

Term Paper Projects

Your draft of your project paper is due soon. Keep the Historical Focus in Psychology! Mix in aspects of Diversity. Zeitgeist is nice.

July 27th : Bring Draft of Paper (Hard Copy, 6+ pages of **text**, and 10+ references – see my example online). Peer Review. In-class portion of Exam.

August 3: Poster Presentations for those interested

August 10: Paper Presentations
(I will do my example presentation on July 27)

August 10: Final Paper due (E-mail/D2L: word, rtf, or pdf)

Behaviorism – Best of Both Worlds!??

**** Basic and Applied Researchers**

**** Some who were Theorists **and** Promotors**
(as well as one or the other)

Comparing Wundt and Behaviorism

Reductionism part of both approaches

Fairly objective/positivist (esp. Behaviorism)

Conscious (inner) versus Behavior (outer)

Psychology Today: The inner and outer (cognition/behavior) are more connected or integrated – there was an earlier attempt...

Psyc 405: History & Systems

Chap 12: Gestalt Psychology
[Or, Back to Germany]

I. Antecedents to Gestalt Psychology

- Kant, Brentano, Mach, and von Ehrenfels all opposed some of Wundt's ideas
- In particular, they opposed reductionism
- Favored approach in which a "whole" perception (Gestalt) is something different from a collection of parts.
- Phenomenology in Philosophy ("unbiased," not reduced immediate experience – Stumpf)
- Fields of Forces in Physics (non-mechanistic)

II. Max Wertheimer

- Earned PhD with Kulpe at U of Wurzburg
- Phi Phenomenon: illusion-apparent movement (could not be reduced)
- Moved to U.S. – New School for Social Research

Article: Wertheimer

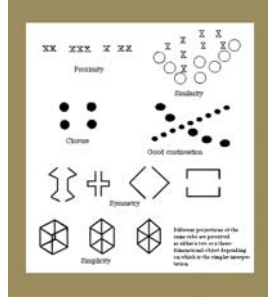
III. Kurt Koffka

- Earned PhD with Stumpf, worked at Frankfurt
- "Perception: Intro to Gestalt" in Psych Bulletin
- This 1922 article, and later book – writing unclear
- Moved to U.S. -- Smith College

End of pt. 1

III. Wolfgang Kohler (PhD with Stumpf at Berlin)

- Apes & Primates – Insight Learning
- Perceptual Constancies and Perceptual Organization
- See figure in book



Kohler article

IV. Productive Thinking (Learning and Problem Solving)

- Kohler’s Insight concept challenged – does the animal “realize” how things work?
- Wertheimer claimed that solutions are not found, they are created. Productive thinking is done in wholes – “top-down”

End of pt. 2

V. Spread of Gestalt Psychology

Gestalt started as an opponent of Wundt.

Nazi era forced Gestalt Scientists to move

**Henle Article **

In the U.S., Gestalt opposed Behaviorists (who were both reductionistic and against thought/thinking)

VI. Kurt Lewin

- PhD. With Stumpf at Berlin
- Life Space – personal and situational forces
- Motivation
- “Father” of Social Psychology (social influence, action research, leadership, prejudice) – Group Dynamics Laboratory (MIT, Iowa, Michigan)

VII. Gestalt Critics

Vague theory, research not rigorous, qualitative, ...

However, Gestalt kept consciousness alive – and had a large role in developing social psychology

End of pt. 3
