

PSY541 History and Systems of Psychology

(3 credit hours)

Course Syllabus

Course Description

This graduate level course will explore and describe the historical and systemic foundations of psychology through the lenses of philosophy, literature, medicine, and art in a lecture/seminar format. Emphasis will be placed on exploring views from other cultures and how the history of psychology continues to influence the field today. Students will engage in online debates, conduct historical research, and present findings in a manner supported by the American Psychological Association's Publication Manual.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Explore the fundamental questions of human existence that have been addressed throughout the history of psychology.
2. Link historical systems to modern psychological practices.
3. Evaluate and critique historical and modern psychological trends

Prerequisites/Corequisites

None.

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

Your course has no required textbook. All resources are included in each week.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the [Tiffin University Library](#).

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).
2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays**.
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays**.

Learning Activities

In this course you will participate in discussion forums, a debate, and research. You will analyze historical journals to deepen your understanding of the state of psychology at different time periods. You will take an opposing viewpoint and think about the impact of alternate history. You will also complete a research project - either an analysis of a particular journal over time or a literature review focused on a research question you would like to answer. These activities will deepen your knowledge of psychology, including influential figures and the theories and research that have formed our field. You will also develop research skills. The research project will yield a product that will be suitable for presentation or publication or for use in a doctoral program application packet.

Key Assessment (Taskstream Submission)

This TU course features a “Key Assessment” that provides you the opportunity to demonstrate your program’s core competencies. It also shows how the course fits within the broader curriculum. For this course, Activity 7.2, a research project, serves as your opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge of historical and modern theories.

Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Discussions Activity 1.1 (n/a) Activity 1.2 (45)	Discussions Activity 2.1 (45)	Discussions Activity 3.1 (45)	Discussions Activity 4.1 (45)	Discussions Activity 5.1 (45)	Discussions Activity 6.1 (45)	Discussions Activity 7.1 (50)	320
Assignments Activity 1.3 (75)	Assignments Activity 2.2 (75)	Assignments Activity 3.2 (75) Activity 3.3 (30)	Assignments Activity 4.2 (75)	Assignments Activity 5.2 (75)	Assignments Activity 6.2 (75)	Assignments Activity 7.2 (200)	680
	Reflection (Extra Credit) Activity 2.3 (10)		Reflection (Extra Credit) Activity 4.3 (10)		Reflection (Extra Credit) Activity 6.3 (10)		--
120	120	150	120	120	120	250	1000

Grading Scale

A: 90-100% | B: 80-89% | C: 70-79% | F: <69%

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Topic	Learning Activities (Due by 11:55 p.m. ET on day designated)
Start Here	<input type="checkbox"/> MON: Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers
Week 1: The influence of philosophy and physiology The influence of natural selection and biology The creation of psychology as a science	<input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 1.2: Philosophy, Natural Sciences, and Modern Psychology – Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 1.2: Philosophy, Natural Sciences, and Modern Psychology <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 1.3: The Mind/Body Problem

<p>Week 2:</p> <p>The role of systems and schools</p> <p>Structuralism versus Functionalism</p> <p>Learning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 2.1: History Revision – What If? – Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 2.1: History Revision – What If? – Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 2.2: Behaviorism Analysis <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 2.3: Survey (Extra Credit)
<p>Week 3:</p> <p>Defining and testing intelligence</p> <p>Psychometrics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 3.1: Nature or Nurture? – Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 3.1: Nature or Nurture? – Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 3.2: Galton <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 3.3: Final Project Sources
<p>Week 4:</p> <p>The brain as a computer</p> <p>The cognitive-behaviorism debate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 4.1: How Do We Learn Language? – Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 4.1: How Do We Learn Language? – Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 4.2: Human Activity <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 4.3: Survey (Extra Credit)
<p>Week 5:</p> <p>Methodology</p> <p>Social Influence</p> <p>Social Perception</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 5.1: Social Influence – Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 5.1: Social Influence – Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 5.2: Social Psychology and Neuroscience
<p>Week 6:</p> <p>Early ideas about mental health</p> <p>Freud and psychoanalysis</p> <p>The reintroduction of mental illness as disease</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 6.1: Speed Dating – Initial Post <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 6.1: Speed Dating – Secondary Post <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 6.2: Clinical Psychology and Science <input type="checkbox"/> SUN: Activity 6.3: Survey (Extra Credit)

<p>Week 7:</p> <p>Value-free objectivity</p> <p>Ecological validity</p> <p>Feminist psychology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> WED: Activity 7.1: Is Psychology Value-Free? <input type="checkbox"/> THU: Activity 7.2: Final Project <input type="checkbox"/> SAT: Activity 7.1: Is Psychology Value-Free?
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Tips for Success

Successful online learning requires a good deal of self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge and review one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery and constructiveness. Your course is a place for you to stretch and grow as you benefit from the expertise, knowledge, experience and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge, understanding and application.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

For More Information:

Be sure to review the [Support, Policies, and Procedures](#) addendum.