

Chapter 1: The Evolution of Psychology

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PSY 100

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Definition of Psychology

Please to note that I do not follow the organization of the textbook

- **Undergone many transformations**
 - **1st decade of 20th century**
 - **2nd decade of 20th century**
 - **John B. Watson**
 - **James R. Angell**
 - **John F. Dashiell**
 - **Howard C. Warren**
 - **Howard Nunn**

Definition of Psychology

- **Early 1960s**
 - Clifford Morgan
- **Later 1960s**
- **1970s**
- **Today:**
 - **The science that studies behavior and the physiological and cognitive processes that underlie it, and the profession that applies the accumulated knowledge of this science to practical problems.**

Critical Thinking



- **Involves 5 questions:**
 - **What am I being asked to believe?**
 - **Is there evidence to support the claim?**
 - **Can that evidence be interpreted in another way?**
 - **What evidence would help to evaluate the alternatives**
 - **What conclusions are most reasonable?**

Critical Thinking



- **Keys to critical thinking:**
 - **Be open minded**
 - **Be intellectually curious**
 - **Look for multiple determinants of behavior**
 - **Think like a scientist**

The Scientific Method

- **Four Steps:**

- **Observation of something of interest in the natural world**
- **Formulation of a hypothesis**
- **Collection of data**
- **Analyze the data**

Other Methods of Knowledge Aquisition

- **Authoritative Pronouncements**
- **Democratic Judgments**
- **Reason**
- **Feelings**
- **Sensory Information & Experience**

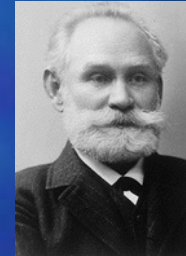
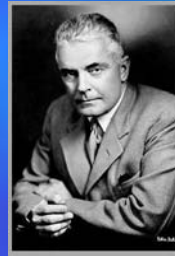
In the Beginning

- **Wilhelm Wundt**
 - **Credited with creating the science of psychology with his lab in 1879**
 - **Comes from a blending of physiology and philosophy**
 - **First focus was on the structures of the mind**

Seven Contemporary Psychological Perspectives

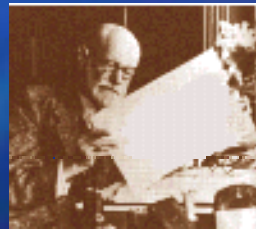
■ Behaviorism

- John B. Watson
- B.F. Skinner
- Ivan Pavlov



■ Psychodynamic (Psychoanalytic)

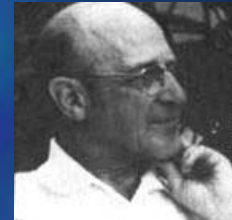
- Sigmund Freud
- Alfred Adler
- Carl Jung



Seven Contemporary Psychological Perspectives

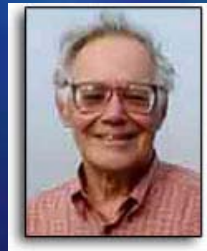
■ Humanistic

- Carl Rogers
- Abraham Maslow



■ Cognitive

- Jean Piaget
- (Wilhelm Wundt & William James)
- Ulric Neisser



Seven Contemporary Psychological Perspectives

- **Biological/Neuroscientific**
- **Sociocultural**
- **Evolutionary**
 - **David Buss**
 - **Steven Pinker**



Themes in Psychology

- **Psychology is Empirical**
- **Psychology is Theoretically Diverse**
- **Psychology Evolves in a Sociohistorical Context**
- **Behavior is Determined by Multiple Causes**
- **Behavior is Shaped by Cultural Heritage**

Themes in Psychology

- **Heredity and Environment Jointly Influence Behavior**
- **People's Experience of the World is Highly Subjective**

What does a Psychologist Do?

- **Contemporary psychology has a number of fields of subspecialization**
 - **Can differentiate between research and applied perspectives**
- **Differences between a psychologist and a psychiatrist**

What does a Psychologist Do?

- **How to become a psychologist**
- **The Boulder Conference**

Graduate Programs at WKU

- **WKU offers graduate-level psychology programs in:**
 - **Clinical Psychology (MA)**
 - **School Psychology (EdS)**
 - **Industrial/Organizational Psychology (MA)**
 - **General Psychology (MA)**

Graduate Programs at WKU

- **Admission Minimum Requirements:**
 - **GPA: 3.00**
 - **GRE: 850 (Verbal + Quantitative)**
 - **12 hours of undergraduate psychology courses**
 - **Three letters of recommendation**
- **Completion requirements**

Graduate Programs at WKU

- **Averages for FA 2002 WKU Clinical Acceptees:**
 - **GPA: 3.54**
 - **Psych GPA: 3.58**
 - **GRE Verbal: 469**
 - **GRE Quantitative: 551**
 - **GRE Total: 1020**

Graduate Programs at WKU

- **Averages for 1992-1993 Doctoral Level Acceptees:**
 - **GPA: 3.50**
 - **Psych GPA: 3.66**
 - **GRE Verbal: 593**
 - **GRE Quantitative: 613**
 - **GRE Total: 1206**

Graduate Programs at WKU

- **Averages for 1992-1993 Master's Level Acceptees:**
 - **GPA: 3.27**
 - **Psych GPA: 3.42**
 - **GRE Verbal: 517**
 - **GRE Quantitative: 533**
 - **GRE Total: 1033**

What if you don't want to go to grad school?

- **Do you have to go to graduate school to get a job with a psychology degree?**

Top 10 Skills Employers Like in Psychology Majors

- **Listening Skills**
- **Ability to Work on Teams**
- **Interpersonal Awareness**
- **Desire and Ability to Learn**
- **Willingness to Gain New Skills**
- **Focus on the Customer/Clients**
- **Environmental Awareness**

Top 10 Skills Employers Like in Psychology Majors

- **Adaptability**
- **Critical Evaluation**
- **Problem-Solving Skills**

Other Skills Gained With a Psychology Major

- **Literacy**
- **Statistical Familiarity**
- **Computer Literacy**
- **Research Skills**
- **Perspective**
- **Pragmatism**

So, what kind of job can I get with my B.A. in Psychology?

- **50% of Psychology graduates were employed with a for-profit company**
- **20% public affairs or social services**
- **14% teaching**
- **10% sales**
- **10% state or local government**

Salary range

- **2001 survey**
 - **Range of \$21,900-\$40,000**
 - **Management: \$30,488**
 - **Teaching: \$25,378**
 - **Counseling: \$24,724**
 - **Social Work: \$23,988**
 - **Sales: \$34,451**
 - **Government: \$20,000-\$29,000**