

1950 - 1959

1960 - 1969

1970 - 1979

1980 - 1989

1990 - 1999

Flis & van Eck (2018)

History of Psychology

Session 11: What kind of science is psychology (revisited)? & Wrap-up

Loreen Tisdall, Center for Cognitive and Decision Sciences
December 8, 2025

Session information

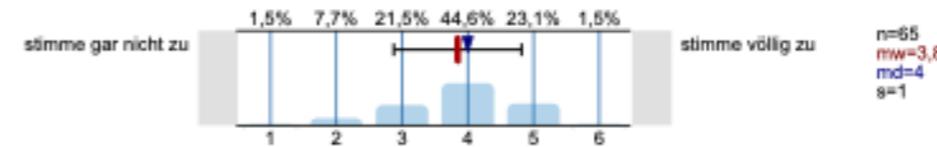
Sessions take place Mondays, 8.15-9.45, Chemie, Organische, Grosser Hörsaal OC.

#	Date	Topic	Instructor
1	22.09.2025	Session 1: What kind of science is psychology?	Mata
2	29.09.2025	Session 2: The birth of psychology	Mata
3	13.10.2025	Session 3: Psychoanalysis	Mata
4	20.10.2025	Session 4: Behaviorism	Mata
5	27.10.2025	Session 5: Gestalt psychology (<i>cancelled</i>)	Mata
6	03.11.2025	Session 6: Cognitive psychology	Mata
7	10.11.2025	Session 7: Psychology today	Tisdall
8	17.11.2025	Session 8: Psychotherapy research	Tisdall
9	24.11.2025	Session 9: Psychological testing	Tisdall
10	01.12.2025	Session 10: Decision science	Tisdall
11	08.12.2025	Session 11: What kind of science is psychology? (revisited)	Tisdall
12	15.12.2025	Session 12: Exam	

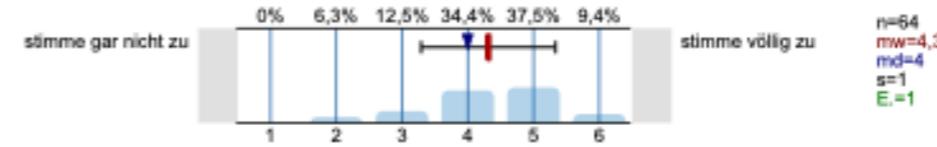
COURSE EVALUATION (N=65)

6. Rahmenbedingungen

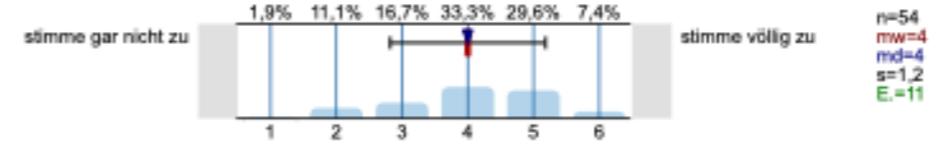
6.1) 11. Den Inhalt der Vorlesung finde ich interessant.



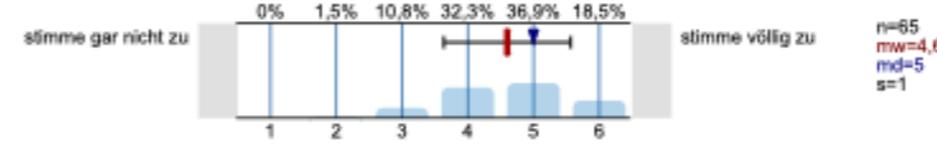
6.2) 12. Die Organisation der Vorlesung ist gut.



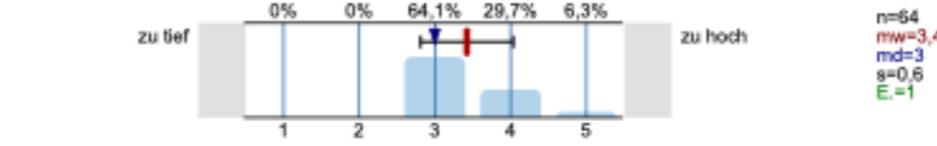
6.3) 13. Die Literaturhinweise sind hilfreich.



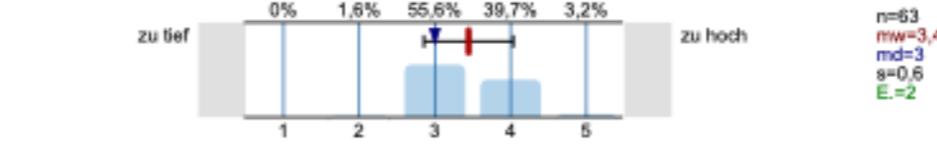
6.4) 14. Die Unterlagen (Folien, Skript, Handouts etc.) haben mir sehr geholfen, den Stoff zu erarbeiten.



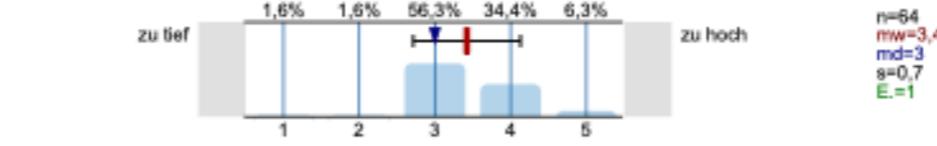
6.5) 15. Das Anspruchsniveau der Vorlesung ist:



6.6) 16. Der Stoffumfang der Vorlesung ist:



6.7) 17. Der Arbeitsaufwand der Vorlesung ist für mich:(in Anbetracht der Kreditpunkte)



COURSE EVALUATION (N=65)



- Slides are structured and clear
- Clear learning goals and summaries
- Good explanations
- Friendly, supportive lecturers
- Helpful, detailed slides for preparation
- Having lots of material
- Ability to ask questions
- Language used is clear
- Mock exam and literature references
- Useful historical background
- Lecturer intervened to reduce noise

- Slides messy, overloaded, unclear
- Missing definitions and unclear structure
- Explanations too complex or hard to follow
- Rushed sessions, little time for questions
- Slides too dense; require heavy self-study
- Too much content too quickly
- English too advanced, academic
- Lack of recordings; more quizzes, examples, and exam info needed
- Hard to understand historical connections; confusing concepts
- Room is loud and distracting
- Use of AI-generated images criticized (employ artist)

Learning Objectives for Today

- Be aware of **problems in studying the history of psychology**
- Gain knowledge about **historiographic methods**
- Critically reflect on the impact that different historiographic methods have on **students' perception of a discipline** (e.g., the Great Man vs. psychological factories)

Your turn!



Take a look at the timeline you created during the very first session of this course.

Does the history of psychology follow your timeline?

Anything that surprised you?

To better understand which perspectives best describe psychology (i.e., What kind of science is psychology?), we examined psychology from a historical perspective.

But how do we get to “a history of psychology”?
What are the methods to study the history of psychology?

9 great reasons to study the history of psychology

- **Understanding the origins of ideas:** Studying the history of psychology helps us trace the origins of key psychological concepts and theories. This understanding provides insight into how modern psychological frameworks evolved from earlier philosophical and scientific debates, showing the progression from philosophical musings on the mind to formal scientific inquiry.
- **Contextualizing (current) theories:** Psychological theories are often shaped by the historical, social, and cultural contexts of their time. By studying history, we can understand how societal events, such as wars, political movements, or technological advancements, influenced the development of psychological thought and how these contexts impact current approaches.
- **Avoiding past mistakes:** Examining the history of psychology helps avoid repeating past mistakes, such as discredited theories (e.g., phrenology, eugenics). It encourages critical reflection on how certain concepts or methods, once widely accepted, were later rejected for ethical, empirical, or conceptual reasons.
- **Highlighting its evolution:** The history of psychology shows how ethical standards and other practices (e.g., open science) have changed over time. Understanding past ethical frameworks for psychological research (e.g., Milgram's obedience experiments) helps inform current ethical guidelines and promotes the protection of participants and researchers in contemporary research.
- **Recognizing contributions of diverse figures:** Studying psychology's history helps uncover contributions from lesser-known figures, women, and individuals from marginalized groups. This can correct historical biases that have often focused disproportionately on a few "great men" while ignoring the contributions of others.
- **Appreciating the interdisciplinary nature of psychology:** The history of psychology reveals its deep connections to other fields, including philosophy, biology, economics, and sociology. By examining these interdisciplinary roots, we can gain a more comprehensive understanding of the field and its future directions.
- **Encouraging critical thinking:** Learning the history of psychology fosters critical thinking by showing that scientific knowledge is not static. It demonstrates that theories are not immune to challenge or revision, encouraging students and professionals to remain open to new ideas and critical of established ones.
- **Inspiring new research:** By studying historical trends and developments in psychology, researchers may identify overlooked areas of inquiry or gaps in knowledge that can inspire new studies or theoretical advancements.
- **Building a sense of identity:** For those in the field of psychology, understanding its history helps build a professional identity. It connects modern psychologists with the intellectual traditions and foundational debates that shaped the discipline.

3 major problems for studying history (of psychology)

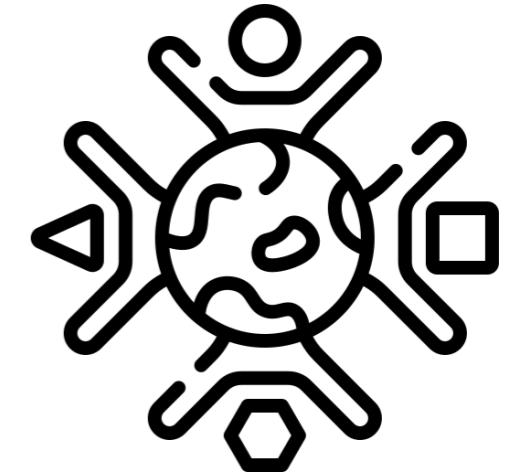
Causality



Not value-free



Diversity



History offers us no/few counterfactuals, no multiverse. How do we know what/who led to what, and why?

Historians (academics) have motivations, too! Ask yourself, who writes history and why? #hindisght, #ethnocentrism

Jocelyn Bell Burnell discovered pulsars (neutron stars). Her PhD supervisor received the Nobel Prize for that ...

How to study the history of psychology?

If we agree on the notion that history does have a role in the discipline of psychology, we must ask:

How can the history of psychology be studied in a meaningful, productive way without hero-worship?

Historiometry	Psychological factories	Scientific personae & moral economies	Multisited ethnography	Biography of scientific objects
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Statistical approach to find patterns in historical data of human personality or behaviorFocus on (groups of) individuals but considers the social factorsUses (auto)biographical data, historical records, societal and cultural dataE.g., study groups of artists or scientists within a certain time frame to identify common patterns in their creative developmentQuantitative, data-driven	<ul style="list-style-type: none">“A lab that has produced 10 or more scholarly articles per year for at least two years in a row.”Individual success happens within an ecology!E.g., use PsycNET to identify psychological factories —> study who has influenced psychology without the hagiography/hero worship (objective influence?)Quantitative, data-driven	<ul style="list-style-type: none">What are individuals’ values at a given time, and do they align with the status quo/mainstream of the discipline?Considers who rose to eminence at what time and in which cultural space?How and why do scientists engage with particular topics, methods, and evidence?E.g., open science, ethics, mentoring, objectivity, quantification, fairnessQualitative focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Concerns itself with the proliferation/circulation of phenomena and social processes in different environmentsExamines people, practices, and interactions across various sitesE.g., global spread of beliefs about specific individuals and impact of media and cultureMixed, but more of a qualitative focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Related to multisited ethnographyFocuses on the historical and social life of a particular scientific concept, product or object, tracing its development, usage, and meaning across time and spaceE.g., lifecycle of a psychological testMixed, but more of a qualitative focus

Example: A short history of psychology (and psychiatry) in context

Table 1: Timelines in the History and Development of Psychology

Time	Event / Development in Psychology Perspective	Event / Development in Psychology Perspective	Event / Development in Psychology Perspective	Event / Development in Psychology Perspective
Stone Age	All cultures and societies throughout history speculated on the nature of the human mind, heart, soul, spirit and brain. Traditional societies interpret our world through society traditions and religion. This included statements about behavioural conduct.	1890 William James published <i>Principles of Psychology</i> , functionalism.	1935 Alcoholic Anonymous (AA) founded.	1968 established in the Department of Psychology at The University of Illinois – Urbana/Champaign.
469 - 399 BC	Socrates shaped the cultural and intellectual life of ancient Greece.	1890 The term 'Mental Tests' was coined by James Cattell, now known as psychological assessment.	1935 First use of lobotomy for mental disorders.	1969 Martin Luther King Jr, the Civil Rights leader is assassinated.
430 - 377 BC	Hippocrates cites brain as source of mental illness.	1890 Sir Francis Galton developed the technique known as interrelationships in intelligence studies.	1935 Henry Murray publishes the <i>Thematic Apperception Test (TAT)</i> .	1969 Joseph Wolpe published <i>'The Practice of Behaviour Therapy'</i> .
428 - 347 BC	Plato, a Greek philosopher argued that the mind is the source of all knowledge.	1890 New York State passed the State Care Act, ordering people with mental illness into state hospitals for treatment and psychiatric research.	1936 Egas Moniz published his work on frontal lobotomies as a treatment for depression.	1969 Elizabeth Kubler-Ross publishes <i>'On Death and Dying'</i> .
384 - 322 BC	Aristotle, a Greek philosopher argued that the heart is the source of all knowledge.	1890 James McKeen Cattell publishes <i>Mental Tests and the Practice of Psychological Assessment</i> .	1937 Marijuana made illegal in the United States.	1970 Masters and Johnson publish <i>Human Sexual Inadequacy</i> and launch sex therapy.
387 BC	Plato suggested that the brain is the source of all knowledge.	1892 American Psychological Association (APA) founded, initial membership of 42.	1938 Electro convulsive therapy (ECT), formerly known as electroshock therapy, becomes a popular method of treatment though remains in use today.	1970 Esther Boserup publication on <i>'Women's Role in Economic Development'</i> .
335 BC	Aristotle suggested that the heart is the source of all knowledge.	1894 John Dewey established the first (1 st) major educational psychology department at the University of Chicago.	1938 B.F. Skinner proposes operant conditioning.	1971 First Doctorate in Psychology (Psy.D.) awarded (from The University of Illinois – Urbana/Champaign).
605	Ancient China was the first country to use psychology in treatment.	1894 Marga	1939 The Wechsler-Bellevue intelligence scale published.	1971 Kenneth Clark became the first African American President of the APA.
500 - 1450	500 - 1450	1895 Franz Mesmer detailed his theory of hypnosis.	1939 The Canadian Psychological Association was founded.	1972 CAT scan introduced.
1758 - 1828	1758 - 1828	1904 - 1990 B. F. Skinner, American psychologist, developed operant conditioning, form of behaviour therapy, form of existence.	1940 Second World War.	1973 DSM stops listing homosexuality as a mental disorder.
1772 - 1840	1772 - 1840	1905 - 1997 Viktor Emil Frankl, Austrian psychiatrist, developed logotherapy, form of existential therapy.	1941 The International Council of Psychologists (ICP) was established to promote the practice of psychology worldwide.	1973 David Rosenthal conducts study on being sane in insane places.
1483 - 1546	1483 - 1546	1911 Philippe Pinel is named the father of psychiatry, including unchaining mental patients from confinement in mental institutions.	1942 Jean Piaget published 'P	1973 APA endorses the Psy.D. degree for professional practice in psychology.
1515 - 1588	1515 - 1588	1911 Edward Thorndike published the theory of Operant Conditioning.	1942 Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) widely researched and widely used.	1973 Stockholm syndrome (capture-bonding) a psychological phenomenon is described.
1547	1547	1911 The first American Journal of Psychology was published.	1942 Carl Rogers developed a client-centered approach encouraging respect for the individual.	1974
1588 - 1679	1588 - 1679	1912 Wilhelm Stern developed the scores on Binet's intelligence test.	1943 LSD's hallucinogenic effects were discovered.	1975
1596 - 1650	1596 - 1650	1912 Max Wertheimer published <i>Perception of Movement</i> , marking the beginning of Gestalt psychology.	1943 Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI-2) published.	1975
1623 - 1662	1623 - 1662	1913 John B. Watson publishes <i>Behaviorism</i> , marking the beginning of behaviourism, which views behaviour as a response to the environment.	1943 Jean-Paul Sartre's existentialism.	1975
1632 - 1704	1632 - 1704	1913 William Tuke founded the first asylum for the mentally ill, similar to the Quakers.	1943 Abraham Maslow, one of the fathers of psychology, publishes <i>Hierarchy of Needs</i> .	1975
1693	1693	1801 - 1887 Gustav Fechner's 'Elemente der Psychophysik' (Elements of Psychophysics) is published.	1944 The Committee on International Psychotherapy is formed.	1975
1712 - 1778	1712 - 1778	1802 - 1887 Dorothea Dix begins campaigning to improve the treatment of the mentally ill.	1945 The state of Connecticut begins to recognize psychology as a profession.	1990
1724 - 1804	1724 - 1804	1808 Franz Gall wrote about phrenology, the idea that the brain on the head can reveal personality.	1945 The <i>Journal of Clinical Psychology</i> is published.	1990 Human Genome project launched.
1732 - 1819	1732 - 1819	1812 Benjamin Rush writes first book on mental illness.	1945 Karen Horney published <i>Women and Psychology</i> .	1990 Dr. Jack Kevorkian performs his first assisted suicide.
1745 - 1813	1745 - 1813	1812 Ernst Heinrich Weber published 'Deutsche Physiologie' (German Physiology), known as Weber's Law, or the law of just noticeable difference.	1946 Code of Ethics for Psychologists is published.	1990 Nelson Mandela is released from prison. Mandela fostered racial reconciliation, promoted democracy and social justice.
1745 - 1826	1745 - 1826	1813 Dorothea Dix begins campaigning to improve the treatment of the mentally ill.	1947 Abraham Maslow helps to found the Humanistic Psychology Association.	1991 Steven Pinker publishes an article in <i>Science</i> introducing his theory of how children acquire language, which he later details further in his book <i>The Language Instinct</i> .
		1818 - 1883 Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels publish 'The Communist Manifesto'.	1948 Alfred Kinsey reports on sexual behavior in the United States.	1993 Annual Prozac sales reach \$1.2 billion. Fluoxetine (Prozac) was the first major breakthrough for the treatment of depression.
		1822 - 1911 Francis Galton, influenced by Charles Darwin, publishes 'Hereditary Genius', and argues that intelligence is passed down through the family.	1948 The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is adopted by the General Assembly.	1994 The DSM IV is published.
		1832 - 1920 Wilhelm Wundt, influenced by Fechner, publishes 'Principles of Psychology'.	1948 Stanford-Binet intelligence test is published.	1994 Stephen Pinker's <i>The Language Instinct</i> is published.
		1842 - 1910 William James, Harvard University, publishes 'The Varieties of Religious Experience'.	1949 The Terman-Merrill-Brownell Test (TMB) is published.	1994 Deep Blue, the supercomputer at the time, beats the World's best chess player, Kasparov, marking a milestone in the development of artificial intelligence.
		1849 - 1936 Ivan Pavlov, Russian physiologist, publishes 'Conditioned Reflexes'.	1949 The World Health Organization (WHO) is founded.	1995 Annual Prozac sales reach \$2.8 billion.
		1846 - 1924 G. Stanley Hall, influenced by Darwin, publishes 'The Story of Psychology'.	1949 Lithium salts first used for the treatment of depression.	1998 Viagra goes on sale in the United States.
		1861 Sir Francis Galton, influenced by Darwin, publishes 'Hereditary Genius', and argues that intelligence is passed down through the family.	1949 The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is adopted by the General Assembly.	1998 Martin Seligman chooses positive psychology as the theme for his speech to the American Psychological Association, as its incoming president.
		1865 Gregor Mendel publishes 'Experiments in Plant Hybridization'.	1950 Leon Festinger proposes the cognitive dissonance theory.	1998 Terrorist attacks in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania Nairobi, Kenya at the USA Embassy buildings in which over 300 people are killed and other injured. Terrorism and trauma become a concern in psychological studies.
		1869 Carl Wernicke publishes 'On Aphasia'.	1950 Canadian, Donald Hebb, publishes 'The Organization of Behavior'.	1998 Psychology advances to the technological age with the emergence of e-therapy.
		1874 Carl Wernicke publishes 'On Aphasia'.	1950 Harry Harlow publishes 'The Nature of Love'.	1999 Killing rampage at Columbine High School stirs public concern about identifying and treating dangerousness in children.
		1876 G. Stanley Hall receives the first psychology degree.	1950 Erik Erikson published 'Childhood and Society'.	1999 U.S. Supreme Court rules that mental patients have a right to treatment in the community rather than institutions when it is available.
		1878 G. Stanley Hall receives the first psychology degree.	1950 - 1970 Various African states are independent states of orientation. Scores of black people are higher than those of European and White people.	2000 Genetic researchers finish mapping human genes. Scientists hope to one day isolate the individual genes responsible for different diseases.
		1880 - 1909 Hermann Ebbinghaus publishes 'Memory'.	1951 Sigmund Freud publishes 'The Interpretation of Dreams'.	2000 Seligman proposes positive psychology. Seligman has expanded Positive Psychology to education, health, and neuroscience.
		1856 - 1939 Edmund Hubble, American astronomer, publishes 'The Expanding Universe'.	1951 Marston testified in court that he had been sexually abused.	2000 DSM-IV-TR (4 th Edition, Text Revision) is published.
		1859 - 1938 Sigmund Freud, Austrian physician, publishes 'The Interpretation of Dreams'.	1951 William Marston was arrested for publishing 'The Mystery of Sex Appeal'.	2001 Terrorists attack America in the infamous September 11.
		1859 - 1927 John Dewey, American philosopher, publishes 'The School and Society'.	1951 Sigmund Freud publishes 'The Interpretation of Dreams'.	2001 The case of Andrea Yates who drowned her five children highlights the disorder postpartum psychosis.
		1878 - 1958 Carl Jung, Swiss psychologist, publishes 'Psychological Types'.	1951 Martin Heidegger publication 'History of Concept of Time' (1925) and 'Being and Time' (1927).	2001 The United States Surgeon General published a supplement to the first-ever Surgeon General's report on Mental Health.
		1886 - 1969 Sigmund Freud, Austrian physician, publishes 'The Interpretation of Dreams'.	1952 Anna Freud, daughter of Sigmund Freud, publishes 'The Ego and the Archetype'.	2001 The American Psychological Association officially recognized forensic psychology as a specialization within psychology.
		1889 - 1976 Martin Heidegger, German philosopher, publishes 'Being and Time'.	1952 The Great Depression was a world economic downturn in the history of the USA that lasted 10 years. It started with 'Black Thursday' October 24, 1929 when stock prices fell by 23 percent. The height of the Depression was 1932 when stock prices fell by 89 percent. It was triple the usual amount and rose from 3 percent to 25 percent of the nation's workforce. Wages fell by 40 percent.	2002 New Mexico becomes the first state to pass legislation allowing licensed psychologists to prescribe psychotropic medication.
		1892 - 1949 Harry Stack Sullivan, American psychiatrist, publishes 'The Early Childhood of the Individual'.	1952 Holmes and Rahe develop social adjustment rating scale.	2002 Steven Pinker publishes 'The Blank Slate', arguing against the concept of <i>tabula rasa</i> .
		1896 - 1934 Lev Vygotsky, Russian psychologist, publishes 'The Social Psychology of the Child'.	1952 Aaron Beck publishes 'Cognitive Therapy'.	2002 Psychologist Daniel Kahneman is awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics for his research (conducted with Amos Tversky) on how judgements are made in the face of uncertainty (Tversky died in 1996 and the Nobel is not awarded posthumously).
		1896 - 1980 Jean Piaget, Swiss psychologist, publishes 'The Moral Judgment of the Child'.	1952 Walter B. Cannon coined the term homeostasis and began research on the autonomic nervous system.	2002 The push for mental health parity gets the attention of the White House as President George W. Bush promotes legislation that would guarantee comprehensive mental health coverage.
		1897 - 1976 Jean Piaget, Swiss psychologist, publishes 'The Moral Judgment of the Child'.	1953 The DSM II is published.	2008 Obama becomes the first African American President of USA.
		1932 Jean Piaget, Swiss psychologist, publishes 'The Moral Judgment of the Child'.	1953 Walter B. Cannon coined the term homeostasis and began research on the autonomic nervous system.	2013 The DSM - 5 is published.

Example: A short history of psychology (and psychiatry) in context

Table 1: Timelines in the History and Development of Psychology

Time	Event / Development in Psychology Perspective
Stone Age	All cultures and societies throughout history speculated on the nature of the human mind, heart, soul, spirit and brain. Traditional societies interpret our world through society traditions and religion. This included standard behavioural conduct.
469 - 399 BC	Mental disorders treated by trephination.
430 - 377 BC	Socrates shaped the cultural and intellectual life of the Western world.
428 - 347 BC	Hippocrates cites brain as source of mental illness.
384 - 322 BC	Plato, a Greek philosopher argued that the soul is immortal.
387 BC	Aristotle, a Greek philosopher argued that the soul is mortal.
335 BC	Aristotle suggested that the heart was the seat of reason.
605	Ancient China was the first country to use psychology in law.
1000 BC	kindness rather than punishment was the treatment of choice.
500 - 1450	1758 - 1828 Franz Josef Gall developed phrenology.
1483 - 1546	1772 - 1840 Jean Esquierdeau published the principles of hypnosis.
1515 - 1588	1782 - 1852 Friedrich Freud developed the theory of the unconscious.
1547	1795 - 1878 Ernest Heinrich Becker developed the concept of the 'unconscious'.
1588 - 1679	1801 - 1887 Gustav Fechner developed the concept of the 'unconscious'.
1596 - 1650	1802 - 1887 Dorothea Dix improved the treatment of the mentally ill.
1623 - 1662	1809 - 1882 Charles Darwain studied the brain and developed the theory of evolution.
1632 - 1704	1818 - 1883 Karl Marx developed the theory of class struggle.
1693	1822 - 1911 Francis Galton developed the concept of heredity.
1712 - 1778	1832 - 1920 Wilhelm Wundt developed the first psychology laboratory in Germany.
1724 - 1804	1842 - 1910 William James developed the theory of 'stream of consciousness'.
1732 - 1819	1850 - 1909 Hermann Ebbinghaus developed the theory of memory.
1745 - 1813	1856 - 1939 Sigmund Freud developed the theory of the unconscious.
1745 - 1826	1859 - 1938 Edmund Hubble developed the theory of the Big Bang.
	1871 - 1955 Jessie Buttrick developed the first laboratory of psychology.
	1874 - 1949 John B. Watson developed the theory of behaviourism.
	1875 - 1961 Edward Thorndike developed the theory of operant conditioning.
	1878 - 1958 Carl Jung, Alfred Adler, and others developed the theory of depth psychology.
	1886 - 1969 Sir Frederic Bartlett developed the theory of memory.
	1889 - 1976 Martin Heidegger recast the phenomenological movement moving away from a philosophical discipline with focus on consciousness and essences of phenomena towards elaborate existential and hermeneutic (interpretive) dimensions.
	1892 - 1949 Harry Stack Sullivan, Social Psychology.
	1896 - 1934 Lev Vygotsky, Cultural - historical psychology.
	1896 - 1980 Jean Piaget, Swiss psychologist developed important theories of cognitive development in children.

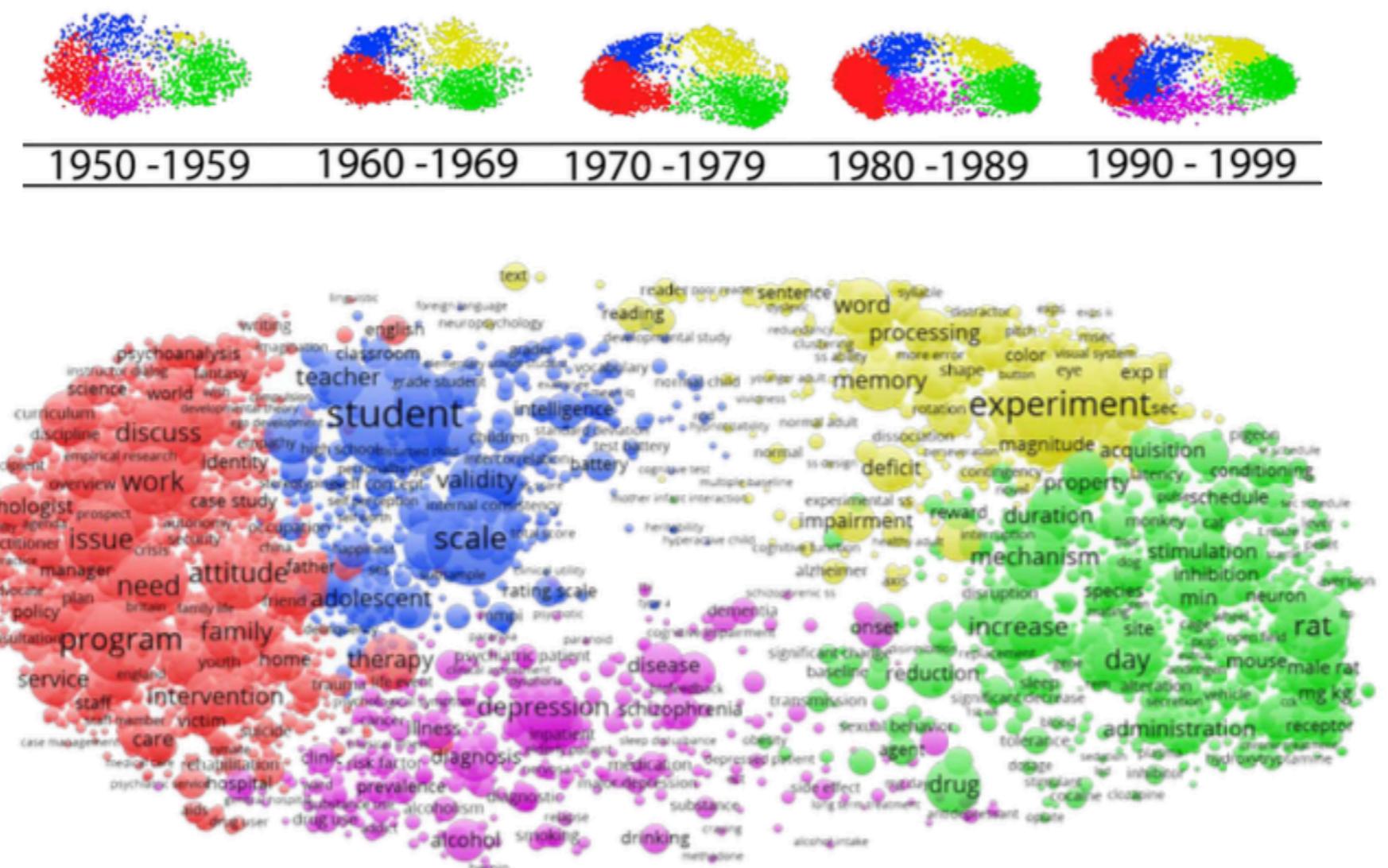
1890	William James published <i>Principles of Psychology</i> , functionalism.	phenomenalism.	including policies of political and economic restructuring. These had global implications.
1890	The term 'Mental Tests' was coined by James Cattell.	Alcoholic / First use of Henry Murray.	1990 Human Genome project launched.
1890	Sir Francis Galton developed the technique known as 'intelligence studies'.	Egas Moniz.	1990 Dr. Jack Kevorkian performs his first assisted suicide.
1890	New York State passed the State Care Act, ordering the poor into state hospitals for treatment and psychiatric research.	Marijuana.	1990 Noam Chomsky publishes <i>On Nature, Use and Acquisition of Language</i> .
1890	James McKeen Cattell publishes <i>Mental Tests and the Practice of Psychological Assessment</i> .	Electro convulsive therapy.	1990 Nelson Mandela is released from prison. Mandela fostered racial reconciliation, promoted democracy and social justice.
1892	American Psychological Association (APA) founded.	Second World War.	1991 Steven Pinker publishes an article in <i>Science</i> introducing his theory of how children acquire language, which he later details further in his book <i>The Language Instinct</i> .
1926 - 1993	Donald Broadbent, British psychologist.	The Internationale.	1993 Annual Prozac sales reach \$1.2 billion. Fluoxetine (Prozac) was the first major breakthrough for the treatment of depression.
1929 - 1968	Martin Luther King Jr. an spokesperson and leader in the Civil Rights Movement.	Jean Piaget.	1994 The DSM IV is published.
1773	First American hospital established.	Minnesota.	1994 Stephen Pinker's <i>The Language Instinct</i> is published.
1774	Franz Mesmer detailed his theory of 'animal magnetism'.	Carl Rogers.	1997 Deep Blue, the supercomputer at the time, beats the World's best chess player, Kasparov, marking a milestone in the development of artificial intelligence.
1793	Philippe Pinel is named the 'father of psychiatry', including unchaining mental patients from confinement.	John B. Watson.	1998 Annual Prozac sales reach \$ 2.8 billion.
1796	William Tuke founded the first psychiatric hospital.	Abraham Maslow.	1998 Viagra goes on sale in the United States.
1808	Franz Gall wrote about phrenology.	Carl Jung.	1998 Martin Seligman chooses positive psychology as the theme for his speech to the American Psychological Association, as its incoming president.
1812	Benjamin Rush writes first book on the treatment of mental illness.	The Committee on Trauma.	1998 Terrorist attacks in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania Nairobi, Kenya at the USA Embassy buildings in which over 300 people are killed and other injured. Terrorism and trauma become a concern in psychological studies.
1834	Ernst Heinrich Weber put forward the 'law of Weber'.	The Journal of Social Psychology.	1998 Psychology advances to the technological age with the emergence of e-therapy.
1842	Dorothea Dix begins campaigning for the treatment of the mentally ill.	Karen Horney.	1999 Killing rampage at Columbine High School stirs public concern about identifying and treating dangerousness in children.
1848	Phineas Gage suffered brain damage but his intellect remained.	Alfred Kinsey.	1999 U.S. Supreme Court rules that mental patients have a right to treatment in the community rather than institutions when it is available.
1859	Charles Darwin published <i>On the Origin of Species</i> , expanding on the theory of evolution.	First World War.	2000 Genetic researchers finish mapping human genes. Scientists hope to one day isolate the individual genes responsible for different diseases.
1861	French physician Paul Broca developed the theory of language development.	Edmund P. Thorndike.	2000 Seligman proposes positive psychology. Seligman has expanded Positive Psychology to education, health, and neuroscience.
1865	Gregor Mendel publishes the results of his work.	The Behaviorists.	2000 DSM-IV-TR (4 th Edition, Text Revision) is published.
1869	Sir Francis Galton, influenced by Darwin, and argues that intelligence is 'inborn'.	Ivan Pavlov.	2001 Terrorists attack America in the infamous September 11.
1874	John Hopkins behind the scenes of the American Civil War, elected the first black member of Congress.	Alfred Adler.	2001 The case of Andrea Yates who drowned her five children highlights the disorder postpartum psychosis.
1876	G. Stanley Hall received the first Ph.D. in psychology.	The Journal of Psychology.	2001 The United States Surgeon General published a supplement to the first-ever Surgeon General's report on Mental Health.
1878	G. Stanley Hall received the first Ph.D. in psychology.	Alzheimer's.	2001 The American Psychological Association officially recognized forensic psychology as a specialization within psychology.
1880	Marion Marston was appointed to the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania.	Carl Rogers.	2002 New Mexico becomes the first state to pass legislation allowing licensed psychologists to prescribe psychotropic medication.
1883	Emil Kraepelin publishes <i>Psychopathia Mentalis</i> .	Sigmund Freud.	2002 Steven Pinker publishes <i>The Blank Slate</i> , arguing against the concept of <i>tabula rasa</i> .
1883	The first laboratory of psychology.	Marion Marston.	2002 Psychologist Daniel Kahneman is awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics for his research (conducted with Amos Tversky) on how judgements are made in the face of uncertainty (Tversky died in 1996 and the Nobel is not awarded posthumously).
1885	Herman Ebbinghaus introduced the nonsense syllable test.	Clifford Beers.	2002 The push for mental health parity gets the attention of the White House as President George W. Bush promotes legislation that would guarantee comprehensive mental health coverage.
1886	Sigmund Freud begins treating patients in Vienna, Austria.	Freud.	2008 Obama becomes the first African American President of USA.
1887	G. Stanley Hall founded <i>The American Journal of Psychology</i> .	Calkins.	2013 The DSM - 5 is published.
1888	James McKeen Cattell becomes the first professor of psychology in the United States.	Frank Frank.	
1889	The first International Congress of Psychology took place.		
1889 - 1976	Martin Heidegger recast the phenomenological movement moving away from a philosophical discipline with focus on consciousness and essences of phenomena towards elaborate existential and hermeneutic (interpretive) dimensions.		
1892 - 1949	Harry Stack Sullivan, Social Psychology.		
1896 - 1934	Lev Vygotsky, Cultural - historical psychology.		
1896 - 1980	Jean Piaget, Swiss psychologist developed important theories of cognitive development in children.		
1895			
1896			
1897			
1898			
1899			
1900			
1901			
1902			
1903			
1904			
1905			
1906			
1907			
1908			
1909			
1910			
1911			
1912			
1913			
1914			
1915			
1916			
1917			
1918			
1919			
1920			
1921			
1922			
1923			
1924			
1925			
1926			
1927			
1928			
1929			
1930			
1931			
1932			
1933			
1934			
1935			
1936			
1937			
1938			
1939			
1940			
1941			
1942			
1943			
1944			
1945			
1946			
1947			
1948			
1949			
1950			
1951			
1952			
1953			
1954			
1955			
1956			
1957			
1958			
1959			
1960			
1961			
1962			
1963			
1964			
1965			
1966			
1967			
1968			
1969			
1970			
1971			
1972			
1973			
1974			
1975			
1976			
1977			
1978			
1979			
1980			
1981			
1982			
1983			
1984			
1985			
1986			
1987			
1988			
1989			
1990			
1991			
1992			
1993			
1994			
1995			
1996			
1997			
1998			
1999			
2000			
2001			
2002			
2003			
2004			
2005			
2006			
2007			
2008			
2009			
2010			
2011			
2012			
2013			
2014			
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			
2020			
2021			
2022			
2023			
2024			
2025			
2026			
2027			
2028			
2029			
2030			
2031			
2032			
2033			
2034			
2035			
2036			
2037			
2038			
2039			
2040			
2041			
2042			
2043			
2044			
2045			
2046			
2047			
2048			
2049			
2050			
2051			
2052			
2053			
2054			
2055			
2056			
2057			
2058			
2059			
2060			
2061			
2062			
2063			
2064			
2065			
2066			
2067			
2068			
2069			
2070	</td		

Example: Bibliometric analysis of key psychological terms over time

- “Considering the popularity of the unity/disunity debates among psychologists and historians, we approach the question of disciplinary formation by **reframing it into a history of methods.**”
- “If we take a bird’s-eye view of psychological research, made possible by **new ways of analyzing large amounts of data**, can we identify a) the growth of the literature b) the fundamental changes in the content of the science c) the methodological traditions akin to the ones Cronbach talks about?” [...] We aim to explore exactly that through a **large-scale analysis of the content of psychological journals.**”
- “We aim to show that even though the growth of the literature was massive, the fundamental changes in the content of psychological research were not structural. The **structure of the field remained the same, and at the center was a methodological core.**”

Example: Bibliometric analysis of key psychological terms over time

- data-mining terms from scientific journals
- sample of 676,393 articles published in journals indexed in PsycINFO from 1950 to 1999, analysis of the relevant terms authors use in their abstracts and titles
- terms are visualized in two-dimensional **co-occurrence maps of the discipline**
- *the larger the number of abstracts/titles which contain the same two terms together, the closer those terms will appear in the map*
- co-occurrence maps as a proxy for the discipline of psychology (**“digital history”**)



Example: Bibliometric analysis of key psychological terms over time

- data-mining terms from scientific journals
- sample of 676,393 articles published in journals indexed in PsycINFO from 1950 to 1999, analysis of the relevant terms authors use in their abstracts and titles
- terms are visualized in two-dimensional **co-occurrence maps of the discipline**
- *the larger the number of abstracts/titles which contain the same two terms together, the closer those terms will appear in the map*
- co-occurrence maps as a proxy for the discipline of psychology (**“digital history”**)

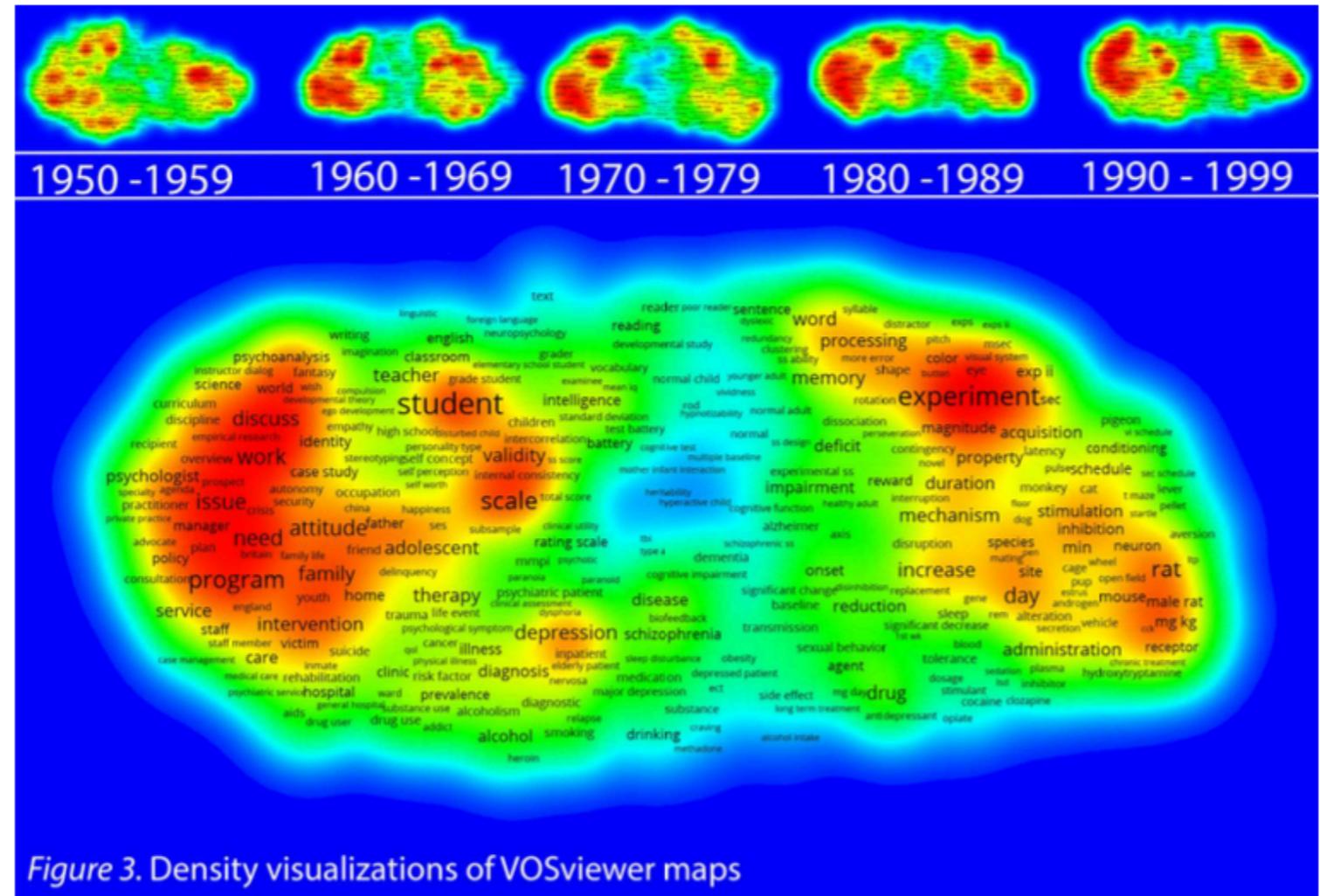


Figure 3. Density visualizations of VOSviewer maps

In 1957 and 1975, Lee Cronbach described two scientific disciplines of psychology: a correlational psychology and an experimental psychology ...

Summary

- **Studying the history of psychology** as a **scientific discipline** allows us to **understand the evolution of theories, methods, and approaches** that have shaped our understanding of human behavior, as well as to **critically evaluate past assumptions**, recognize how **cultural and societal influences** have impacted the field, and appreciate the **contributions of key figures** in advancing psychological knowledge and practice.
- **Studying the history of psychology** is **plagued by various problems**, including the **limited exploration of counterfactuals**, which constrains our understanding of alternative causal paths, the tendency to **view historical developments through a retrospective and motivational lens that is not value-free**, and the **lack of diversity** in recognizing contributions from marginalized or underrepresented groups in the field.
- **Studying the history of psychology** can be approached through a **variety of historiographic methods**, which offer valuable insights into the contributions of specific individuals or groups, while **avoiding the pitfalls of the hero-worship of a few "Great Men"**.

Key reading

Ball, L. C. (2012). Genius without the “Great Man”: New possibilities for the historian of psychology. *History of Psychology*, 15(1), 72. <https://oce.ovid.com/article/00120507-201202000-00005/PDF>

It's a wrap!



**Any questions?
Thank you & good luck
with your exams!**