

The History & Scope of Psychology

Module 1

What is psychology?

- * The study of the mind & how it works

Where did psychology start?

- * Philosophers theorizing about the mind
 - * Learning
 - * Memory
 - * Perception
 - * Personality

Important minds in early psychology

- * Wilhelm Wundt
- * 1879
- * University of Leipzig, Germany
- * Measuring response time
- * Credited as 1st true study of psychology
- * 1st psychology lab

Important minds in early psychology

- * William James & Mary Whiton Calkins, 1890s, memory
- * Margaret Floy Washburn, 1st female psych Ph.D., animal behavior
- * Edward Bradford Titchener, introspection
- * William James, functionalism

Timeline of Psychology

- * Started as science of mental life
- * 1920s – looking at observable behavior
- * 1960s – Science of behavior & mental processes

Biggest question in psychology

- * Nature v. nurture
 - * "the seed & the watering can"
 - * Natural selection

3 perspectives of psychology The "biosocial approach"

- * Biological influences
 - * Genetic predispositions
 - * Hormones
 - * Natural selection of adaptive traits

3 perspectives of psychology The "biosocial approach"

- * Psychological influences:
 - * Learned beliefs, fears, expectations
 - * Emotional response
 - * Perception

3 perspectives of psychology The “biosocial approach”

- * Social-cultural influences:
 - * Cultural norms expectations
 - * Peer influence
 - * Media influence
 - * Presence of others

3 perspectives of psychology The “biosocial approach”

- * See Table 1.1 pg. 7 & reading just above it

Careers in psychology

- * Counseling psychologist
- * Clinical psychologist
- * Psychiatry
- * Research

Intro to Psychology – Crash Course

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vo4pMVboR6M>
