

PSYA01 List of Psychologists

Name/Date	Accomplishments and Achievements
Rene Descartes (1596 - 1650)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Originally believed that things with a soul move with intention, but after being blocked by a statue of Neptune as he tried to walk towards a statue of Diana, he no longer believed that. - After the statue incident, Rene believed animals were fancy hydraulic machines and did not have a soul. As such, he endorsed animal testing and performing vivisections on them. - With humans, Rene believed in Cartesian Dualism, the belief that humans are part machine, but we also have a soul, which connects with the body at the pineal gland. - Believed that humans' biology were hydraulically driven.
John Locke (1632 - 1704)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thought that the Mind is a machine - Coined the term La Table Rassa, which is a theory that humans are born a blank slate and that their experiences would define them and their future. Hence, he strongly supported the Nurture View in the Nurture vs Nature debate. - Believed in empiricism, the idea that people should test their ideas by doing experiments. - Believed that humans are completely machines.
Luigi Galvani (1737 - 1798)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Showed that by applying electricity to a severed frog leg, it made the frog leg move. - Believed that humans are bio-electric machines.
Franz Gall (1758 - 1828)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A proponent of phrenology, which involves the measurement of bumps on the skull to predict mental traits. - Believed that the brain consisted of 27 organs corresponding to mental traits and dispositions could be detected by examining the surface of the skull. If a person possessed a particular trait, then the brain area related to that characteristic would be larger. The larger brain areas would cause bumps on a person's head, so by measuring the bumps on a person's head, it would be possible to identify the different traits that an individual possesses.
James Mill (1773 - 1836)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coined the term Materialism from Locke's mind is a machine. - Believed that humans are completely machines.
Pierre Florens (1774 - 1867)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Did ablation studies on animals to see what part of the brain controlled what functions.
Johann Spurzheim (1776 - 1832)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A proponent of phrenology, which involves the measurement of bumps on the skull to predict mental traits.

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Ernst Weber (1795 - 1878)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Studied psychophysics, the study of the relationship between the physical world and the mental representation of that world. - Did an experiment where he blindfolded people and put an object (of either the same or different weight) in each hand and asked the person which object was heavier. He noticed that if there's at least a 10% difference in the weight of the objects, the person could feel which object is heavier.
Gustav Fechner (1801 - 1887)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Studied psychophysics. - Was a close associate with Weber.
Charles Darwin (1809 - 1882)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changed everything in the sciences. - Biologists pre-Darwin and Darwin himself were structuralists. They classes animals by their physical features. However, Darwin pushed them to think why an animal had the physical features it has. This led to functionalism, which focuses on why something happens as opposed to what that something is. - Coined the term "Survival of the fittest".
Hermann Von Helmholtz (1821 - 1894)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measured the speed of neural impulses and discovered that our nerves send signals at a relatively slow rate compared to modern electronics.
Francis Galton (1822 - 1911)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was a strong supporter of the nature view. - Believed and pushed for eugenics.
Paul Broca (1824 - 1880)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discovered that people who had trouble producing speech, but no trouble with understanding speech had damage to the left, front part of their brain. This area is known as Broca's area.
Willhelm Wundt (1832 - 1920)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Known as the father of psychology because he opened the first psychology lab. - Was the first person to refer to himself/herself as a psychologist. - Wrote the first psychology textbook "The Principles of Physiological Psychology". - Liked introspection. However, introspection was controversial because you're relying on the person being truthful and describing his/her thoughts properly.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was a structuralist. Structuralism is an attempt to analyze conscious experience by breaking it down into basic elements and to understand how these elements work together.
William James (1842 - 1910)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More of a philosopher than a psychologist and didn't do a lot of experiments. - However, he is considered a psychologist because he thought a lot about psychological things like memory, attention, etc. - A lot of his theories have become the hypotheses for many psychologists and they turned out correct. - One of the first functionalists.
Ivan Pavlov (1849 - 1936)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Credited as the inventor of behaviourism. - He noticed that his test dogs would salivate when his lab assistants simply turned on the machine that distributed food. Importantly, the dogs salivated before the delivery of food.
Herman Von Ebbinghaus (1850 - 1909)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was interested in memory. - For one of his experiments, he wrote 40 CVC (Consonant Vowel Consonant) made-up words and tried to memorize them. Then, he tried to rewrite all 40 CVCs multiple times with a gap in between each attempt. He found out that over time, he'd remember less and less words. This is now known as the forgetting function. He also discovered that relearning something takes less time than learning it originally. This was the pinnacle of trying to show the rest of the world that psychology is a science and that we can scientifically study the mind.
Sigmund Freud (1856 - 1939)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was trained as a physiologist, not a scientist. - Operated on the medical model, the concept of using medical ideas to treat disorders of emotions, thoughts and behaviour. - Argued that mental ill people should not be locked in asylums. - Invented psychoanalysis, a psychological approach that attempts to explain how behaviour and personality are influenced by unconscious processes, to find the root cause of why someone has a mental illness. - Used hypnosis to treat his patients. Freud believed that if someone was hypnotized, then he could enter their unconscious mind and diagnose the problem. - Said that everything is about sex or aggression as we can satisfy all of our urges except for those 2. - Freud was hated by scientists because they could never disprove his theories. Freud would come up with an explanation for every behaviour, so he was never wrong. To scientists, if something is not falsifiable, it's useless.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Birthed the concept of clinical psychology, the field of psychology that concentrates on the diagnosis and treatment of psychological disorders. This split psychology into 2 types, experimental psychology and clinical psychology. Early on, there was a division between the 2 branches as clinical psychology did not care about science and operated on the medical model. - European scientists reacted to Freud in two ways, Gestalt psychology and Humanistic psychology. - North American scientists reacted to Freud in one way, behaviourism.
Edward Titchener (1867 - 1927)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A student of Wundt and a proponent of structuralism. - Devised an organized map of the structure of the human brain.
Edwin Twitmyer (1873 - 1943)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An American psychologist in reflexes. - His work helped shape behaviourism. - Did an experiment where a bell would ring right before he used his reflex mallet on a patient. After several times, he noticed that if the bell rang, but he did not use the mallet, the patient's leg kicked anyways.
Edward Thorndike (1874 - 1949)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was a proponent of radical behaviourism, the concept that one's behaviour changes based on whether or not that behaviour led to positive consequences.
Fredrick Bartlett (1886 - 1969)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discovered that human's memory is not like a photograph.
Kurt Lewin (1890 - 1947)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The founder of modern social psychology. - Suggested that behaviour is a function of the individual and the environment. All behaviour could be predicted and explained through understanding how an individual with a specific set of traits would respond in a context that involved a specific set of conditions.
Wilder Penfield (1891 - 1976)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mapped out functions of various brain regions by electrically stimulating parts of a patient's brain while the patient was alive. After each shock, the patient would describe the sensations felt.
Donald Hebb (1904 - 1985)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observed that when a brain cell consistently stimulates another cell, metabolic and physical changes occur to strengthen this relationship. This theory is known as Hebb's Law and it reinforced the notion that behaviour can be studied.
Ulrich Neisser (1928 - 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coined the term "Cognitive psychology" in 1968.