

Kiara Hill

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Professor Flavin

History of Psychology

History of Psychology-Chapter 4 and 5 Test

History of Psychology - Chapter 4 Review

Wilhelm Wundt (1832-1920)

What made him the founder of psychology?

Wilhelm Wundt became the founder of psychology as an academic discipline. His accomplishments include creating the first laboratory, editing the first journal, and creating experimental psychology as a scientific study. During his time of the study, he studied sensation, perception, attention, feeling, etc.

What goal did he announce in his book Principles of Physiological Psychology?

The goal Wundt announced in his book “Principles of Physiological Psychology” was to promote psychology as an independent study of science. He states in his book, “Principles of Physiological Psychology,” “The work I here present to the public is an attempt to mark out a new domain of science.”

Gedankenmesser- means “thought meter” or “mind gauge.” This term is used to describe the mental process of recognizing two stimuli.

What two important things happened during the Leipzig years?

During the Leipzig years, Wundt became a professor of philosophy at the University of Leipzig in 1875 and worked for forty-five years. Wundt created a laboratory at Leipzig after becoming a professor and founded a journal titled, “Philosophical Studies” in 1881.

What two parts did psychology get divided into?

Psychology was divided into two parts, the experimental and the social.

What did Wundt believe that psychology should be the study of?

Wundt believed that psychology should be the study of Conscious Experience. Wundt relied on experimental methods of natural science and techniques used by physiologists.

Voluntarism- is the thought of the mind being able to organize mental contents into high-level thinking.

Mediate and immediate experience

Mediate Experience- gives information and knowledge about other elements of experience.

Immediate Experience- is an unbiased interpretation

Introspection according to Wundt

According to Wundt, Introspection is the examination of one’s own mind to report on individual thoughts and feelings. Wundt viewed this method as “internal perception.”

Wundt’s three goals of psychology

1. Analyze the mind and its elements
2. Its Component Parts
3. The physical universe

Two elements of psychology

1. Sensation
2. Feeling

Doctrine of apperception – the law of psychic resultants- is the process by which the mental elements are organized.

Wundt's legacy- Wundt would create a new study of science in which he would conduct experiments in his laboratory. He would record the results of his experiments in his journal to create a systematic theory.

Hermann Ebbinghaus (1850-1909)- is the first psychologist to investigate and experiment with higher mental processes. He succeeded in what Wundt couldn't do. He changed the way learning can be studied.

The first to investigate learning and Memory experimentally.

What did Ebbinghaus learn about nonsense syllables?

The nonsense syllabus was created by Ebbinghaus learned. Because of the changes that Ebbinghaus placed on the nonsense syllables he used different and unfamiliar materials. He also studied meaningless series of the different syllabus to determine the different conditions that served human learning.

Forgetting curve- demonstrates the material is quickly forgotten in a few short hours after learning.

Sentence completion exercise (still used in psychology today)-is a practice exercise to progress clinical practice and personal growth.

Franz Brentano (1838-1917)- trained to become a priest and studied at universities in Germany (Berlin, Munich, and Tubingen). He would graduate with a degree in Philosophy in 1864 and would be ordained as a priest the same year. Brentano published his book, "Psychology from an empirical standpoint," published in 1874. Brentano is known to be the most influential psychologist due to his interests.

Contrast with Wundt- Comparing and contrasting Wundt and Brentano, Wundt accomplished more than Brentano. Brentano would oppose Wundt's ideas of psychology and studying the conscious experience. Brentano argued that the subject matter for psychology is a mental activity. While studying the subject Brentano questioned Wundt's view on mental processes.

What did Brentano argue should be the proper subject matter of psychology?

Brentano argued that "Acts Psychology" should be the proper subject matter of psychology. His "Acts Psychology," questioned Wundt and his view on mental processes. Acts Psychology focused on the mental process including contents and elements.

In what two ways did Brentano believe you could study mental acts?

Two ways Brentano believed that mental acts can be studied is through memory and through imagination; in which mental processes include a certain mental state and using the imagination of the mental state and observing the mental process.

Carl Stumpf (1848-1936)

Carl Stumpf was introduced to science at an early age but had a greater love for music. Stumpf was influenced by Brentano's work and focused on philosophy and science. He would go on to receive his doctorate in 1868 at the University of Gottingen. Stumpf would be rewarded in 1894 with the most professorship in German Psychology. Stumpf would go on to create his own laboratory and develop a research program.

Stumpf was a major rival of Wundt's – what did he argue should be the primary data of psychology?

Stumpf argued the primary data for psychology is phenomena or also called, "Phenomenology."

What is phenomenology according to Stumpf?

Phenomenology is Stumpf's method for examining experiences as it occurs and not reducing elementary components as there is an approach to knowledge on immediate experience.

Oswald Kulpe (1862-1915)

Oswald Kulpe focused on problems that could not be solved by Wundt himself. He attended the University of Leipzig and studied philosophy and experimental psychology. Kulpe would soon become an assistant professor and an assistant to Wundt focusing on his lab experiments. Kulpe would then go on to write and publish a book titled, "Outline of Psychology" in which he dedicated his book to Wundt himself.

How did Kulpe define psychology?

Kulpe defined psychology as the science of the facts of experience that are dependent on the experiencing person.

What was Kulpe's systematic experimental introspection?

Kulpe's systematic experimental introspection was a method created by Kulpe that included completing difficult tasks and having to give retrospective reports on the process.

What did Kulpe mean by imageless thought?

Kulpe meant by "imageless thought" is to initiate an idea that meanings do not exactly need to include certain images.

History of Psychology - Chapter 5 Review

Edward Bradford Titchener (1867-1927) and Structuralism

Edward Bradford Titchener was a follower of Wundt, but would change Wundt's methods and studies of Psychology when he brought his knowledge information from Germany to the United States. His own view on Psychology was called, "Structuralism." Titchener focused on "elements" or "contents" and how they have a mechanical linking through association. Structuralism was the main focus in the United States and lasted for about two years until it became discontinued by brand new methods.

Although he claimed to represent Wundt's ideas and theories in America, he did not actually do this - how exactly did he change Wundt's theories?

Wundt's system of psychology was changed by Titchener after he brought psychology from Germany to America. He taught his own approach with his method of "structuralism" that can only be applied to Titchener and his method of teaching.

What did Titchener view the central task of psychology to be?

Titchener's central task of psychology was to discover the nature of the elementary conscious experiences to analyze consciousness into different components.

1901-1905: During these years he wrote Experimental Psychology: A Manual of Laboratory Practice, why is this noteworthy?

This book is noteworthy because there are individual volumes of work to stimulate the growth of laboratory work in psychology in the United States to influence generations of psychologists to come.

Titchener's view of women

Titchener's view on women was negative due to the rule he initiated when it came to his meetings. He initiated the "No Women allowed" rule with no women in the room. Women were known to be "too pure to smoke." There were some women students who attempted to sneak in and hide during the group meetings.

What did he believe the subject matter of psychology should be?

Titchener believed that the subject matter of psychology should be conscious experience saying experience is meant to be dependent on an individual who is experiencing it. Titchener sees this view as a difference from other studies by scientists.

What was meant by stimulus error?

Stimulus error is the confusion of the mental process when there is an object that is being observed.

For Titchener what was meant by introspection?

When Titchener meant by introspection he meant it altered conscious experiences being studied due to it being introduced as an observation variable to focus on the content of conscious experiences.

Titchener's three essential problems of psychology

1. Reduce conscious processes to their simplest components
2. Determine laws by which these elements of consciousness were associated.
3. Connect the elements with their physiological conditions

Titchener's three elementary states of consciousness

1. Sensations
2. Images
3. Affective states

Titchener presented a list of what he believed to be 44,500 elements of sensation – all of which he believed could be categorized according to four characteristics basic to all sensations.

1. Quality is the characteristic which distinguishes in each element from every other element.
2. Intensity is when the sensation's strength, weakness, loudness, or brightness.
3. Duration is the course of sensation over time
4. Clearness is the role of attention in conscious experience.

Criticisms of Structuralism

By the time of the twentieth century, psychology had changed in the United States and European countries. As this changed, psychologists started to disregard his structuralism method on psychology. This was an attempt to grasp antiquated principles and methods.

Contributions of Structuralism

Although there have been criticisms of Structuralism, historians have contributed to Titchener's structuralism methods. The main subject and focus were the conscious experience and how it contributes to research methods, different observations, experimentation, and measurements. The method of introspection has also contributed to Structuralism. This focuses on verbal reports and experiences.