Instructor: Dr. Scott Watter  
Office: Psychology 408, ext. 23031

Contact:
• To contact the instructor, please EMAIL: 4b3@cogsci.mcmaster.ca - this is by far the quickest and most reliable way to contact me! (Again, note the address: 4b3@COGSCI.mcmaster.ca)
• Please send email from your McMaster account!!! – hotmail, yahoo, etc. is often filtered as spam!!!

Classes: Monday, 2:30pm-5:30pm, KTH-104

TAs:  Maria D’Angelo  dangelmc@mcmaster.ca  Sandra Monteiro  monteisdi@mcmaster.ca

Tutorials and Office Hours:
There are NO additional scheduled tutorials or office hours for this course. If you need to speak with the instructor or TAs, please do so at class, or send email. If you need to meet or discuss things outside of our regular class time, you are welcome to email and set up a time to meet outside of class; if you need to discuss private issues, please email me at watter@mcmaster.ca.

Online Course Content – Avenue to Learn:
In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn, McMaster’s online course content system, similar to WebCT and ELM. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

The course website is available to registered students by logging into Avenue: http://avenue.mcmaster.ca
You will need to learn how to use Avenue to Learn to access the course content, announcements, and discussions. Detailed instructions for logging in and using Avenue to Learn can be found on the website above.

Text / Reference Materials:
We will be using the following textbook throughout the course:

There are several additional web resources that you might find useful throughout the class:
• Classics in the History of Psychology http://psychclassics.yorku.ca/
• The Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy http://www.iep.utm.edu/

Course objectives and content:
The primary objective of this course is to learn about and understand the progression of ideas, philosophy, and schools of thought from ancient Greece to present day, with respect to the development of modern Psychology, and to the development of Philosophy of Mind and the Philosophy of Science more generally. The class will focus on discussing and understanding major scientific and philosophical movements and ideas in their historical context, and in contrast with their modern-day descendents. Successful students will demonstrate a deep conceptual understanding of the material and demonstrate the synthesis of insightful comparisons between schools of thought and their related ideas, through oral discussion in class and through written assignments throughout the semester.
CHANGES IN COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

ASSESSMENT:
Your assessment in this class will be based on a series of written assignments (details below), plus contribution to class discussion throughout the semester. There are no midterm or final examinations for this course. All of this assessment is designed to encourage and assess critical thinking and writing, with respect to issues and themes within History of Psychology, and Philosophy of Science more generally. Assessment is as follows:

60% - 3 written assignments (20% each); Assignments #1 & #2 can be revised & resubmitted; #3 cannot.
20% - 10 weekly summaries of the chapter readings for that week (2% each)
20% - contribution to in-class discussion (quality as well as extent of contribution)

NOTE! - Missed Assessment:
All excuses for missed assignments, absences, etc. must be submitted through the office of the Associate Dean of your faculty. It is YOUR responsibility to speak with your professor as soon as possible.

Assignments 1-3:
The course involves three major writing assignments during the semester. For each assignment, you will need to write a 4 page paper in response to a given class-related question. For each assignment, you will have the choice of one of two different topics (for example, you might have a choice of writing a paper about the historical scientific and philosophical events that gave rise to Freudian analysis, or writing about how ideas about evolution from Darwin & contemporaries influenced the development of experimental science and psychology; note, these are just examples – the actual topic questions may be different to these).

These topics will primarily address issues related to our current class readings. Specific requirements regarding what to address in these papers will be given along with the questions. Question topics will be given out in class early in the semester. For assignments 1 and 2, you will have the opportunity to revise and resubmit your assignment in response to feedback and critique from your professor and the class TAs. The grading structure for these assignments will be discussed in class and posted online early in the semester.

Each paper has a MAXIMUM length of 4 pages of text, double spaced, 12 point Times, Times Roman, Times New Roman, or similar font, not including a title/cover page (name, student number, class info, etc). You do not need a reference section (also not counted in the page limit), but you should reference any sources that you use beyond the textbook. Any additional text over 4 pages will not be read or considered for your grade – the ability to express your ideas concisely is a part of your assessment here.

PAPER RESUBMISSIONS for #1 and #2: For RESUBMISSIONS of papers #1 and #2, we are primarily looking for you to have thought about and improved the conceptual aspects of the paper. Are you expressing your ideas more clearly?; are the ideas you are expressing more refined / more relevant / better connected to the rest of your argument?; does the structure of your paper now let the reader better understand and follow the sequence or comparison of ideas you are trying to communicate? It is very important to note that simply changing the things a grader has circled on your paper is unlikely to be sufficient here – you need to think about the question, your goals, and the meaning of the feedback you have been given, and try to meaningfully improve the paper you have written.
COVER LETTER FOR PAPER RESUBMISSIONS: Importantly, for RESUBMISSIONS, your resubmitted paper should also include an additional 1-page cover letter, that describes the changes you have made to the paper, and why you have made them (eg, the grader commented that I needed to think more about X; in response, I have incorporated more information about how X relates to the main question). This cover letter will help whoever is grading your paper to see what you have been working on, and will help them to see where you have improved your paper. You will get more information and guidance on this process in class.

Weekly Short Question Responses:
There will be 11 questions/topics assigned throughout the semester, for which you will need to write a concise one page (approximately 300 word) discussion paper that addresses the conceptual issues in the question. There are 11 assignments in total, each worth 2%; you can earn a maximum of 20% towards course from these short writing assignments. We will count your best 10 out of 11 scores towards your final grade. Missing a paper earns 0/2 for that week’s question. Each short paper will typically receive a grade of 2, 1 or 0. A grade of 2 reflects good and thoughtful consideration of several important issues; a grade of 1 reflects simply summarizing the text, with limited synthesis or linking ideas in answer to the question; a grade of 0 reflects simple summarizing and little more, a minimal attempt to address any topic, or failure to submit on time.

These questions will be relevant to the week’s readings, and will help you to prepare and focus on major topics that we will be discussing in class. Note that these papers are very short, and the questions will not be simple ones. You need to write concisely, and cut to the chase to express some interesting ideas in response to these questions. The expectation is that you should have some interesting things to contribute to the class discussion, at minimum from having written this brief paper every week. Remember to bring an extra copy for yourself to refer to in class, as well as the copy to hand in.

SUBMITTING YOUR WORK:
You are required to submit all of your work (Papers 1-3 and revisions, and weekly short question responses) in two formats – a paper copy is due at the beginning of class on the due date, AND an electronic copy is due via email at the same time or earlier (i.e. you have to send this before you come to class). Your electronic copy MUST be sent as an email attachment in one of the following formats: Microsoft Word (.doc), Rich Text Format (.rtf), or PDF. If you cannot do this, or do not understand this requirement, please let your instructor know before your first paper is due. You MUST submit electronic versions of your work and paper copies.

EMAIL your electronic versions to BOTH: 4b3@cogsci.mcmaster.ca AND 4b3ta@cogsci.mcmaster.ca

Class Contribution:
Class discussion is a large part of what makes a successful senior seminar-style class. We will have a good deal of discussion in class relating to our readings, and larger issues relating to psychology and philosophy of science more broadly. Please come to class ready to contribute and interact – critical thinking about the assigned readings is an important aspect of this. Much of the time spent in class will involve discussion and collaborative development of important topics. Contribution to and participation in this process is one of the things that will help you consolidate these ideas, and is the whole point of this kind of class.

Grades for this section (20%) will be allocated in consideration of quality and extent of contribution.

PLEASE NOTE! – Class Attendance Is Important!
Because a great deal of the organizational and informational content of this class will be delivered during our weekly meeting times, class attendance is extremely important. If you know in advance that you must miss a meeting, then please let it be known with as much advance warning as possible. Any excuses for missed assessment must be submitted through the office of the Associate Dean of your faculty, as described above under “Missed Assessment”.
**Academic Integrity Policy:**
You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:
1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

**Final Grades:** All assessment components will be assigned numerical grades, and the total converted to a letter grade according to McMaster’s standard grading scheme:

- A+ 90-100%
- A 85-89%
- A- 80-84%
- B+ 77-79%
- B 73-76%
- B- 70-72%
- C+ 67-69%
- C 63-66%
- C- 60-62%
- D+ 57-59%
- D 53-56%
- D- 50-52%
- F 0-49%
### Class Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Reading (chapters)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13</td>
<td>Introduction; Course Syllabus; Some initial thoughts.</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 20</td>
<td>Origins of Scientific &amp; Psychological Thought (Plato to Descartes)</td>
<td>2; 3 (p46-51)</td>
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<td>Sep 27</td>
<td>Renaissance, Empiricism and Reductionism; Kant; Darwin &amp; Evolution</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Oct 4</td>
<td>19th Century Science &amp; Emerging Psychology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS</td>
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<td>Oct 18</td>
<td>Wundt &amp; contemporaries; William James</td>
<td>5; 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 25</td>
<td>William James (continued); Structuralism vs. Functionalism</td>
<td>6 (cont.); 8</td>
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<td>Nov 1</td>
<td>Freud &amp; Jung</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>Behaviourism</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>Nov 15</td>
<td>Gestalt Psychology; Research Methods</td>
<td>10; 11</td>
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<td>Nov 22</td>
<td>Theories of Learning (Behaviourism heads toward a Cognitive Revolution)</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 29</td>
<td>Humanistic Psychology; Cognitive Psychology</td>
<td>14; 15</td>
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<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Cognition &amp; the Future of Psychology (LAST CLASS)</td>
<td>15 (cont.); 16</td>
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* Note: You get credit for the best 10 out of 11 Short Question submissions (each is worth 2%, for a maximum of 20% towards the final grade; missing one counts as 0/2 for that week).

*** Note: You do not have to resubmit Papers #1 and/or #2 if you don’t want to; resubmission cannot lower the original grade you got for the initial submission of each paper.