

HISTORY AND SYSTEMS IN PSYCHOLOGY

INSTRUCTOR:	Susan J. Cummings, Ph.D.
QUARTER:	Fall 2024
QUARTER HOURS:	4
TIME:	Tuesdays 6 p.m.-8 p.m. REMOTE
LOCATION:	The Evergreen State College on Zoom

COURSE INTENTION:

The purpose of this course is to provide an overall view of the emergence of Psychology as a field, its historical roots; its evolution within a broader sociocultural context, and philosophical currents running throughout this evolution. Attention will be paid to the interaction of theory development and the social milieu, the cultural biases within theory and the effect of personal history on theoretical claims.

LEARNING GOALS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- To investigate the emergence and the development of Psychology as a unique and contributing discipline.
- To explore the various time periods in the history of Psychology through the lives and works of major figures.
- To gain insight to the formation and thinking of the various schools in Psychology.
- To consider current and recurrent crucial issues in Psychology within a historical and sociocultural as well as a multidisciplinary framework..

- To provide a solid theoretical foundation for further study in Psychology.

DEMONSTRATION AND ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING

Students will be asked to demonstrate their learning through participating in each class session and through the completion of the various assignments listed below.

- Student learning will be evaluated based on quality of participation, the quality of documentation of learning, the integration of theory and practice, and the overall mastery of the course content.

Absences will not be accepted except in the case of emergency or illness. An absence could be considered grounds for dismissal from the class. If you should need to be absent, contact me ahead of time at my email address: Crowsgirl28@gmail.com

- Each week there will be a brief typed (one-two) page reflection paper. The student will be prepared to share the content at each session in a small group.
- Inquiry: choose a theorist and provide a brief class presentation regarding what psychological and societal dynamics may have informed her/his theory.
- A final typed paper written per APA style (please access Owl Purdue Online for assistance) will be presented and submitted. This paper will be a team paper based on additional literature and will cover a certain school of thought throughout the history of Psychology.

**Please be advised that plagiarism in any form will be grounds for no credit. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and is a violation of the Social Contract. Academic dishonesty may result in penalties as severe as expulsion from your academic program or even from the college.*

- In addition to the stated assignments, several experiential exercises will be conducted as allowed via remote technology

****We may, at times, be meeting in person; depending what current Covid-19 circumstances are at that time.**

ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES:

Reflection Papers..... Sessions 2 through 9 (a total of eight)
Inquiry..... To Be Announ
Paper Presentations..... Sessions 7, 8, 9
Final Paper..... Session 10

REQUIRED READING

- Hergernhahn, B.R.; Henley, Tracy (2009) *An Introduction to the History of Psychology 6th Edition*. California : Wadsworth, Cengage Learning*
- Selected readings (selected by student) for the final paper.

*The readings will be listed that are to be read for THAT particular week, e.g., the reading listed under Session 2 should have been read **prior** to attending Session 2.

(Lectures will supplement the reading, videos, and additional suggestions will be given in class for readings. Lectures will not only supplement the reading but may present alternative views as well)

COURSE OUTLINE

Session 1 General Topics:

- Historical overview of Psychology: Influences and currents in the field.

Session 2 General Topics:

- Theories and Systems
- The ancient Greeks and Romans
Reading: Text- Chapters 1,2,3

Session 3 General Topics:

- The Rationalists, The Empiricists, and the German Nativists
- Changing view of the psyche
- Body/Mind issues
- The Renaissance Alchemists
Reading: Text- Chapters 4,5,6

Session 4 General Topics:

- The Structuralists
- Experimental Psychology
- Evolutionary Psychology

Reading: Text- Chapters 8, 9, 10

Session 5 General Topics:

- Functionalists & William James
- Sigmund Freud

Reading: Text- Chapters 11, 15, 16

Session 6 General Topics:

- Jung; Adler & other Revisionists
- The Behaviorists & Beyond

Reading: Text- Chapters 12,13, 17, 20

Session 7 General Topics:

- Mental illness: History & Definitions
- Gestalt Psychology
- Developmental Psychology

Reading: Text- Chapters 14, 15

Session 8 General Topics:

- Psychobiology
- Diversity in Psychology
- The Psychology of Women

Reading: Text- Chapters 19, 21

Session 9 General Topics:

- Humanists
- Existentialists
- Transpersonal Psychology

Reading: Text-Chapter 7, 18

Session 10 General Topics:

- Psychology, Today and Tomorrow
- Wrap up

Reading: None for this last week.