

Study Guide for Exam 1
Introduction to Psychology
Spring 2008

This is meant as an aid to help you focus. This is NOT an all inclusive list of test material.

→ → → Bring an Apperson form for the exam!!! & a #2 pencil.

Some tips:

- The majority of questions will be on material that was discussed in both lecture and the reading, or just discussed in lecture. However, there may be questions from the text that were not discussed in lecture.
- Use the glossary at the end of each chapter as a guideline to study the most important concepts.
- Try to make sure that you can give an example for the relevant concepts and that you can identify the concept behind an example.
- Study for multiple-choice questions: Remember—people perform better when they study for the appropriate type of test questions.

This is a *guideline* to help narrow down and focus your studying. Please read carefully!

Ch. 1

What is psychology?

Pseudoscience

Difference between pop-psych and true psychology

What is critical thinking and why is it important?

Can critical thinking skills be changed; if so how?

What makes someone a good critical thinker?

The history of psychology—from philosophy to science

The three “new psychologies”

The major psychological perspectives (from the text and a couple more from lecture!)

Applied and basic psychology

Different psychological practices (clinical and non-clinical)

Ch. 2

What makes psychology a science?

What is falsifiability?

The different methods of collecting data (i.e. case studies, surveys, experiments etc. . .)

What makes an experiment an experiment?—IV and DV, hypothesis, etc . .

Double-blind studies and why they are done that way

Experimental vs. control conditions

Placebo effect

Analyzing your data (descriptive statistics and inferential statistics)

Interpreting your results (are they statistically significant and what does that mean?)

Ethics –human and animal (ex: informed consent, humane standards)

Ch. 3

Ideas about language being innate (what examples do we have?)

Ideas about language being learned/due to experience

Nature vs. nurture—or a combo of the two (what evidence do we have?)

Video from class –what did we learn from the monkey study?

Ch. 4

The divisions of the nervous system

Be able to name/label them and what they are responsible for

What is a neuron?

The structure of a neuron

Be able to label the parts and know what they do

How neurons communicate (synapses, neurotransmitters etc. . . you don't need to memorize what the different neurotransmitters do)

What is an action potential?

What does it mean to say the signals neurons send are electrochemical?

What is a threshold?

Neurogenesis

Stem cells

Plasticity of the brain

The mind: Electric & magnetic detection

EEG, TMS, PET, MRI, fMRI

The regions of the brain

Brainstem, Limbic system, Cerebrum/cortex

Know the localization of function in the brain (i.e. what parts are responsible for what function)

What does the corpus callosum do and what happens when it's severed?

The four lobes of the cerebral cortex and their function

Somatosensory/motor cortex