History of Psychology
Aristotle/Plato – Greek deep thoughts
Freud – unconscious ~ processes in the brain & an unconscious
Wundt-Reflex/First Psych Lab/Empirical ~ processes in the brain
Behaviorists: reward vs punishment
-Watson
-Skinner

Research in Psychology: objective deductions based on observation
-control group (nothing done) vs experimental group (given a supplement)
-confounding variable ~ other factors or variables that might have made a
difference in the performance instead of the supplement given
-randomization in the selection of subjects
-always begin with a hypothesis – idea based on the observations made around you

Descriptive Statistics
-average (mean) statistical computation
-median in ascending order
-mode the number that occurs most often
-negative correlation ~ anytime Ming takes a sip of tea, the amount of tea in the cup is
going to go down and the amount of tea in Ming’s stomach is going to go up
(opposite)
-positive correlation ~ the taller one gets the heavier he or she will get (same)
-corrrelation does not mean cause, e.g., did the temperature affect birth rate?
-causation ~ I pushed, the table moves

Science vs. Common Sense
Objective data

Areas of Psych
-Clinical ~ psychotherapy, assessment, diagnosis
-Developmental ~ how do we develop throughout life?
-Social ~ how do people behave in groups?
-Biopsychology ~ what is the brain basis of behavior?
-Cognitive ~ how do we think and perceive?
-Personality ~ what basic traits and characteristics make up a person?

Experimental-Experimental testing and observation
Hypotheses: prediction
Independent variable: ethnicity
Dependent variable: balloon size (something to measure)
Subject selection: ?

Terminology:
-hypothesis ~ a possible way things could be
-theory ~ an explanation for the way things are, usually supported by a lot of data