



UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IN PRAGUE

Course: PSY208 History and Systems of Psychology
(6 ECTS/3 US credits)

Semester: Spring 2024

Prerequisites: C- or better in General Psychology and Introduction to Philosophy

Instructor:

1. Catalogue Description

The course traces the roots of studying the mind and human behavior from early religious views through the great philosophers, from ancient Greece and across Europe, to the modern influences of thinkers in both Europe and America on the discipline which we have come to recognize as psychology.

2. Course Purpose

The goal of this course is to provide students with a sense of how today's psychology developed throughout history and to acquaint students with the great thinkers in psychology and their contribution to the growth and direction psychology has taken from its roots in philosophy and medicine to its present structure in modern science. All students will be encouraged to create a solid body of knowledge to help them to orient themselves in any discipline or area of modern psychology.

3. Required Readings

Boeree, C. George. (2018). *History of Psychology*. Open Knowledge Books. ISBN-13: 987-1983781827.

The main reading materials will be available at the e-learning site (with permission of the author) and will be divided into weekly reading sections. Weekly quizzes will be based on the reading for that week.

4. Additional Readings

Bermudes, J.L.: (2005) *Philosophy of Psychology: A Contemporary Introduction*.
Routledge. ISBN-13: 978-0415275958

- Brennan, J. F. (2013). *History and Systems of Psychology*. Pearson. ISBN: 1292042230, 9781292042237
- Brennan, J. F. (1997). *Readings in History and Systems of Psychology*. Prentice Hall. ISBN: 0-13-626797-1
- Brysbart, M., Rastle, K. (2009). *Historical and Conceptual Issues in Psychology*. Pearson/Prentice Hall. ISBN: 978-0-273-71818-5, 0273718185
- Hergenhahn, B. R., Henley, T. B. (2014). *An Introduction to the History of Psychology*. Wadsworth. ISBN-13:978-1133958048
- Hunt, M.: (2007) *The Story of Psychology*. Anchor Books. ISBN 978-0-307-27807-4
- Kuhn, T. S.: (2012) *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. The University of Chicago Press. ISBN 9780226458144
- Lawson, R.B., Anderson, E.D., Cepeda-Benito, A.: (2017) *A History of Psychology. Globalization, Ideas, and Applications*. Routledge, ISBN 9780415788274
- Robinson, D.N. (1995) *An Intellectual History of Psychology*. The University of Wisconsin Press, ISBN 0-299-14840-8
- Wertheimer, M., Puente, A. E. (2020). *A Brief History of Psychology*. Routledge. ISBN: 1138284742, 9781138284746

Other online resources:

<http://psychclassics.yorku.ca/index.htm>.

5. Learning Outcomes

Knowledge gained

Upon completion of this course, the students should be able to:

- Describe the main systems of psychology
- Explain major paradigms in science
- Describe the main historical ideas and their influence on the orientation of modern psychology
- Understand the influence of early theories and findings on current psychological theory
- Understand how classic methodology led to early explanations of behavioral, mental, and social processes

Skills gained

Upon completion of this course, the students should be able to:

- Put current knowledge in the historical context
- Understand psychological issues in context of other sciences and philosophy
- Investigate the influence of historical developments on psychological thinking
- Prepare a written analysis of some area of historical development within psychology

6. Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Readings
Week 1	Introduction	1
Week 2	Ancient Greece & Rome	2 & 3
Week 3	Rome, Middle Ages & Renaissance	3 & 4
Week 4	Emergence of modern science: French Materialism & Positivism	5 & 6
Week 5	Emergence of modern science: British and German tradition: Empiricism, Rationalism.	7 & 8
Week 6	Opposition to modern science: Idealism, Romanticism and Existentialism	Click here
Week 7	Physiology & Psychophysics & Evolution	9
Week 8	Mid-Term	
Week 9	Early Psychology & Functionalism	10 & 11
Week 10	Gestalt Psychology	12
Week 11	Psychoanalysis & Mental Illness	13
Week 12	Behaviorism	14
Week 13	The Third Force Psychology	15
Week 14	Contemporary psychology	16
Week 15	Final Exam	

7. Course Requirements and Grading

This course will be graded on the basis of:

Quizzes	20%
Short Presentation	10%
Long Presentation	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>25%</u>
Total	100%

Quizzes (12 quizzes 2 % each, lowest two quizzes will be dropped, total 20%)

Because the class will primarily involve discussion, it is essential that students come to class prepared. Therefore, there will be weekly quizzes on the assigned reading from the text for that week. (See chapter assignments in E-learning.) Each quiz will consist of 2 short essay questions related to the assigned reading and will be completed online before class starts. Missed quizzes may not be made up, so take care to complete it before class starts. A quiz will be given each week, (excluding first and exam weeks) for a total of 12 quizzes; however, the lowest 2 grades will be dropped, so students who take the quizzes every week will have the advantage of dropping two low scores. Possible quiz questions will be provided to guide students in their preparation for the first few weeks.

Short Presentation (10%) and Long Presentation (20%)

Students will research a historical figure of importance to the development of psychology and report their findings to the class in an oral presentation followed by discussion. The short presentation (8 minutes) will focus on early philosophers and thinkers whose ideas influenced psychology's development as a science. The long presentations (15 minutes) will focus on the most well-known historical figures in the field of psychology. Students will prepare a written summary of key facts regarding the figure and include references to at least three sources. Students will also prepare discussion questions and multiple-choice questions related to their topic.

Mid-term and Final Exam (25% each)

An examination will be administered at the mid-point of the course. The material will be from the textbook, class notes, and class lectures, presentations, and discussion. The final exam will cover only the material from the second half of the course.

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percent (%)	Generally Accepted Meaning	Notes
A	95-100	Outstanding work	x
A-	90-94		x
B+	87-89	Good work, distinctly above the average	x
B	83-86		x
B-	80-82		x
C+	77-79	Acceptable Work	x

C	73-76		x
C-	70-72		x
D+	67-69	Work that is significantly below average	Credits for the course will not transfer to ESC
D	63-66		Credits for the course will not transfer to ESC
D-	60-62		Credits for the course will not transfer to ESC
F	0-59	Work that does not meet the minimum standards for passing the course	No credits awarded

8. Key UNYP Policies

Attendance

It is your responsibility to show up to class on time. If you are late you will be marked as absent for that hour. **If you miss more than 12 (twelve) hours of class for any reason, you will automatically fail the entire course. Pay strict attention to this. This class policy is standard UNYP policy.**

Academic Honesty

- The university's rules on academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating, plagiarism, submitting false information) will be strictly enforced. Please familiarize yourself with the *student honor code* or ask your instructor for clarification.
- For examinations: copying from your neighbor, communicating with another student, using a phone or anything similar will result in you failing the test or quiz.
- On written papers, properly note your sources with academic citations. Cutting and pasting from the Internet without accurately citing the source may be considered plagiarism. Students may be required to submit papers electronically, which could mean an automated check for plagiarism via the Turnitin resource. Students may also be required to defend the content of a paper orally to an instructor as a check on authorship.
- If you have questions about any of the above, please consult with the instructor.

9. General Requirements

Students are expected to attend each class session and participate in a positive way.

- Students are expected to come to class fully prepared to discuss homework readings, projects or cases.
- Students are expected to turn in homework assignments at the beginning of the class period on the day they are due.
- Students are expected to leave their mobile phones, beepers, pagers, and so forth switched off.
- Students may not use laptops or netbooks for any reason other than taking notes. **Do not** surf the Web during class time. If you do, you will lose the privilege to use a laptop or netbook.

- In the event of illness or emergency, contact your instructor *in advance* to determine whether special arrangements are possible.

10. European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)

Students who complete the course will receive 6 ECTS credits, which are the equivalent of 3 American credits. (In other words, 2 ECTS credits equal 1 American credit hour.)

Further, 1 ECTS credit corresponds to 25-30 hours of work. Thus, a 6-credit ECTS course (equivalent to a 3-credit American course) will total 150-180 projected work hours. For this course, students are expected to spend time in the following course-related activities:

Class Lectures and exams	45 hours
Reading class-related material	50 hours
Exam preparations	25 hours
Team preparation	15 hours
<u>Final project preparation</u>	<u>30 hours</u>
 TOTAL	 165 hours

11. Technology Expectations

Assignments, excluding those that are carried out exclusively in class, must be completed on a computer. Students are assumed to be familiar with the use of the Internet and in particular with the gathering of data from the Worldwide Web. This will be a necessary tool for carrying out some of the course assignments (i.e., long essay or class presentations).

The two presentations need to be based on digital materials such as MS Power-point presentation. This material should state academic and other resources used in their preparation. The presentation is successfully completed upon presentation of the material before the class and submission of a digital copy to the instructor