



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

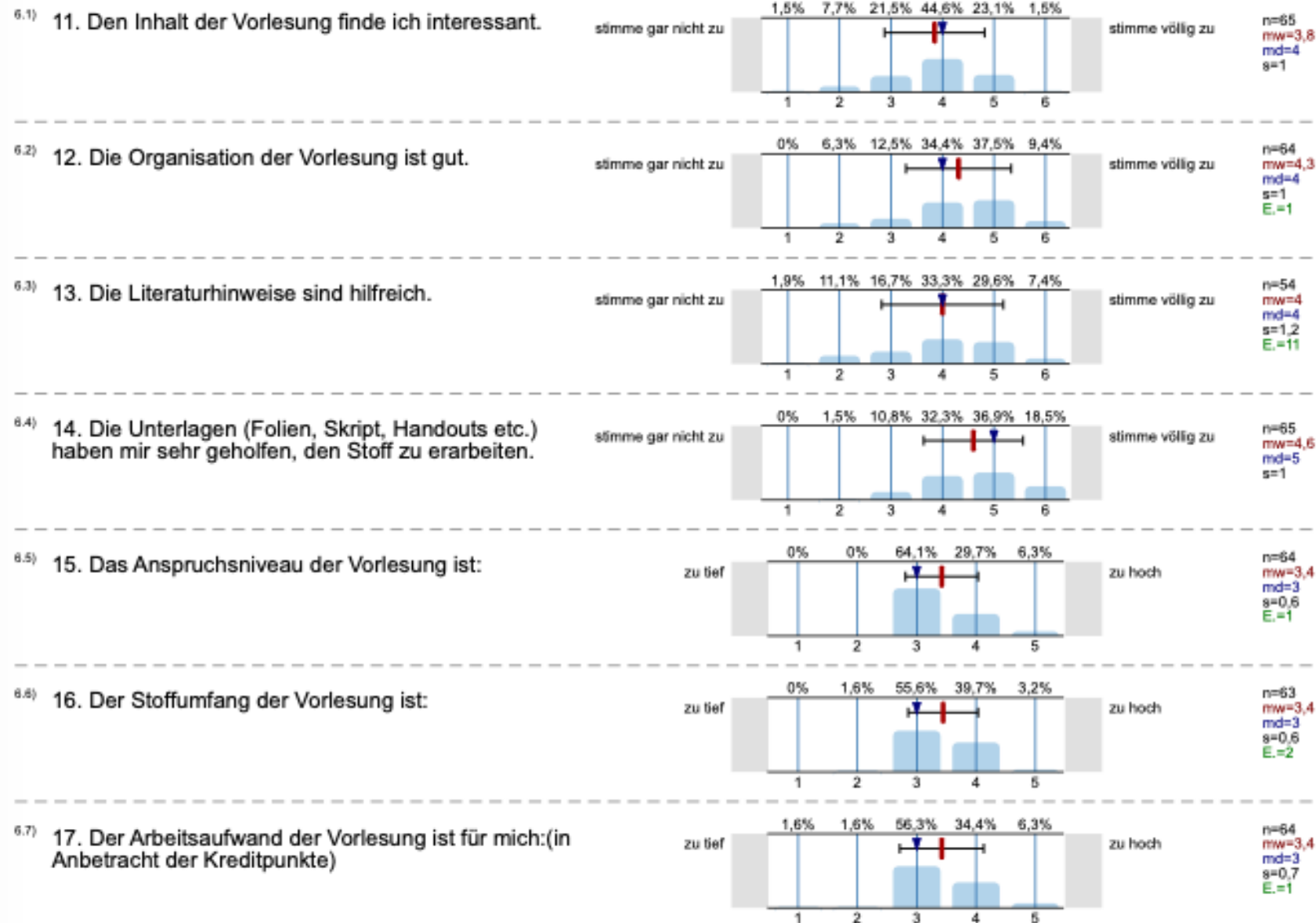
Session information

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



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)

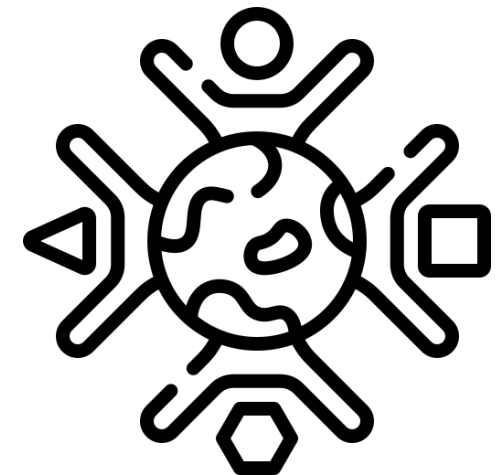
Causality



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? #hindsight, #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

- Statistical approach to find patterns in historical data of human personality or behavior
- Focus on (groups of) individuals but considers the social factors
- Uses (auto)biographical data, historical records, societal and cultural data
- E.g., study groups of artists or scientists within a certain time frame to identify common patterns in their creative development
- Quantitative, data-driven

Psychological factories

- “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

Scientific personae & moral economies

- 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, fairness
- Qualitative focus

Multisited ethnography

- Concerns itself with the proliferation/circulation of phenomena and social processes in different environments
- Examines people, practices, and interactions across various sites
- E.g., global spread of beliefs about specific individuals and impact of media and culture
- Mixed, but more of a qualitative focus

Biography of scientific objects

- Related to multisited ethnography
- Focuses on the historical and social life of a particular scientific concept, product or object, tracing its development, usage, and meaning across time and space
- E.g., lifecycle of a psychological test
- Mixed, 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	
	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 stable behavioural conduct.	
Stone Age	Mental disorders treated by trephining	
469 - 399 BC	Socrates shaped the cultural and intellectual climate of ancient Greece	
430 - 377 BC	Hippocrates cites brain as source of mental disorders	
428 - 347 BC	Plato, a Greek philosopher argues that the mind is immortal	
384 - 322 BC	Aristotle, a Greek philosopher argues that the mind is mortal	
387 BC	Plato suggested that the brain is the seat of intelligence	
335 BC	Aristotle suggested that the heart is the seat of intelligence	
605	Ancient China was the first country to use a psychological test	
500 - 1450	1758 - 1828 Franz Josef Gall developed phrenology	1772 - 1840 Jean Esquirol published principles of mental medicine
1483 - 1546	1782 - 1852 Friedrich Froebel developed the kindergarten	1795 - 1878 Ernst Heinrich von Dürckheim developed the concept of the 'inner world'
1515 - 1588	1795 - 1878 William Tuke founded the first asylum for the mentally ill	1801 - 1887 Gustav Fechner developed the concept of the 'inner world'
1547	1801 - 1887 Gustav Fechner developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1802 - 1887 Dorothea Dix founded the first asylum for the mentally ill
1588 - 1679	1802 - 1887 Dorothea Dix founded the first asylum for the mentally ill	1809 - 1882 Charles Darwin published the theory of evolution
1596 - 1650	1809 - 1882 Charles Darwin published the theory of evolution	1818 - 1883 Karl Max von Sigmund Freud published the theory of psychoanalysis
1623 - 1662	1818 - 1883 Karl Max von Sigmund Freud published the theory of psychoanalysis	1822 - 1911 Francis Galton developed the concept of the 'inner world'
1632 - 1704	1822 - 1911 Francis Galton developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1832 - 1920 Wilhelm Wundt founded the first psychology laboratory
1693	1832 - 1920 Wilhelm Wundt founded the first psychology laboratory	1842 - 1910 William James published the theory of pragmatism
1712 - 1778	1842 - 1910 William James published the theory of pragmatism	1849 - 1936 Ivan Pavlov developed the concept of the 'inner world'
1724 - 1804	1849 - 1936 Ivan Pavlov developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1846 - 1924 G. Stanley Hall founded the first psychology laboratory
1732 - 1819	1846 - 1924 G. Stanley Hall founded the first psychology laboratory	1850 - 1909 Hermann von Helmholtz developed the concept of the 'inner world'
1745 - 1813	1850 - 1909 Hermann von Helmholtz developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1856 - 1939 Sigmund Freud published the theory of psychoanalysis
1745 - 1826	1856 - 1939 Sigmund Freud published the theory of psychoanalysis	1859 - 1938 Edmund Husserl developed the concept of the 'inner world'
	1859 - 1938 Edmund Husserl developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1859 - 1952 John Dewey developed the concept of the 'inner world'
	1859 - 1952 John Dewey developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1867 - 1927 Edward Thorndike developed the concept of the 'inner world'
	1867 - 1927 Edward Thorndike developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1870 - 1937 Alfred Adler developed the concept of the 'inner world'
	1870 - 1937 Alfred Adler developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1870 - 1952 Maria Montessori developed the concept of the 'inner world'
	1870 - 1952 Maria Montessori developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1871 - 1955 Jesse Butler developed the concept of the 'inner world'
	1871 - 1955 Jesse Butler developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1874 - 1949 John B. Watson developed the concept of the 'inner world'
	1874 - 1949 John B. Watson developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1875 - 1961 Edward Thorndike developed the concept of the 'inner world'
	1875 - 1961 Edward Thorndike developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1878 - 1958 Carl Jung developed the concept of the 'inner world'
	1878 - 1958 Carl Jung developed the concept of the 'inner world'	1886 - 1969 Sir Frederic Bartlett developed the concept of the 'inner world'
	1886 - 1969 Sir Frederic Bartlett developed the concept of the 'inner world'	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.
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	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.	
1890	The term 'Mental Tests' was coined by James Cattell now known as psychological assessment.	
1890	Sir Francis Galton developed the technique known as anthropometry in intelligence studies.	
1890	New York State passed the State Care Act, ordering houses and into state hospitals for treatment and psychiatric research.	
1890	James McKeen Cattell publishes <i>Mental Tests and the Practice of Psychological Assessment</i> .	
1892	American Psychological Association (APA) founded with initial membership of 42.	
1894	John Dewey established the first (1 st) major educational psychology department at the University of Chicago.	
1894	Margaret Floy Washburn became the first woman to receive a Ph.D. in psychology.	
1895	Sigmund Freud published <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i> .	
1895	Alfred Binet developed the first intelligence test.	
1896	Lightner Sturges published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1896	William Dill published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1896	The first clinical psychology department was established at the University of Chicago.	
1896	Hugo Münsterberg published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1897	General Sigmund Freud published <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i> .	
1898	Edward Thorndike published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1900	Sigmund Freud published <i>The Interpretation of Dreams</i> .	
1900	Morton Prince published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1900-1	Edmund Husserl published <i>The Philosophy of Language</i> .	
1901	Ivan Pavlov published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1901	The Binet-Simon Intelligence Scale was developed.	
1905	Alfred Binet developed the first intelligence test.	
1905	Mary Whitton Wood published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1906	Ivan Pavlov published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1906	The first clinical psychology department was established at the University of Chicago.	
1907	Alfred Binet developed the first intelligence test.	
1907	Carl Jung published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1908	Clifford D. Morgan published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1909	Freud published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1909	Calkins published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1909	Frank S. Stevens published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1911	Edward Thorndike published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1911	The first American Journal of Psychology was published.	
1912	Wilhelm Wundt published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1912	Max Wertheimer published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1913	John B. Watson published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1913	Carl G. Jung departed from Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis and founded Analytical Psychology.	
1913	National Vocational Guidance Association [NCVA] launched.	
1914 - 1919	First World War.	
1915	Sigmund Freud published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1916	Stanford-Binet Intelligence Test was developed.	
1917	The U.S. Congress declared that the president of the United States should be elected by the people.	
1917	John B. Watson founded the first behaviorist school of psychology.	
1919	John B. Watson published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1920	Watson and Rosalie Rayner published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1921	Rorschach test published.	
1922	William Marston published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1923	Sigmund Freud published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1923	Marston testified in the case of the precedent for the use of the polygraph in order to be used as evidence in court.	
1924	Police use first lie detector.	
1925	Gestalt Psychology is born with <i>An Introduction to Gestalt Psychology</i> by Wolfgang Köhler.	
1925	Martin Heidegger publication <i>History of Concept of Time</i> (1925) and <i>Being and Time</i> (1927) founded the hermeneutic phenomenology.	
1927	Anna Freud, daughter of Sigmund Freud, pioneered child psychology with a book <i>An Introduction to the Technique of Child Analysis</i> that expanded on her father's work.	
1929	Electro Convulsive Therapy (ECT) developed.	
1929	The first International Congress of Psychology to be held in the United States at Yale University.	
1929 - 1939	The Great Depression was a world economic downturn in the history of the world that lasted 10 years. It started with 'Black Thursday' October 24, 1929, when the stock market crashed. It was the deepest and longest economic depression in the history of the United States. The height of the Depression was in 1932, when the economy had fallen to its lowest point. The height of the Depression was in 1932, when the economy had fallen to its lowest point. The height of the Depression was in 1932, when the economy had fallen to its lowest point.	
1932	Jean Piaget publishes <i>The Moral Judgment of the Child</i> .	
1932	Walter B. Cannon coined the term homeostasis and began research on the physiological basis of behavior.	
1935	Alcoholic Anonymous (AA) founded.	
1935	First use of lobotomy for mental disorders.	
1935	Henry Murray publishes the <i>Thematic Apperception Test (TAT)</i> .	
1936	Egas Moniz published his work on frontal lobotomies as a treatment for mental disorders.	
1937	Marijuana made illegal in the United States.	
1938	Electro convulsive therapy (ECT), formerly known as electroshock therapy, is used on a person. It becomes a popular method of treatment through the use of a device called a thalim.	
1938	B.F. Skinner proposes operant conditioning.	
1939	The Wechsler - Bellevue intelligence scale published.	
1939	The Canadian Psychological Association was founded.	
1939 - 1945	Second World War.	
1941	The International Council of Psychologists (ICP) was established to promote the practice of psychology worldwide.	
1942	Jean Piaget published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1942	Minnesota Multiphasic Inventory (MMPI) widely researched and used.	
1942	Carl Rogers developed the person-centered approach encourages research.	
1943	LSD's hallucinogenic effects were first reported.	
1943	Minnesota Multiphasic Inventory (MMPI) widely researched and used.	
1943	Jean-Paul Sartre's existentialism was influential.	
1943	Abraham Maslow, one of the founders of humanistic psychology, published his hierarchy of needs.	
1944	The Committee on Interpersonal Relations was established.	
1945	The state of Connecticut recognized psychology as a profession.	
1945	The <i>Journal of Clinical Psychology</i> was founded.	
1945	Karen Horney published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1948	Alfred Kinsey reports on the sexual behavior of Americans.	
1948	The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations.	
1948	George Miller produced the first artificial intelligence program.	
1948	World Health Organization (WHO) was established.	
1949	Lithium salts first used for the treatment of mental illness.	
1949	Boulder Conference on the Development of Psychology was held.	
1949	M.D. versus Ph.D. used for the degree in psychology.	
1949	Harry Harlow publishes on the importance of attachment in the development of the individual.	
1950	Erik Erikson published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1950 - 1970	Various African states gained independence and began to develop their own psychological theories.	
1951	Chlorpromazine, first antipsychotic drug, was introduced.	
1951	Cart Rogers publishes <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1952	First edition of <i>Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders</i> (DSM-I) published.	
1952	Sex-change Operation performed on a woman.	
1952	A study on psychotherapy more effective than no treatment.	
1952	Chlorpromazine (Thorazine) introduced for the treatment of mental illness.	
1953	Alfred Kinsey reports on the sexual behavior of Americans.	
1953	Samuel Johnson, first suicide.	
1953	B.F. Skinner outlined his theory of operant conditioning.	
1954	Abraham Maslow helps to develop the hierarchy of needs.	
1955	The Los Angeles Suicide Prevention Center was established.	
1956	Family systems theory developed.	
1956	George Miller produced the first artificial intelligence program.	
1957	Leon Festinger proposed the concept of cognitive dissonance.	
1957	USSR successfully launched the first satellite.	
1958	Joseph Wolpe developed systematic desensitization.	
1958	Harry Harlow publishes on the importance of attachment in the development of the individual.	
1959	Lunik II lands on the moon.	
1961	Thomas Szasz publishes <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1961	John Berry introduced the concept of acculturation.	
1961	Carl Rogers published <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1961	Franz Fanon authors <i>The Psychology of the Individual</i> .	
1961	Albert Bandura conducted his experiment on the social learning theory.	
1962	Albert Ellis proposed Rational Emotive Therapy (RET).	
1963	The Community Mental Health Act was passed.	
1963	Antianxiety drug Valium introduced in the United States.	
1963	Alfred Bandura introduced the idea of Observational Learning.	
1963	Lawrence Kohlberg introduced his ideas for the study of moral development.	
1964	U.S. Surgeon General warns that smoking can be a health hazard.	
1965	Norepinephrine and serotonin theories of depression.	
1967	Aaron Beck publishes cognitive theory and the psychological model of depression suggesting that negative thoughts, feelings, and behaviors are interconnected.	
1967	Methadone maintenance treatment begins.	
1967	Holmes and Rahe develop social adjustment rating scale.	
1967	Aaron Beck publishes a model of depression that is based on cognitive theory.	
1968	The DSM II is published.	
1968	First Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) profession established in the Department of Psychology at The University of Illinois - Urbana/Champaign.	
1968	Martin Luther King Jr, the Civil Rights leader is assassinated.	
1969	Joseph Wolpe published <i>The Practice of Behaviour Therapy</i> .	
1969	Elizabeth Kubler-Ross publishes <i>On death and dying</i> .	
1970	Masters and Johnson publish human sexual Inadequacy and launch sex therapy.	
1970	Esther Boserup publication on 'Women's Role in Economic Development.'	
1971	First Doctorate in Psychology (Psy.D.) awarded (from The University of Illinois - Urbana/Champaign).	
1971	Kenneth Clark became the first African American President of the APA.	
1972	CAT scan introduced.	
1973	DSM stops listing homosexuality as a mental disorder.	
1973	David Rosenhan conducts study on being sane in insane places.	
1973	APA endorsed the Psy.D. degree for professional practice in psychology.	
1973	Stockholm syndrome (capture-bonding) a psychological phenomenon is described.	
1974	Stress is recognized as a major factor in mental health.	
1975	Esther Boserup publication on 'Women's Role in Economic Development.'	
1975	Human Genome project launched.	
1975	Dr. Jack Kevorkian performs his first assisted suicide.	
1975	Noam Chomsky publishes <i>On Nature, Use and Acquisition of Language</i> .	
1980	Nelson Mandela is released from prison. Mandela fostered racial reconciliation, promoted democracy and social justice.	
1981	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> .	
1981	Annual Prozac sales reach \$1.2 billion. Fluoxetine (Prozac) was the first major breakthrough for the treatment of depression.	
1982	The DSM IV is published.	
1982	Stephen Pinker's <i>The Language Instinct</i> is published.	
1983	Deep Blue, the supercomputer at the time, beats the World's best chess player, Kasparov, marking a milestone in the development of artificial intelligence.	
1983	Annual Prozac sales reach \$2.8 billion.	
1983	Viagra goes on sale in the United States.	
1982	Martin Seligman chooses positive psychology as the theme for his speech to the American Psychological Association, as its incoming president.	
1982	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.	
1983	Psychology advances to the technological age with the emergence of e-therapy.	
1984	Killing rampage at Columbine High School stirs public concern about identifying and treating dangerousness in children.	
1985	U.S. Supreme Court rules that mental patients have a right to treatment in the community rather than institutions when it is available.	
1986	Genetic researchers finish mapping human genes. Scientists hope to one day isolate the individual genes responsible for different diseases.	
1987	Seligman proposes positive psychology. Seligman has expanded Positive Psychology to education, health, and neuroscience.	
1987	DSM-IV-TR (4 th Edition, Text Revision) is published.	
1988	Terrorists attack America in the infamous September 11.	
1988	The case of Andrea Yates who drowned her five children highlights the disorder postpartum psychosis.	
1988	The United States Surgeon General published a supplement to the first-ever Surgeon General's report on Mental Health.	
1988	The American Psychological Association officially recognized forensic psychology as a specialization within psychology.	
1988	New Mexico becomes the first state to pass legislation allowing licensed psychologists to prescribe psychotropic medication.	
1988	Steven Pinker publishes <i>The Blank Slate</i> , arguing against the concept of <i>tabula rasa</i> .	
1988	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).	
1988	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.	
1988	Obama becomes the first African American President of USA.	
1988	The DSM - 5 is published.	

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

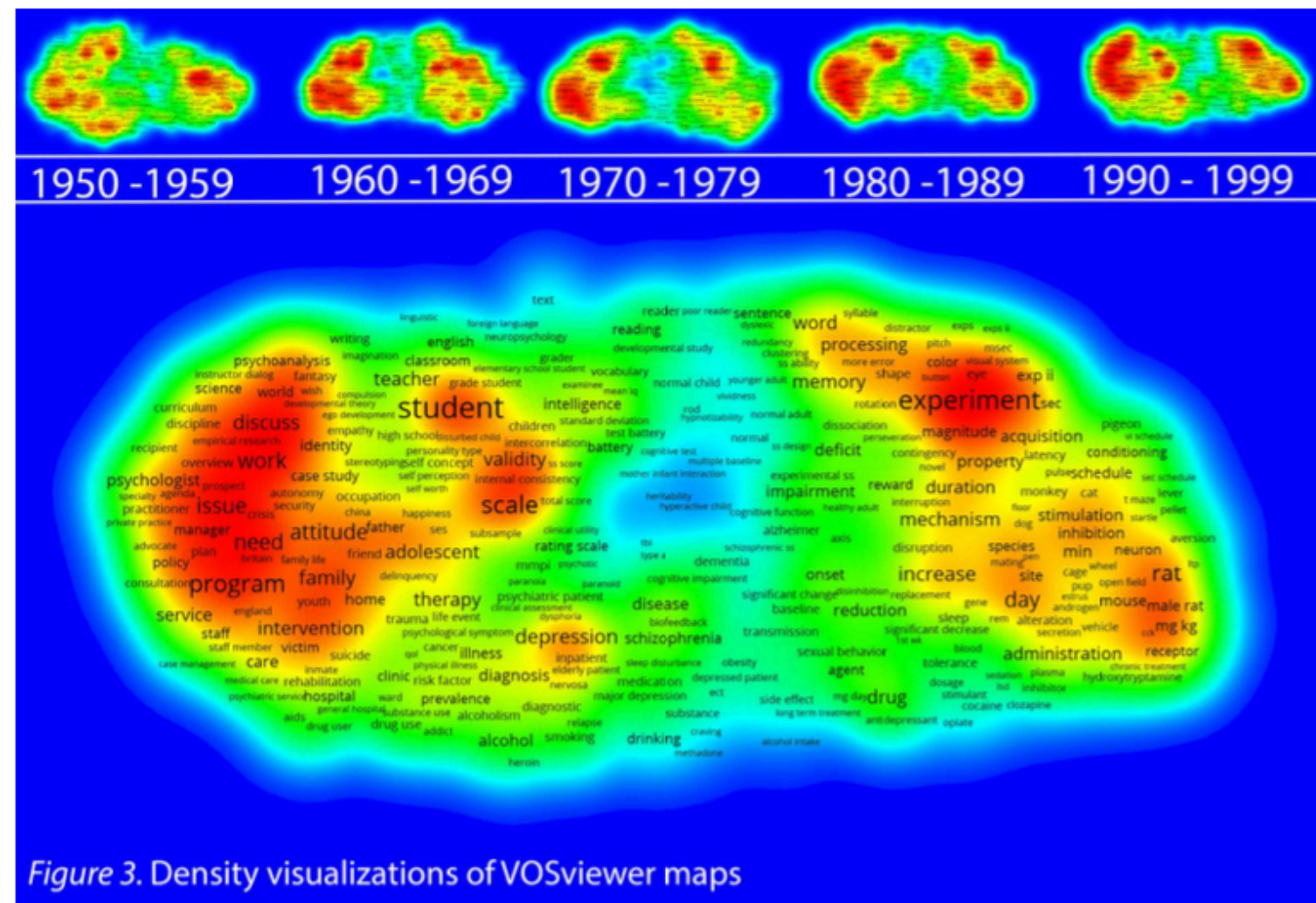
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428 - 347 BC	Plato, a Greek philosopher argues that the mind is immortal	
384 - 322 BC	Aristotle, a Greek philosopher argues that the mind is mortal	
387 BC	Plato suggested that the brain is the seat of the intellect	
335 BC	Aristotle suggested that the heart is the seat of the intellect	
605	Ancient China was the first country to use a written system of medicine	
500 - 1450	The Middle Ages saw a decline in the study of the mind, with a focus on religious and philosophical speculation	
1483 - 1546	The Renaissance saw a renewed interest in the study of the mind, with a focus on humanism and the individual	
1515 - 1588	The Scientific Revolution saw the development of the scientific method, which led to the development of psychology as a science	
1547	The first mental hospital was founded in England	
1588 - 1679	The Enlightenment saw the development of the idea of the rational individual, which led to the development of psychology as a science	
1596 - 1650	The first mental hospital was founded in France	
1623 - 1662	The first mental hospital was founded in Germany	
1632 - 1704	The first mental hospital was founded in the United States	
1693	The first mental hospital was founded in the United States	
1712 - 1778	The first mental hospital was founded in the United States	
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1732 - 1819	The first mental hospital was founded in the United States	
1745 - 1813	The first mental hospital was founded in the United States	
1745 - 1826	The first mental hospital was founded in the United States	
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1897	General S. D. H. published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1898	Edward Thorndike published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1900	Sigmund Freud published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1900	Morton D. published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1900-1	Edmund D. published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1901	Ivan P. published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1901	The B. published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1905	Alfred Binet and Theodore Simon published <i>Les échelles de mesure de l'intelligence</i> .	
1905	Mary A. published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1906	Ivan P. published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1906	The J. published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1907	Alzheimer's disease was first described by Alois Alzheimer.	
1907	Carl Jung published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1908	Clifford D. published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1909	Freud published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1909	Calkins published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1909	Frank published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1911	Edward Thorndike published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1911	The first American Journal of Psychology was founded.	
1912	Wilhelm Stern developed the scores on Binet's intelligence test.	
1912	Max Wertheimer published <i>Perception of Movement</i> , marking the beginning of Gestalt psychology.	
1913	John B. Watson published <i>Behaviorism</i> , which was the first major work in behaviorism.	
1913	Carl G. Jung published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1913	National Vocational Guidance Association [NVGA] founded.	
1913	Behaviorist John Watson published <i>Behaviorism</i> .	
1913	National Vocational Guidance Association [NVGA] founded.	
1914 - 1919	First World War.	
1915	Sigmund Freud published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1916	Stanford-Binet intelligence test was first published.	
1917	The U.S. Congress declared that the President of the United States should be elected by the people.	
1917	William Marston founded the discovery would later lead to the development of the Rorschach test.	
1917	John B. Watson published <i>Behaviorism</i> .	
1919	John B. Watson published <i>Behaviorism</i> .	
1920	Watson and Rosalie Rayner published <i>Little Albert</i> .	
1921	Rorschach test published.	
1922	William Marston was appointed as the first President of the American Psychological Association.	
1923	Sigmund Freud published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1923	Marston testified in the case of the precedent for the use of the Rorschach test in court.	
1924	Police use first lie detector.	
1925	Gestalt Psychology is born with <i>An Introduction to the Gestalt Psychology</i> .	
1925	Martin Heidegger publication <i>History of Concept of Time</i> (1925) foundation to the hermeneutic phenomenology.	
1927	Anna Freud, daughter of Sigmund Freud, pioneered child psychoanalysis with a book <i>An Introduction to the Technique of Child Analysis</i> for the children.	
1929	Electro Convulsive Therapy (ECT) developed.	
1929	The first International Congress of Psychology to be held at Yale University.	
1929 - 1939	The Great Depression was a world economic downturn that lasted 10 years. It started with 'Black Thursday' October 29, 1929, when the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 23 percent. The height of the Depression was in 1932, when the Dow Jones fell 23 percent. The height of the Depression was in 1932, when the Dow Jones fell 23 percent.	
1932	Jean Piaget publishes <i>The Moral Judgment of the Child</i> .	
1932	Walter B. Cannon coined the term homeostasis and the concept of the homeostatic state.	
1935	phenomenology was first published.	
1935	Alcoholic beverages were first used in the treatment of mental disorders.	
1935	Henry Murray published <i>Personality and the Measurement of Emotions</i> .	
1936	Egon M. published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1937	Marijuana was first used in the treatment of mental disorders.	
1938	Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) was first used in the treatment of mental disorders.	
1938	B.F. Skinner published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1939	The Wechsler Intelligence Scale was first published.	
1939	The Canadian Psychological Association was founded.	
1939 - 1945	Second World War.	
1941	The Intern practice of psychology was first published.	
1942	Jean Piaget published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1942	Minnesota widely released the first major breakthrough for the treatment of depression.	
1942	Carl Rogers published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1943	LSD's hallucinogenic effects were first published.	
1943	Minnesota published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1943	Jean-Paul Sartre published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1943	Abraham Maslow published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1944	The Communist Party of the United States was founded.	
1945	The state of California was first published.	
1945	The Journal of the American Psychological Association was first published.	
1945	Karen Horney published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1948	Alfred Kinsey published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1948	The University of the Pacific was first published.	
1948	World War II was first published.	
1949	Lithium salts were first published.	
1949	Boulder, Colorado was first published.	
1949	Canadian, encoding, and decoding were first published.	
1950	Erik Erikson published <i>The Psychology of the Child</i> .	
1950 - 1970	Various Al of independent orientation than of European establishment guidance at Chlorpromazine.	
1951	Chlorpromazine was first published.	
1990	including policies of political and economic restructuring. These had global implications.	
1990	Human Genome project launched.	
1990	Dr. Jack Kevorkian performs his first assisted suicide.	
1990	Noam Chomsky publishes <i>On Nature, Use and Acquisition of Language</i> .	
1990	Nelson Mandela is released from prison. Mandela fostered racial reconciliation, promoted democracy and social justice.	
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> .	
1993	Annual Prozac sales reach \$1.2 billion. Fluoxetine (Prozac) was the first major breakthrough for the treatment of depression.	
1994	The DSM IV is published.	
1994	Stephen Pinker's <i>The Language Instinct</i> is published.	
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.	
1998	Annual Prozac sales reach \$ 2.8 billion.	
1998	Viagra goes on sale in the United States.	
1998	Martin Seligman chooses positive psychology as the theme for his speech to the American Psychological Association, as its incoming president.	
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.	
1998	Psychology advances to the technological age with the emergence of e-therapy.	
1999	Killing rampage at Columbine High School stirs public concern about identifying and treating dangerousness in children.	
1999	U.S. Supreme Court rules that mental patients have a right to treatment in the community rather than institutions when it is available.	
2000	Genetic researchers finish mapping human genes. Scientists hope to one day isolate the individual genes responsible for different diseases.	
2000	Seligman proposes positive psychology. Seligman has expanded Positive Psychology to education, health, and neuroscience.	
2000	DSM-IV-TR (4 th Edition, Text Revision) is published.	
2001	Terrorists attack America in the infamous September 11.	
2001	The case of Andrea Yates who drowned her five children highlights the disorder postpartum psychosis.	
2001	The United States Surgeon General published a supplement to the first-ever Surgeon General's report on Mental Health.	
2001	The American Psychological Association officially recognized forensic psychology as a specialization within psychology.	
2002	New Mexico becomes the first state to pass legislation allowing licensed psychologists to prescribe psychotropic medication.	
2002	Steven Pinker publishes <i>The Blank Slate</i> , arguing against the concept of <i>tabula rasa</i> .	
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).	
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.	
2008	Obama becomes the first African American President of USA.	
2013	The DSM - 5 is published.	

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”)*



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/00120507-201202000-000005/PDF>

It's a wrap!



Any questions?

**Thank you & good luck
with your exams!**