

Review: Chapters 1, 2, 3, & 4

Chapter 1

- positivism – goals of science: understand, predict, control
- difference between nomological-deductive or syntactic approach (positivism) and causal explanations
- role of simplified models e.g. computer simulations (connectionistic models in psychology)
- Kuhn's theory and how it applies (or doesn't) to psychology. Were there revolutions in psychology, or are we still in a pre-scientific stage.
- Popper's demarcation rule and the importance of falsification
- universal truths and the View from Nowhere.
- the distinction between primary and secondary properties
- the distinction between reasons and causes and why this is important for psychology

Chapter 2

- the effect of social condition, cultural beliefs and values upon philosophical inquiry (natural science) in the Classical Greek period
- the completely new ideas that arose during this period about human behavior and also about science
- the contribution of the Sophists and Socrates
- the importance of open discussion and how it could only arise in a "democracy" where all citizens were equal
- Plato's contribution – his dualism, the idea of Forms, his metaphors for the forms, his nativism, his theory of the different types of souls, his emphasis on reason
- Aristotle's definition of *form* and how it differs from Plato, his theory of the soul, and his ideas about human motivation and ethics and how he differs from Plato

Chapter 3

- the effect of social condition, cultural beliefs and values upon philosophical inquiry (natural science) in the Hellenistic period
- the various philosophies of the Hellenistic period and what they all had in common
- the mystery religions & their influence on Christianity
- the importance of technology in the development of science & why the Greeks didn't develop science
- Plotinus and Augustine
- Avicenna's model of the mind

- “external” morality (people being influenced by demons and angels) versus “internal” morality (e.g. intention relevant to morality of an act rather than just the outcome of the act)

Chapter 4

- St. Thomas Aquinas & St. Bonaventure, the growing influence of Aristotle versus the older influence of Plato
- the medieval Christian thinkers of late antiquity and what new ideas they contributed – free will, using reason to justify faith → separation of faith and reason, nominalism , questioning the omnipotence of God
- the idea of people as individuals with different character and personalities & why this is relevant to psychology
- the Renaissance & influence of classical Greek and Islamic writings
- the concept of the individual in the work of Dante, Chaucer, Shakespeare & Cervantes
- Reformation