

11 am, Physiology Lecture Theatre 3.

Lecture 1 (Thursday 4 March 2004) — emotion. Emotion: definitions, functions, and approaches to measuring emotion in humans and other animals. Major theories of emotion and their historical development: the James–Lange, Cannon–Bard, and Schachter theories. Central emotional states in animals: Pavlovian conditioning and transreinforcer blocking.

Lecture 2 (Saturday 6 March) — motivation 1. Motivation: definitions and theories. Measuring motivation; ‘preparatory’ (‘appetitive’) versus ‘consummatory’ behaviour; instrumental conditioning and Skinner’s behaviourist definition of reinforcement. Drive states and homeostasis; non-homeostatic motivation; Premack’s principle; natural and artificial reinforcers. Psychological determinants of motivated behaviour in animals and its control by motivational state.

Lecture 3 (Tuesday 9 March) — motivation 2. Complex motivated behaviour. Behavioural economic analyses of choice: rationality, basic economic concepts, and human irrationality. Choice involving delayed reinforcement: temporal discounting, impulsivity, and self-control. Addiction: definitions, behavioural economic explanations, population and individual treatment strategies.

Objectives. By the end of this brief lecture course, you should be acquainted with some of the major theories of emotion and some key studies that have driven the development of these theories. You should be aware of the ways in which both emotions and motivation can be measured, and of some of the ways in which physiological states interact with emotional experience. You should have an appreciation of the problems of defining and measuring motivation and reinforcement, and understand that observed actions can arise through many psychological processes. You should be familiar with basic behavioural economic concepts, understand that humans deviate from rational norms, particularly in the way they discount the value of future reinforcers, and understand the manner in which these concepts can help to explain addiction.

- Handouts will accompany each lecture.
- Handouts (and probably slides) will appear as PDFs at pobox.com/~rudolf/psychology. Handouts will be available in advance, but slides would appear after the lectures.
- Past exam papers are available from www.psychol.cam.ac.uk → Undergraduate Information → Examination Details.
- Please e-mail me if you have any problems concerning the course.

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