

PSYC82F: Theoretical Psychology
Fall, 1994

Instructor: A. Kukla (S-572) [office hour Thursday 6-7, S-572]

T.A.: D. Chiappe [office hour , S-572]

Textbook: A. Kukla, Methods of Theoretical Psychology (photocopied manuscript to be purchased in class).

Grading: A midterm and a final essay test, worth 40% and 60% of the final grade.

Lectures and Readings:

22/9. The enterprise of theoretical psychology [ch. 1]

29/9. Concepts and Propositions [ch. 2, pp. 19-40]

6/10. Arguments [ch. 2, pp. 40-56]

13/10. Theories and data [ch. 3]

20/10. Theory Construction and Evaluation [ch. 4]

27/10. Midterm exam [results will be posted before the drop date]

3/11. The Derivation and Testing of Empirical Hypotheses [ch. 5]

10/11. Necessary Propositions [ch. 8]

Newell, A., & Simon, H. A. (1981) Computer science as empirical inquiry: Symbols and search, in: J. Haugeland (Ed.) Mind Design: Philosophy, Psychology, Artificial Intelligence, pp. 35-66 (Cambridge, MA, MIT Press).

Kukla, A. (1989) Is AI an empirical science?, Analysis, 49, pp. 56-60.

17/11. Conceptual Issues [ch. 9]

24/11. Theoretical Amplification [ch. 6]

Chomsky, N. (1980). Recent contributions to the theory of innate ideas: Summary of oral presentation. In H. Morick (Ed.), Challenges to empiricism (pp. 230-240). Indianapolis: Hackett.

Putnam, H. (1980). The 'innateness hypothesis' and explanatory models in linguistics. In H. Morick (Ed.), Challenges to empiricism (pp. 240-250). Indianapolis: Hackett.

1/12. Theoretical Simplification [ch. 7]

8/12. The contingent a priori in psychology [ch. 10]