

SYLLABUS
Texas A&M Commerce
History & Systems of Psychology
PSY 403-501
Fall 2015

Instructor Information:

Name: Dr. Debbie Jennings

E-mail: Debbra.Jennings@tamuc.edu

Course Information:

Text: Connections in the History and Systems of Psychology, 3rd Edition

Author: B. Michael Thorne & Tracy B. Henley

ISBN 10: 0-618-41512-2

Course: this is a survey course designed to provide you with an overview of the major people and ideas that have shaped psychology. In general, it will be a lecture format. I encourage all students to participate and ask questions.

General Objectives of the Course:

Students successfully completing the course should be able to articulate the principal conceptual developments in dated, western history that have led to the dominant strands in contemporary psychology, identifying the major players and their relationships, the interaction of conceptual schemes, the role of philosophies and “metasystems,” and the major conceptual structures upon which psychological systems are built.

Evaluation – Regular Semester

Three exams - 100 points each, combination of multiple choice and short answer questions.

Three papers – 50 points each. **Late papers will deducted 10% for each day late up to 3 days. If the paper is 4 days late it will not be accepted.**

Attendance is part of the final grade.

Final grades are a simple average of total points earned divided by total points available (525).

Grading Scale

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 70 – 79

D = 60 – 69

F = 59 and below

Extra Credit

Extra credit will only be allowed upon the completion of every required assignment.

Attendance

You inherited 75 attendance points simply by signing up for this course. Five points will be deducted from your inheritance each attendance day you miss class.

If I catch you on your phone texting or playing games during class I will count you absent for the class.

If you are 30 or more minutes late to class you will be counted absent.

WEB ENHANCEMENT:

We will manage this course in part using online “web enhancement.”

1. As soon as available you should go to the online web site for this course, complete the tutorial (if you like), and familiarize yourself with what is there (which will be added to as the semester progresses). You may access eCollege by going to your My Leo account and clicking on eCollege.
2. You might take exams online. I will make this determination as we get closer to the exam dates.
3. You will retrieve documents to read from me by way of the Doc Sharing tab, and web sites to read on the “Webliography” tab.
4. You will need to check the Announcements section on the course home page daily. If I have an emergency or for any other reason might miss a class I will post it here.
5. You will need to check your university e-mail (@leo.tamu.edu) daily.
6. And you are responsible for learning to use eCollege according to the requirements of this syllabus.

Academic Honesty

Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.

“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment”.

As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the Texas A&M Code of Student Conduct, *published in the Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct.*

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Disability Services

If you are a student with a disability and/or special services needs who requires ADA accommodations, you will need to be approved through Academic Support Committee. Please contact the Director of Disability Resources & Services.

Disclaimer Reserving Right to Change Syllabus

The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary.

Assignments

Papers

Paper 1 Topics – Choose one:

Read one of Plato's Socratic dialogues. Extend that work, after a new sophist who holds a position common to a modern psychologist, joins the conversation

Read Marcus Aurelius' *Meditations*. Write a book report on how it relates to modern psychology.

Read *The Obstacle is the Way* by Ryan Holiday

Paper 2 Topics: Choose one

Read Darwin's *Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*. Write a book report on its importance for animal psychology.

Read James' *Varieties of Religious Experience*. Write a book report on the relationship between psychology and religion.

Read Skinner's *Walden Two*. Write a book report on what the world would be like if Skinner were the Overlord.

Paper 3 Topics – Choose one

Read either Freud's *Civilization and Its Discontent* or his *Psychopathology of Everyday Life*. In your book report discuss how Freud actually differs from what you expected

Read Frankl's *Man's Search for Meaning*. In your book report discuss the relevance of existentialism for contemporary psychology.

Read Gould's *Mismeasure of Man*. In your book report discuss how intelligence testing should be used in the public schools.

Read *The Tale of the Dueling Neurosurgeons: A history of the brain*, by Sam Kean

Write a report tracing the history of one of these topics:

- Artificial intelligence
- Categorization
- Psycholinguistics
- Cognitive development
- Social cognition

Late Penalties and Make-Ups: papers turned in late will receive a 10% point deduction per day late. If you miss an exam there will be a make- up exam but it will be an essay exam over a topic of my choosing.

Course Calendar

9/03/15	Introduction, Basic Issues and Themes in History	
9/10/15	Chapter 2 & 3	When in Rome (Or Greece)
9/17/15	Chapter 4 & 5	Are you a renaissance man/woman
9/24/15	Chapter 6 & 7	Romance and Physiology
10/1/15	EXAM 1	
10/8/15	Chapter 8 & 9	When Darwin Travelled the World
	Paper 1 Due	
10/15/15	Chapter 10 & 11	The Function of American Psychology
10/22/15	Chapter 12 & 13	Skinner, Watson, and Poor Little Albert
10/29/15	EXAM 2	
11/05/15	Chapter 14	The Whole of it All
	Paper 2 Due	
11/12/15	Chapter 15	When Freud Fathered Psychology
11/19/15	Chapter 16	Neuroscience the wave of the future
11/26/15	Thanksgiving Holiday	
12/03/15	Chapter 17 & 18	Applying Psychology & A Revol. In the Field
	Paper 3 Due	
12/10	FINAL EXAM	