



## Department of Psychology

### History of Psychological Thought

#### Psychology 305 - Fall 2006

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Hank Stam	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	SH 262
<b>Phone:</b>	220-5683	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	MWF 13:00
<b>Email:</b>	stam@ucalgary.ca	<b>Office Hours:</b>	MF 14:00
<b>Office:</b>	Admin 251C		(or by apptmnt)

**Overview:** This course is a history of psychological thought concentrated in the North Atlantic world (Europe and North America). Although it is not directly a history of the discipline of psychology per sé, our aim is to conclude the course by examining the conduct and structure of psychology for what it claims about human nature. It is not so much a search for antecedents and forerunners that will occupy us because a search for antecedents already assumes that what we know in the present is the best possible knowledge. This assumption leads us to treat the past as a mere prologue to some better understanding that is manifested in present-day knowledge. In that case the study of the past would largely be concerned with trivia or remain of antiquarian interest.

This course is concerned instead with thinkers, scholars, scientists and social movements and how these interweave to produce unique positions on the problems of (a) the nature of the universe, (b) the nature of life, and in particular (c) the nature of the human. In moving to the twentieth-century we will want to concern ourselves with the relationship between theories of human nature and changing social institutions as the latter are important sources and places for trying to understand what theorists thought was of value in understanding mind and what constituted conduct. We will limit ourselves to what has traditionally been called “western” thought beginning with the pre-Socratics and ending with twentieth-century psychologists. We will cover only some of the important developments along the way, namely those that are viewed as constituting major turning points for the understanding of human nature. There is much that will not be covered by this course but I will try to give what we do cover a certain coherence.

University of Calgary Curriculum Objectives: This course is directly relevant to the core competencies. We will be engaged in addressing historical perspectives and theoretical frameworks that form the foundations of critical and creative thinking in the discipline and that are focused on the analysis of problems at a foundational level. Much of this will require exposure to, and mastery of, abstract reasoning. The tests and assignment you will complete are designed to require you to engage in effective communication strategies and will require that you gather and organize information effectively. It is expected that this course will generate insight into how knowledge is produced, how psychological knowledge came into existence as a separate category of knowing, and it will enhance your interpretive and assessment skills with respect to the evaluation of knowledge claims.

**Text:**

T. H. Leahey (2004). A History of Psychology (6th edition). Prentice Hall.

**Course Notes:** All class notes will be posted on Blackboard for which you are automatically registered if you are registered in this class. You can find our 305 notes by logging into blackboard at: <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca>.

**Requirements:**

Your total grade will be based on three midterm exams (written) and a final take-home exam. These are

1. Midterm I: Wednesday, October 4 (20%)
2. Midterm II: Monday, October 30 (25%)
3. Midterm III: Friday, November 24 (25%)

These midterms will consist of written responses to short answer or essay-style questions on the material covered immediately prior to the test. The first is not worth quite so much in order to give you some experience with the nature of these tests.

4. Final Exam: On Wednesday, December 6 you will receive a comprehensive take-home exam that will be due in my office, or in my mailbox in the departmental office, on Wednesday, December 13, (30%). No lates allowed. There will be a limited number of questions on this exam along with a limited amount you are able to write. In large measure the questions will ask you to integrate and think through the material we have covered in the course.

All midterms and exams will consist of questions requiring written responses designed to evaluate your ability to synthesize and critically evaluate the material.

**Grading System:**

The final percentage obtained in the course will be assigned according to the following scale:

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

**Lecture Schedule:**

<b>Week of</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter</b>
Sept. 11	What is history? And the history of science?	Chapter 1
Sept. 18	The Hellenistic and Roman Worlds	Chapter 2
Sept. 25	Plato and Aristotle	Chapter 2
Oct. 2	The Middle Ages and Renaissance	Chapter 3
<b>Midterm I: Wednesday, October 4</b>		
Oct. 9	The Scientific Revolution and Empiricism	Chapters 4 & 5
<b>No class Monday, October 9, Thanksgiving</b>		
Oct. 16	The Seeds of Psychology - the 19th-century	Chapter 6
Oct. 23	Wilhelm Wundt and German Origins	Chapter 7
Oct. 30	The Unconscious and Evolution	Chapters 8 & 9
<b>Midterm II: Monday, October 30</b>		
Nov. 6	Early American Psychology	Chapter 10
Nov. 13	Behaviorism	Chapter 11
<b>No class Monday, Nov. 13 - Reading Days</b>		
Nov. 20	Behaviorism	Chapter 11
Nov. 27	Applied Psychology	Chapter 12
<b>Midterm III: Friday, November 24</b>		
Dec. 4	The Demise of Behaviorism and the Rise of Cognitivism	Chapter 13
Dec. 6	<b>Take Home Exam Given out in class, due on December 13</b>	

An important note on classroom etiquette: Our classroom is relatively small so please try come to class on time and please do not leave during class unless you absolutely must. It can be very distracting for others in the class – we all thank you for your consideration. And of course, don't forget those cellphones.....

**Reappraisal of Grades**

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next fifteen days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same.

If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within fifteen days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along

with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

### **Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

### **Academic Accommodation**

*It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations.* If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and **have not** registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

### **Absence From A Test**

Make-up exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). You must contact the instructor before the scheduled examination or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. At the instructor's discretion, a make-up exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup exam is written within two (2) weeks of the missed exam.

A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test for health reasons. The student will be required to pay any cost associated with the Physician Counselor Statement.

### **Student Organizations**

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in the Administration building, room 170 or may be contacted at 220-5567.

**Student Union VP Academic:** Phone: 220-3911 [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)  
**Student Union Faculty Rep.:** Phone: 220-3913 [socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is September 22, 2006. The last day to withdraw from this course is December 8, 2006.

