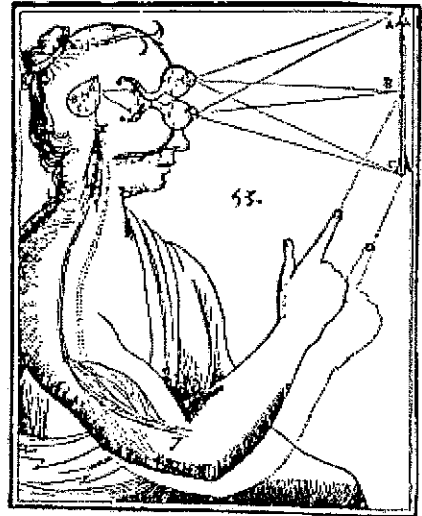


PSYC85

History of Psychology

Summer 2005



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- **Outline:**

This course is intended as an overview of the intellectual history of contemporary experimental psychology. We will focus primarily on writings *about* important figures in the history of psychology, but where applicable, we will also look at some brief extracts from the primary literature itself. As such, we will treat psychology's past as a rich source of discussion of the questions with which contemporary psychologists are concerned rather than a mere museum piece or historical oddity, and pay close attention to the interplay between philosophical and practical problems. As the author of our textbook writes: "Our eyes, however, will never be exclusively on the past. Like motorists, we keep one eye on the rearview mirror for the purpose of guiding our progress."

- **Evaluation:**

1) In-class presentation	(20%)	Due: Any time
2) Mid-term take-home (4-6pp)	(20%)	Due: 7 th July
3) Final Essay (6-8pp)	(30%)	Due: 4 th August
4) Exam	(30%)	TBA

- **Syllabus and Readings:**

The textbook for this course will be:

Macnamara, J. (1999) *Through the Rearview Mirror* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press)

- Library call number: BF105 .M33 1999 SCAR (On 1-hr in-house reserve)

- A version which you can read and save, but not print is available on-line¹ at:

<http://cognet.mit.edu/library/books/view?isbn=0262133520>

Where appropriate or necessary, I will also make copies of the primary literature available, although this will be "recommended" rather than "required" reading.

¹ If you connect to the internet using a service which is not provided by the U of T, then you need to use the 'My Access' service to get this. Have a look at

<http://www.library.utoronto.ca/services/libraryusers/myaccess.html>

Week 1 (12th May): Introduction and Course Overview

Ch. 1: Intro: Three Very General Observations...

Week 2 (19th May): Plato

Ch. 2: Plato on Learning

Ch. 3: Plato on Truth and Knowledge

Week 3 (26th May): Aristotle.

Ch. 4: Aristotle on Knowledge and Understanding

Ch. 5: Aristotle on Perception: Three Questions

Week 4 (2nd June): Early Christianity.

Ch. 6: The Book of Genesis and Psychology

Ch. 7: The Impact of Christianity on Psychology

Ch. 8: St. Augustine of Hippo: Christian Platonist

Week 5 (9th June): Medieval Psychology

Ch. 9: St. Thomas Aquinas on Individuals and Concepts

Ch. 10: St. Thomas Aquinas and Dualism

Week 6 (16th June): The beginning of the Early modern period

Ch. 11: Duns Scotus and William of Ockham: The Cusp of the Middle Ages

Ch. 12: Thomas Hobbes: Grandfather of Modern Psychology

Week 7 (23rd June): The Rationalists.

Ch. 13: Rene Descartes: Medieval Man of the Renaissance

Ch. 15: Gottfried Leibniz and Necessary Truths

Week 8 (7th July): The British Empiricists.

Ch. 14: John Locke: A No-Nonsense Developmental Psychologist

Ch. 16: Bishop Berkeley and the Consequences of Nominalism

Ch. 17: David Hume: Some Consequences of British Empiricism

Week 9 (14th July): The Enlightenment.

Ch. 18: Thomas Jefferson and the Declaration of Independence

Ch. 19: Immanuel Kant and the Foundational Stance in Psychology

Ch. 20: John Stuart Mill: A Contemporary Psychologist

Week 10 (21st July): Darwin, Wundt & Brentano

Ch. 21: Charles Darwin: The Newton of Biology

Ch. 22: Wilhelm Wundt: The Founder of Experimental Psychology

Ch. 23: Franz Brentano: Intuition and the Mental

Week 11 (28th July): Freud, Watson and Gestalt Psychology

Ch. 24: Sigmund Freud and the Concept of Mental Health

Ch. 25: John B. Watson and the Behaviorists
Ch. 26: Some Notes on the Gestalt Movement

Week 12 (4th August): Round-up and Review
Ch. 27: Extrodution

- **Other Important Dates to Note:**

May 9 th :	Classes begin in Y Courses
May 23 rd :	Last day to add Y courses
June 28 th -July 1 st :	Reading Week -- No classes at UTSC
July 1 st :	Canada Day -- University closed
July 4 th :	Classes Resume in Y courses
July 24 th :	Last day to drop Y courses without academic penalty
August 1 st :	Civic Holiday -- University closed
August 8 th :	Last day of classes
August 9 th -12 th :	Study break
August 15 th -26 th :	Final exam period

- **Notes on Assignments:**

[NB: More detailed notes on my expectations, together with some hints on how to do well, will be distributed at the time of the assignments themselves.]

The **in-class presentation** should be a brief (~10 minutes) talk accompanied with a short (1 page) handout to accompany it. In weeks where more than presentation is scheduled, students should endeavour to confer beforehand to ensure that their presentations do not overlap in subject matter. Rather than summarising a chapter or giving a general overview of the reading, presentations should be a brief commentary on or discussion of some specific issue in the readings for that week which struck you as theoretically significant or otherwise gripping. For example, you might draw out a connection between one of the authors covered and a contemporary psychological debate which you have learnt about; you might point out a non-obvious implication of an author's position; you might suggest a potential problem with a theory you encounter. Once again, the idea is to engage with the viewpoints we encounter as competing legitimate psychological theories, rather than as historical oddities or museum pieces.

The **mid-term take-home test** will consist of a list of five questions, from which you may choose any two to write on. Each answer should be about three pages long, for a grand total of six pages. It will be due on Thursday 7th July (i.e. the Thursday after reading week), so that I can return it, graded, to you in advance of the drop date (see below). The penalty for late submissions which are not accompanied by appropriate medical documentation will be one grade point per

day *including weekends* (e.g. a one-day-late A- would receive a grade of B+; a three-day-late B would receive a grade of C).

The **final essay** is your chance to develop your thoughts on the topics covered more fully, but it is not intended as a research paper, and so the use of extra sources will not be necessary. It should be about five to seven typed, double spaced. I will circulate a list of five questions, from which you may choose one on which to write. You may also write on a topic of your own choosing, but if you do so, it must be cleared with me no later than 21st July. The essay will be due in the final class on August 4th, and the penalty for undocumented late submissions will be on grade point per day including weekends.

The **final exam** will be on a date beyond my control between August 15th and August 26th. It will be three hours long and will consist of one section of short answer questions, and two essay questions.

- **A note on plagiarism:**

(Taken from the department of Philosophy's *Undergraduate Bulletin* at <http://philosophy.utoronto.ca/current/ubul4-5.pdf>)

"The following practices are all instances of academic dishonesty:

1. Copying or paraphrasing extensive passages from other sources without acknowledgement.
2. Submitting a term paper written in whole or in part by someone else.
3. Submitting a term paper for credit in more than one course, without the permission of the instructor.
4. Copying the answers of another student in any test, examination or take home assignments.

In any of these cases appropriate penalties, will be applied."

In short, anything that prevents the essay from demonstrating your original attempt to grapple with an issue is a **Bad Thing**, and will not be tolerated. If you're unsure about something, talk to me about it in advance.

For some useful advice on managing sources, and how to avoid both plagiarism and its consequences, take a look at:

<http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~nscharer/plagmain.html>

For the university's stance, see the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*, at: <http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/rules.htm#behaviour>

For the University's advice on how *not* to plagiarise, have a look at:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html>