

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25TH

- Professor Arthur passed out the syllabus to the class
- The TAs were in class to introduce themselves
- PSY395 are research opportunities and must have approval from faculty to enlist
 - Cannot simply join without being approved
- There will be one individual writing assignment and one group writing assignment in APA style
 - Required for the class
 - If one is not turned in, it will result in a failing grade for both the lab and the lecture
 - For additional help, there is a writing lab in the W.T. Young Library 5th Floor
- There will be someone here next week to talk about the research participation portion of our grade.
- Be sure to read all sections before they are covered in class
 - **TIP: READ THE SUMMARY AT THE END OF THE CHAPTER FIRST**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30

- Life is Full of Questions
 - Does watching violent media make people more aggressive?
 - How do we determine answers to questions like these?
- Ways of Knowing
 - **INTUITION**
 - Accepting ideas as valid because they “feel” true based on gut feelings or hunches
 - What was your initial reaction to the question about violence?
 - **TENACITY**
 - Accepting ideas as valid because they have been around for so long
 - Monkey see, monkey do
 - **AUTHORITY**
 - Accepting ideas as valid because they are presented as true by a respected authority
 - Pros vs. Cons of Authority
 - Pros- authorities often have expertise
 - Cons- those authorities could have an agenda or biases

- Dr. Fredric Wertham studied juveniles in institutions and noticed that all delinquents read comic books. He decided that all comics led to juvenile delinquency and crime. His book is called Seduction of the Innocents. His research led to the beginning of the current comic book rating system.

- **RATIONALISM**

- Developing valid ideas using existing ideas and principles of logic
- **I.E.** violent movies encourage people to be aggressive.
 - “The Expendables” is a violent movie. “The Expendables causes people to be aggressive.
- How do we know if the assumptions are valid?

- **EMPIRICISM**

- Gaining knowledge through observation, experience, and reflection on those experiences.
- I play video games all the time, but I've never killed anybody.
- Although true and valid, one person's subjective experience isn't enough to draw reliable conclusions.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SCIENCE

- Scientists combine rationalism and systematic empiricism
 - Careful, oftentimes multiple observations
- Empirical questions
 - Questions that can be answered through systematic observation
- Science asks general questions
 - Must be able to find an answer
 - How can we measure it?

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- A grad student named Jessica is here to talk about the research requirement for the class
 - 4% of the class grade is based on the research participation
 - 4 hours are required
 - To register go to <http://uky.sona-systems.com>
 - Must have a UKY email and will need your student id# including the 9
 - You must login within three days of registering or your account will be deleted
 - Be sure to read all the restrictions before signing up
 - Some have sex or age restrictions
 - If you do not want to do the research participation, you will be able do article summaries and turn them into your lab TA