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Week 5

Short Essay

What contribution has Titchener's structuralism made to psychology and what criticisms have been made of his work?

Edward Bradford Titchener had a large contribution to psychology. Titchener was a follower of Wilhelm Wundt and came up with his own system of psychology, bringing his knowledge from Germany to the United States of America. Germany was one of the first places to advance in the field of psychology, so with that knowledge Titchener was educated on psychology. Titchener's studies focused on mental elements and its integration through the process of association. He focused on the consciousness of the human mind trying to study the structure of it. Titchener conducted research and wrote books that were manuals on the laboratory work of psychology.

Titchener was also known for excluding women from joining his meetings on psychology, due to them being too pure to smoke. Women were upset that they were unable to join the meetings, and sometimes they tried to sneak in, hiding under tables to acquire more knowledge. Many people disagreed with how he conducted his meetings, there were protests that occurred where people called his policy immoral and unscientific. He received many threats to include women in his meetings, but still did not want to. He even said that his meetings would have to be underground and hidden if he was forced to include women. After Titchener's death, meetings were open to both genders and no one was excluded.