

**PSY 3360 Historical Perspectives on Psychology
CGS 3325 Minds and Machines Since 1600**

Midterm Study Guide – Spring 2012

Note: this is a preliminary version. (Some items/questions may be added or dropped.)

Key Terms:

Zeitgeist	principle of association	psychic determinism
interactionist dualism	pineal gland	Hobbes' Leviathan
psychophysical parallelism	monads	unconscious inference
reductionism	hedonism	trichromatic theory of color vision
epistemology	nativism	pitch perception
introspection	place theory of hearing	doctrine of specific nerve energies
kinesthesia	complementary colors	tabula rasa
psychophysics	speed of nerve transmission	physical realism
teleological explanation	double aspect monism	apperception
paradox of the basins	categorical imperative	

Major figures:

Descartes	Leibniz	Berkeley	Hume	Helmholtz
Spinoza	Kant	Locke	Hobbes	

People to associate with one concept / discovery / theory:

Müller	Fourier	Gassendi	Molyneux	Bacon
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Compare and contrast:

rationalism and empiricism	Hume vs. Kant on causality
inductive and deductive method	pitch of sine wave and complex wave
Locke vs. Descartes on Molyneux's question	noumena and phenomena
primary and secondary qualities	<i>a priori</i> vs. <i>a posteriori</i> statements (Kant)
vitalism and mechanism	analytic vs. synthetic statements (Kant)

Medium-length questions:

- 1) What is unconscious inference? What are some of the sources of evidence (list at least four) that led Helmholtz to postulate that unconscious inference plays an important role in human perception?
- 2) What was Molyneux's question? Given their philosophical positions, describe how each of the following would have responded to the question: (a) Descartes (b) Leibniz (c) Locke.
- 3) What is causality? How did Hume's view of causality differ from that of Kant? Present arguments in support of each position.
- 4) Choose one rationalist thinker (e.g., Descartes, Leibniz, or Kant) and one empiricist (e.g., Locke, Berkeley or Hume). Compare and contrast their theories of perception, using examples to illustrate each position. Summarize the strengths and limitations of each approach.