will help you think about what you will say in your papers).

Late Paper Policy. You have three 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 (20% each)	40%
Final Exam	20%

6. *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. Please visit: <http://www.moravian.edu/studentLife/handbook/academic2.htm> to view the policy. In short, plagiarism will not be tolerated.
7. *Disability accommodations.* Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, assistant director of learning services for academic and disability support at 1307 Main Street, or by calling 610-861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

The Writing Center is located in a building that is not accessible to persons with mobility impairments. If you need the services of the Writing Center, please call 610-861-1392. For more detail on Learning Services, please see the last section of this syllabus.

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9. *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 25 & W Aug 27

Begin keeping a dream journal (see attached instructions at end of syllabus)

Read Introductory Essay in Leahey

Week Two – Science, History, & Psychology – M Sep 1 (*Class Meets—Labor Day*) & W Sep 3

Read Chapter 1 in Leahey

Week Three – The Legacy of Ancient Greece & Antiquity – M Sep 8 & W Sep 10

Read Chapters 2 and 3 in Leahey

Week Four – The Premodern World – M Sep 15 & W Sep 17

Read Chapter 4 in Leahey

Week Five – The Scientific Revolution – M Sep 22 & W Sep 24

Read Chapter 5 in Leahey

Week Six – The Enlightenment – M Sep 29 & W Oct 1

Read Chapter 6 in Leahey

In Class Midterm Exam on Monday

Midterm point of the semester – Friday, Oct 3

Week Seven – The Ascent of Science 1815 - 1913 – M Oct 6 & W Oct 8

NO CLASS MEETING ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

Read Chapter 7 in Leahey

Fall Recess – Sat Oct 11 – T Oct 14

Week Eight – The Psychology of Consciousness – W Oct 15

Read Chapter 8 in Leahey

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

Project paper due: Exploring Freud's theory of dreams as wish fulfillments (directions appear later in this syllabus). Due on Weds, Oct. 27

Week Nine – The Psychology of the Unconsciousness – M Oct 20 & W Oct 22

Read Chapter 9 in Leahey

Week Ten – Freud and Dream Theory – M Oct 27 & W Oct 29

Read all of Freud *On Dreams*

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

F Oct 31 – Last Day for Course Withdrawals with a W

Week Eleven – The Psychology of Adaptation – M Nov 3 and W Nov 5

Read Chapter 10 in Leahey

Week Twelve – Behaviorism – M Nov 10 & W Nov 12

Read Chapter 11 in Leahey

Project paper due M Nov 10: Exploring Freud's theory of dreams as wish fulfillments (directions appear later in this syllabus).

Week Thirteen – B. F. Skinner – M Nov 17 & W Nov 19

Read *Walden Two*

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

Week Fourteen – Cognitive Science – M Nov 24

Read Chapter 12 in Leahey

(No Class Meeting on W Nov 26 - Thanksgiving Break begins T Nov 25 at 10pm)

W Nov 26 – Su Nov 30 **Thanksgiving Break**

(No Class Meeting on W Nov 24 - Thanksgiving Break begins T Nov 23 at 10pm)

Week Fifteen – Applied Psychology & the Psychological Society - M Dec 1 and W Dec 3

Read Chapters 13 and 14 in Leahey

*Paper due on **Mon Dec 1**: (1) Is Skinner's utopia a good idea or (2) should psychology be used to plan human communities—why or why not? Address one of these questions. Due Mon Dec 1*

F Dec 6 – Last Day of Fall Semester

M Dec 8 – Sa Dec 13 Final Exam period

Final Exam Date and Time: Wednesday, December 10th at 8:30am

Have a wonderful holiday break . . .

Dream Interpretation Exercise

Due date: Wednesday, October 27th.

1. Begin a dream diary immediately. When you wake up in the morning, write down as much as you can remember about each of your dreams.
2. Choose **one** of these dreams to analyze for your project.
3. Do not try to interpret it right away. Divide the dream into smaller parts (following Freud's technique) and then free associate to each one. Do this in writing, please—it will be part of what you turn in with the paper. Bear in mind that free association is not easy at first, that it requires some practice. Write down whatever comes to mind, no matter how silly, irrelevant (or irreverent), bizarre, or mundane your thoughts seem to be. Be sure to associate to all parts of the dream. As Freud notes in *The Interpretation of Dreams*, it is best to conduct your analysis over several days, not at one sitting.
4. After your free associations are complete, interpret the dream as best you can. What does it seem to mean? Are there several simultaneous interpretations, as Freud suggests there often are? *Exactly how does your dream express an unconscious wish?* Consider how your analysis relates to our readings and discussions whenever possible.
5. Please type the description of your dreams as well as your final interpretation. After interpreting the dream, answer the questions below (typing them, as well). You do not need to type up the free associations, but do attach them to the typed portion of your project.
 - A. What did you learn about yourself from this exercise? Why?
 - B. According to psychoanalytic theory and dream interpretation, what are some of the problems with self-analysis? Did you encounter any of these problems? If so, which ones? Please discuss them.
 - C. Using your dream analysis as evidence, evaluate Freud's theory of dreams. Do the results of your own analysis confirm or disconfirm his ideas? Why? Be critical.
 - D. Is dream interpretation a useful form of self-insight?

Note: There may be personal issues raised in your project paper or the free associations—please know that I will not be sharing or discussing these materials with anyone else. As always, do not submit materials to me (or anyone) that you want to keep confidential.