

PY500 – Fall Semester 2014 History of Modern Psychology
Professor Harry A. Whitaker Office: Gries 335 Phone: 227-2936
E-mail: hwhitake@nmu.edu
Course E-mail List: py500@otto.nmu.edu

Scheduled office hours for the Fall '14 semester will be on Tue and Thu after class and Wed from 2-4. *However, please pre-arrange all meetings by e-mail, to be sure that I am in my office when you arrive.* Availability on email is frequent, typically every day.

Textbook: Raymond Fancher and Alexandra Rutherford. *Pioneers of Psychology*. Fourth Edition. WW Norton, 2012. 978-0-393-93530-1 (pbk) [using older editions is *not* a good idea because the quizzes are based on the 4th edition; earlier editions have fewer chapters]

PY500, The History of Psychology, is a 4-credit hour course on historical themes in contemporary Psychology. One goal of this course is to acquaint you with the nature of historical analysis and how it contributes to an understanding of Psychology. A second goal is to appreciate thematic analyses of Psychology's history, the so called 'history of ideas' approach.

Course requirements:

1. a set of quizzes based upon each chapter of the textbook
2. a research project, paper, to be discussed in the first two classes

*Attendance is required; later in the syllabus there is a section explaining how absences may be excused. For online courses or courses that have online components, attendance is recorded by your email participation, prior to deadlines, every week, including taking the online quizzes. NMU's registrar abides by the rule that unexcused non-attendance during the first week of class allows a professor to remove a student from the class roster; I abide by this rule.

The class eMail list, py500@otto.acs.nmu.edu, is designed to extend in-class discussions to a format that more easily allows reference material to be used and that allows reflective rather than reactive discussions. We won't use the EduCat discussion site. The email list is for discussing content and

assignments relevant to this course. I expect active participation from everyone. There are no quantitative dimensions to this expectation and no deadlines; you are graduate students and I expect you to be mature and responsible enough to understand what ‘active participation’ in a course implies.

You won’t receive reminders about this expectation (~requirement) nor will you receive periodic updates commenting on the quality of your online and in-class discussions. I will, however, respond whenever you like to the question “how am I doing?” and my response will include comments on both your quizzes and work on the book project.

Your email will be enrolled on the class list, py500@otto.acs.nmu.edu, for the semester; you may add and use any valid email address at which you receive email, as long as you let me know. Note: emails can only be posted to the list from validly enrolled email addresses. Any email address(es) you give to me is/are the one(s) that will be listed.

NOTE: all emails posted to the class list, or sent to me, that pertain to PY500, must have PY500 in the Subject line and must be signed at the end with your full name. IF you forget to put PY500 in the subject line, your email will in all probability be ignored, it may get deleted and you won’t get a response to it. Be advised that anything posted to this list goes to all and only those enrolled on the list: all students in this class, the research librarian, and me; it is a restricted, non-public list that may be used for anything related to the course, including “administrative” questions. Unlike the “chat” and “discussion” lists on EduCat, this list is **not** archived; if you want to keep anything that has been posted on this list, you will have to save it on your own computer. *nota bene*: Please keep a folder on your computer for your research project and save relevant emails about the course in that folder. It is also not automatically threaded by theme or content, which is why the subject line of each of your posts must identify the content as well as the class i.d. Email discussion posts must be written in good English and must be properly referenced for outside sources. They should connect to the history of psychology, of course, and may and should comment on other student’s posts, anything that was discussed in class, etc. I will use the e-mail list for announcements about the class as well as for discussions related to the history of psychology; all will be properly identified by class i.d. and content, in the subject line.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE of quizzes/reading assignments will be made available to you throughout the semester.

Please feel free to discuss any of these course requirements on the class email list or directly with me at hwhitake@nmu.edu.

Missing assignments: please read this carefully; there are no exceptions to these rules. If you know beforehand that you will be unable to access email for your assignments, you must discuss it in advance with me to be eligible for a make-up. Traveling home for family matters of any sort won't count; you have a laptop and the internet is available nearly everywhere. An official NMU-excused absence is only valid if an NMU faculty or staff person informs me that the internet was unavailable. Remember that E-mail time-stamps and date-stamps messages and therefore this is the most expedient method of contacting me.

PLAGIARISM and STANDARDS FOR ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: NMU's policy on academic honesty is discussed in the student handbook; please pay particular attention to Section 2.2.3.02 which defines plagiarism as any work "which contains ideas or materials taken from another without full acknowledgment of the author and the source." If you use the exact words of someone else, you indicate this by use of quotation marks and you cite the source. If you use the ideas of someone else but paraphrased in your own words, you still must cite the source. My preference is for paraphrased source material because you can then smoothly integrate the material into your writing style. Any material taken from an Internet source must be acknowledged, just as is material taken from a book or journal. Using APA style for references is best but my primary requirement is that I, or your classmates, can find the reference.

VERY IMPORTANT: In writing psychology texts, making email posts as well as in preparing posters or presentations, it is always necessary to use other people's ideas -- it is part of the scholarly process. I have been writing research papers and making presentations at academic conferences since 1966; I have always used ideas from other sources and still do. How to use other people's ideas is not complex but you may want some pointers on how to do it correctly. Ask me. Each of you must be sure that you properly acknowledge where your source material came from so that it is clear which ideas and words are yours and which are someone else's. Please note: persistent or flagrant plagiarism in written work will result in an F for the

course and will be reported to the Dean of Students. Blatant or flagrant plagiarism may result in a recommendation for dismissal from the university. Please note that there is no time limit on the consequences of plagiarized work; if plagiarism is discovered after the grades are turned in, an F grade will be entered as your revised final grade; scholarly integrity is a serious matter.

ON AVERAGE, YOU'LL READ A CHAPTER A WEEK FROM THE TEXTBOOK AND HAVE A QUIZ OVER THAT CHAPTER.

DISABILITY SERVICES

If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock (227-1700). Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state, and University guidelines.

*If anything in the syllabus is unclear, it is your responsibility to ask me for clarification. Please do this by email sent to hwhitake@nmu.edu. The possibility exists, though rare, that something may change in the syllabus later in the semester; in this event, you will be notified by email well in advance. Past experience suggests that any such changes would be to clarify some course requirement, not to add extra work.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

[1] acquire knowledge of the history of modern psychology with an emphasis on the 20th century and an emphasis on the history of ideas; this is measured by earning a passing grade on 15 quizzes given each week during the semester

[2] to learn how to do research in the history of psychology; this is measured by completing a major research project during the semester

And now, please send an email to me, hwhitake@nmu.edu in which you acknowledge that you've read this part of the syllabus and that you understand everything in it, recognizing that there will be additions after our class discussions in the first week. Thank you.