Mary Whiton Calkins, first woman to set up a psychological laboratory and first woman president of the American Psychological Association

Evolution, Adaptation, and Behavior

Evolutionary theory:
a theory presented by the naturalist Charles Darwin, which views the history of a species in terms of the inherited, adaptive value of physical characteristics, of mental activity, and of behavior

Adaptation:
As randomly mutated genes are passed along from generation to generation, species change over time.

Gestalt Psychology Emphasized
Patterns and Context in Learning
- Founded by Max Wertheimer in 1912

Gestalt theory:
a theory based on the idea that the whole of personal experience is different from the sum of its constituent elements
The perception of objects is subjective and dependent on context.
Influenced the study of vision and human personality

Freud Emphasized the Power of the Unconscious

Sigmund Freud: Much of human behavior is determined by mental processes operating below the level of awareness.

Unconscious:
the region where mental processes operate below the level of conscious awareness

Psychoanalysis:
a method developed by Sigmund Freud that attempts to bring the contents of the unconscious into conscious awareness so that conflicts can be revealed
- Freud analyzed the apparent symbolic content in the patient’s dreams in search of hidden conflicts.
- Used free association, in which the patient would talk about whatever he or she wanted to for as long as he or she wanted to

Contemporary psychologists no longer accept much Freudian theory

Behaviorism: dominated in 1960s