8-22-12

Psychology

A brief history of Psychology

- People and Events
- About 130 years old

Psychology: study of the human brain, development, how environment effects behavior, mental illnesses and disorders, communication and relationships

Psychology became the specific study of the conscious experience

Originates from two different Greek words

- **Psych**: soul
- **Logos**: study of a subject

Currently, psychology refers to the study of the mind; however psychology is very diverse

Fusion of Psychology and Physiology

- Wilhelm Wundt (1832-1920)
  - First lab devoted to psychology (1879, Leipzig)
    - The study of the human consciousness
    - Characterized as the founder of psychology
    - Declared that psychology should be a science modeled after fields such as physics and chemistry
  - G Stanley Hall (1846-1924)
    - Established first lab (1883), professional journal (1887) and professional association
      - American psychological society, first president (1892)
  - Lighter Witmer
    - Established first psychology clinic
    - Worked with kids, experiments to help kids grow into functioning adults

Structuralism vs. Functionalism

- Structuralism
  - Proponent: **Edward Titchner** (1869-1926)
  - Focus: Structure elements of consciousness