

Ap psychology (learning module)



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Associative Learning Definition: learning that certain events occur together.

The events may be two stimuli (as in classical conditioning) or a response and its consequences (as in operant conditioning)

Researchers: Aristotle, John Locke, David Hume

Example: smell fresh cookies, eat and are satisfied, the next time you smell fresh cookies you will expect eating them will satisfy you again

Classical Conditioning Definition: learn to associate two stimuli and thus anticipate events

Researcher: Ivan Pavlov

Example: lightning and thunder leads to lightning and anticipation of thunder with wincing

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change in an organism's behavior due to experience (UR) Definition: in classical conditioning, the unlearned, naturally occurring response to the US such as salivation when food is in the mouth

Researcher: Ivan Pavlov

Example: salivation in mouth due to food was unlearned (US) Definition: in

classical conditioning, a stimulus that unconditionally (naturally and automatically) triggers a response

Researcher: Ivan Pavlov

Example: food in mouth automatically triggers the salivary

reflex (CR) Definition: in classical conditioning, the learned response to a previously neutral (but now conditioned) stimulus (CS)

Researcher: Ivan Pavlov

Example: salivation in response to the tone was conditioned upon the dog learning to associate tone with food (CS) Definition: in classical conditioning,

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an originally irrelevant stimulus that, after association with a US, comes to trigger a conditioned response

Researcher: Ivan Pavlov

Example: the previously neutral tone stimulus that now triggered the conditional salivation
Acquisition Definition: in classical conditioning, the initial stage, when one links a neutral stimulus and an unconditioned stimulus so that the neutral stimulus begins triggering the conditioned response. In operant conditioning, the strengthening of a reinforced response

Researcher: Michael Tirrell (1990)

Example: girlfriend liked onions so onions became associated with kissing and onion breath began to send tingles up his spine and arouse him
Higher-Order Conditioning Definition: a procedure in which the conditioned stimulus in one conditioning experience is paired with a new neutral stimulus creating a second (often weaker) conditioned stimulus

Researcher: Ivan Pavlov

Example: animal that has learned tone predicts food might then learn that light predicts tone and respond to the light alone
Extinction Definition: the diminishing of a conditioned response; occurs in classical conditioning when a US does not follow a CS; occurs in operant conditioning when a response is no longer reinforced

Researcher: Ivan Pavlov

Example: tone sounded but no food causes salivation to stop
Spontaneous Recovery Definition: the reappearance, after a pause, of an extinguished conditioned response

Researcher: Ivan Pavlov

Example: pause of several hours until next tone caused spontaneous

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reappearing of salivation to the tone
Generalization Definition: the tendency, once a response has been conditioned, for stimuli similar to the conditioned stimulus to elicit similar responses

Researcher: Ivan Pavlov

Example: little Albert was conditioned to be afraid of the white rat and went on to generalize the fear to anything white, furry, or four-

legged
Discrimination unjustifiable negative behavior towards a group and its members
Respondent Behavior behavior that occurs as an automatic

response to some stimulus; Skinner's term for behavior learned through classical conditioning. **Operant Conditioning** Definition: learn to associate a response (our behavior) and its consequence and thus repeat acts followed by good results and avoid acts followed by bad results

Researcher: B. F. Skinner

Example: if rewarded continue, if punished will not continue
Operant Behavior

Operant conditioning is a type of learning where behavior is controlled by consequences. Key concepts in operant conditioning are positive reinforcement, negative reinforcement, positive punishment and negative punishment. **law of effect** Definition: Thorndike's principle that behaviors followed by favorable consequences become more likely, and behaviors followed by unfavorable consequences become less likely

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: N/A
operant chamber Definition: in operant conditioning research, a chamber (Skinner's box) containing a bar or key that an animal can manipulate to obtain a food or water reinforcer; attached devices record the animals rate of bar pressing or key pressing

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

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Study: used to explore the precise conditions that foster efficient and enduring learning
Learning Shaping Definition: an operant conditioning procedure in which reinforcers guide behavior toward closer and closer approximations of the desired behavior

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: reward responses close to desired behavior and ignore others to shape complex behaviors
Reinforcer Definition: in operant conditioning, any event that strengthens the behavior it follows

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: N/A
Positive Reinforcement Definition: increasing behaviors by presenting positive stimuli, such as food. A positive reinforcer is any stimulus that, when presented after a response, strengthens the response

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Example: giving you kids an allowance each week if they make their bed every day increases the frequency of the bed making because they want the allowance
Negative Reinforcement Definition: increasing behaviors by stopping or reducing negative stimuli, such as shock. A negative reinforcer is any stimulus that when removed after a response, strengthens the response

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Example: nagging your kids and not stopping until they make their beds increases the frequency of the bed making because they want your nagging to stop
Primary Reinforcer Definition: an innately reinforcing stimulus, such as one that satisfies a biological need

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: N/A
Conditioned Reinforcer Definition: a stimulus that gains its reinforcing power through its association with a primary reinforcer

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Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: N/A Continuous Reinforcement Definition: reinforcing the desired response every time it occurs

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: N/A Partial Reinforcement Definition: reinforcing a response only part of the time; results in slower acquisition of a response but much greater resistance to extinction than does continuous reinforcement

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: N/A Fixed-Ratio Schedule Definition: reinforces a behavior after a set number of responses

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Example: maid gets a 15 minute break after cleaning 3 rooms Variable-ratio schedule Definition: reinforces a response after an unpredictable number of responses

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Example: a charity makes an average of ten phone calls for every donation it receives fixed interval schedule Definition: reinforces a response only after a specific time has elapsed

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Example: getting allowance every Sunday Variable Interval

Schedule Definition: reinforces a response at unpredictable time intervals

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Example: watching and seeing shooting stars on a dark night latent learning Definition: learning that occurs but is not apparent until there is an incentive to demonstrate it

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

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Study: N/A
Intrinsic motivation
Definition: a desire to perform a behavior effectively for its own sake

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: N/A
Extrinsic motivation
Definition: a desire to perform a behavior to receive promised rewards or avoid threatened punishment

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: N/A
Operant behavior
Definition: behavior that operates on the environment, producing consequences

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: N/A
Operant conditioning
Definition: a type of learning in which the behavior is strengthened if followed by a reinforcer or diminished if followed by a punisher

Researcher: B. F. Skinner (1904-1990)

Study: N/A
Observational learning
Definition: learning by observing others

Researcher: Albert Bandura (1961)

Study: N/A
Mirror neurons
Definition: frontal lobe neurons that fire when performing certain actions or when observing another doing so. The brain's mirroring of another's action may enable imitation and empathy

Researcher: Giacomo Rizzolatti (2002, 2006)

Study: makes emotions contagious such as yawning when others yawn or smiling when others smile
Behaviorism
the view that psychology (1) should be an objective science that (2) studies behavior without reference to mental processes. Most research psychologists today agree with (1) but not (2).
pro social behavior
Definition: positive, constructive, helpful behavior

Researcher: Albert Bandura (1961)

Example: encouraging your children to read by reading to them and

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surrounding them with books and people that read antisocial effects
Definition: possible response of observational learning

Researcher: Albert Bandura (1961)

Example: watch abusive parents and become abusive when you are a parent

OR kids watching tv learn bad habits and get idea that violence is

acceptable
Modeling the process of observing and imitating a specific

behavior.