

The background of the slide features a dense pattern of green leaves in various shades, from light lime to deep forest green. At the bottom, there are soft, white ripples on a blue-green surface, suggesting water. A semi-transparent white rounded rectangle is centered on the slide, containing the text.

# **Child Development**

## **PSY 206**

Professor Poindujour

# Nature vs. Nurture

## ✿ Famous Greek Philosophers

✿ Plato

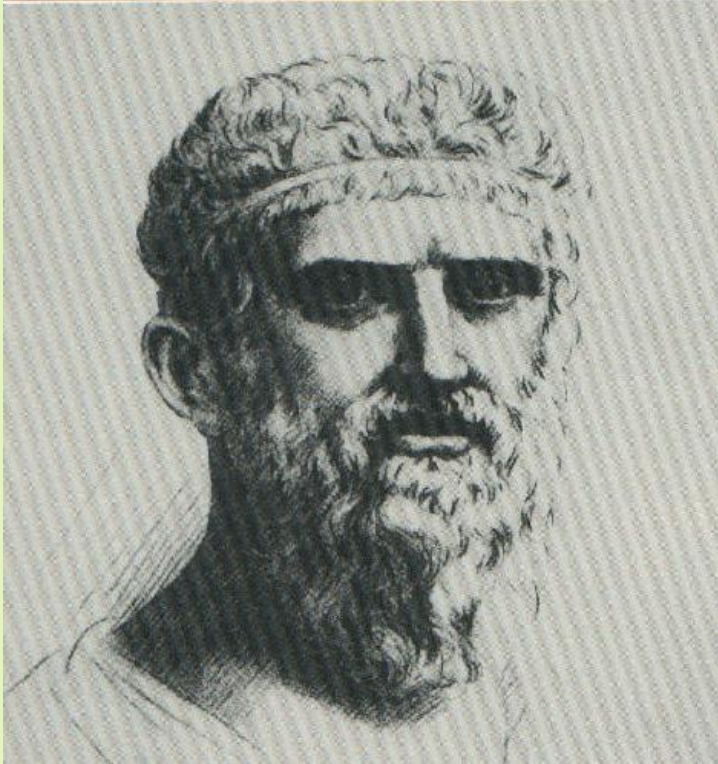
✿ Aristotle

✿ John Locke

✿ Jean Jacques Rousseau

# Plato

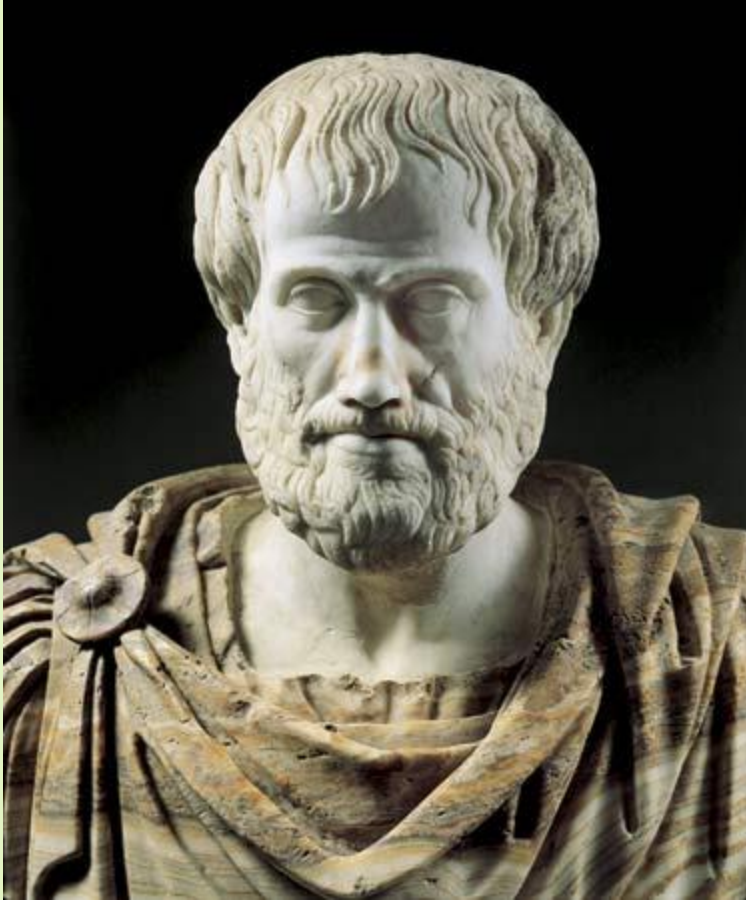
PLATO



- ✿ Greek Philosopher
- ✿ 428-347 B.C
- ✿ Suggests that we are born with a basic knowledge



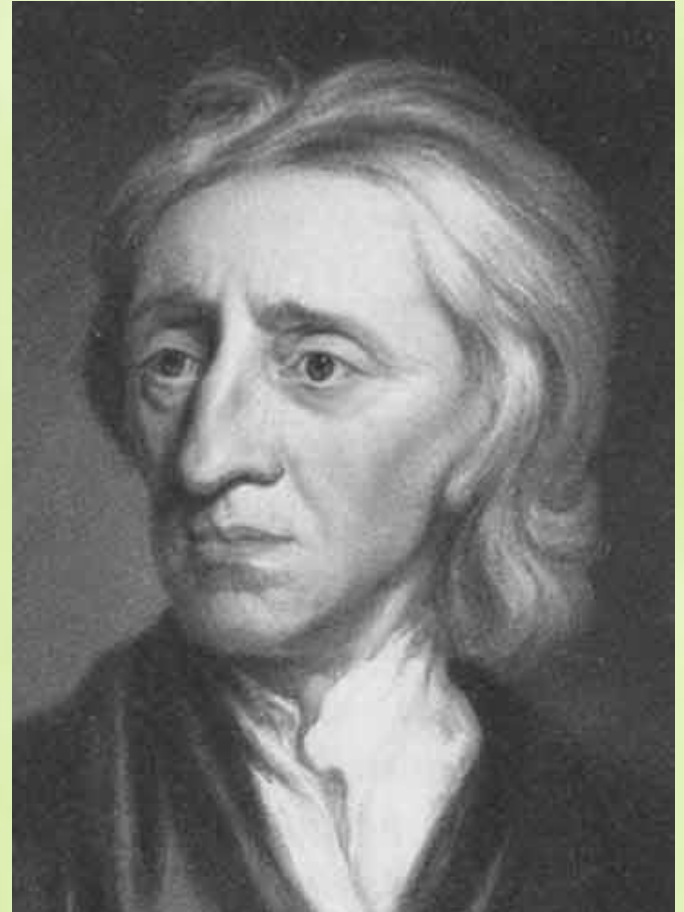
# Aristotle



- ✿ Greek Philosopher
- ✿ 384-322 B.C.
- ✿ Suggests that everything is learned

# John Locke

- ✿ English  
Philosopher
- ✿ 1632-1704
- ✿ “Tabula Rasa”



# Jean Jacque Rousseau




- ✿ Geneva
- ✿ 1712-1778
- ✿ Suggests an innate sense of justice and morality

```
graph TD; A["The Proverbial Nature vs. Nurture"] --- B["Plato & Jean-Jacques Rousseau"]; A --- C["Aristotle & John Locke"]
```

The Proverbial  
Nature  
vs.  
Nurture

Plato  
&  
Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Aristotle  
&  
John Locke



“If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.  
If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.  
If children live with fear, they learn to be apprehensive.  
If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.  
If children live with tolerance, they learn to be patient.  
If children live with encouragement, they learn to be confident.  
If children live with praise, they learn to appreciate.  
If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.  
If children live with acceptance, they learn to find love in the world.  
If children live with sharing, they learn to be generous.”

-Aristotle



# Perpetual debate is silenced by science

✿ Two distinct events in the 19<sup>th</sup> century

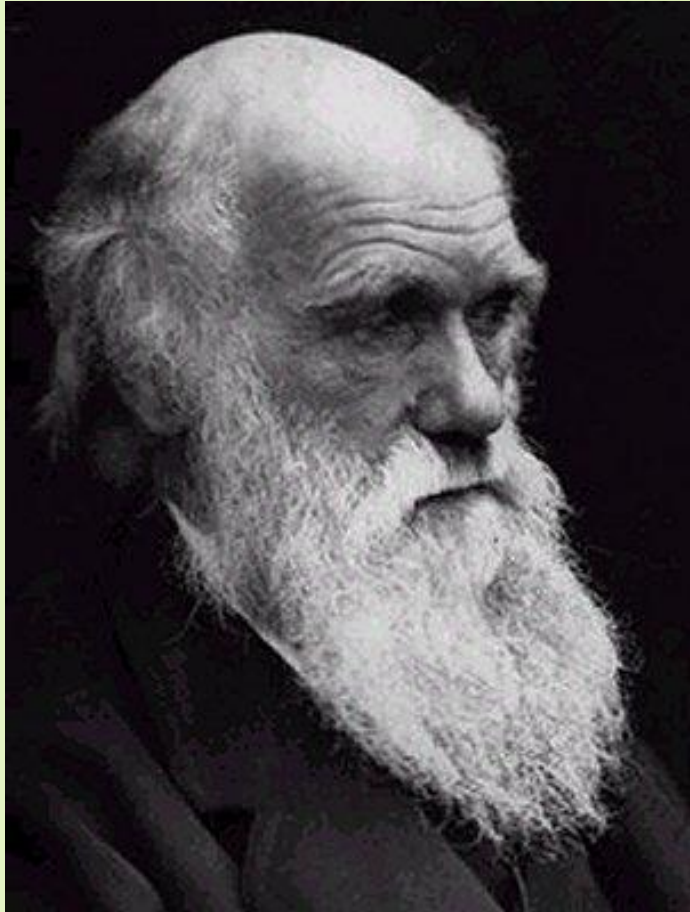
✿ Industrial Revolution

▾ Debated in 1800's

▾ Committees are formed in 1904

✿ Darwin's theory of "Evolution"

# Charles Darwin

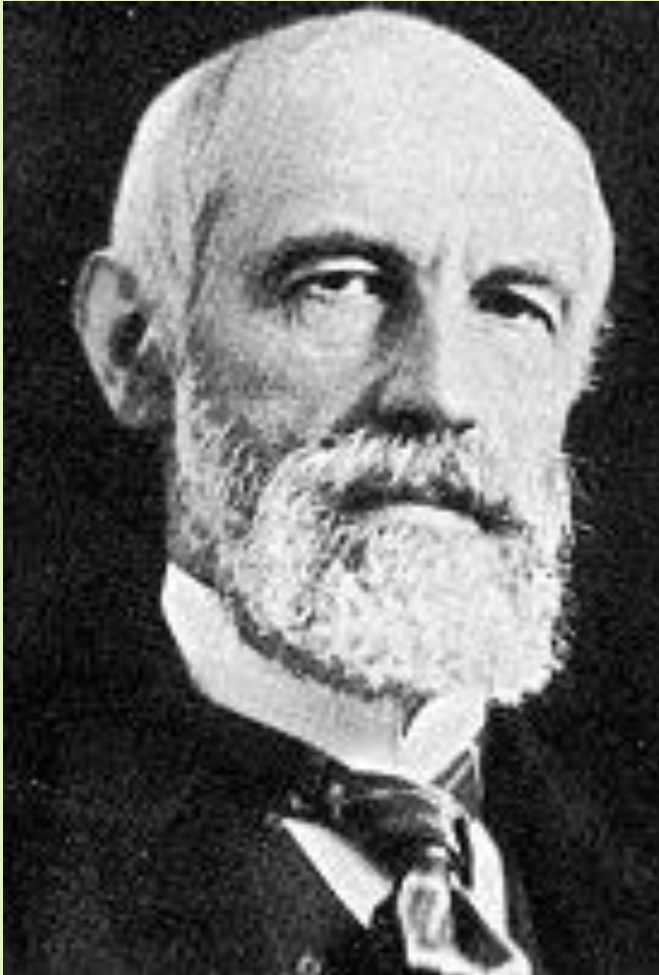


- ✿ 1809-1882
- ✿ Theory of Evolution
- ✿ Natural Selection

# **In search of objective analytic research**

- ✿ G. Stanley Hall (1844-1924)
- ✿ Alfred Binet (1857-1911)
- ✿ Sigmund Freud (1856-1939)
- ✿ John B. Watson (1878-1958)

# G. Stanley Hall



- ✿ 1844-1924
- ✿ American Psychologist
- ✿ 1<sup>st</sup> President of American Psychological Association
- ✿ Founded the American Journal of Psychology

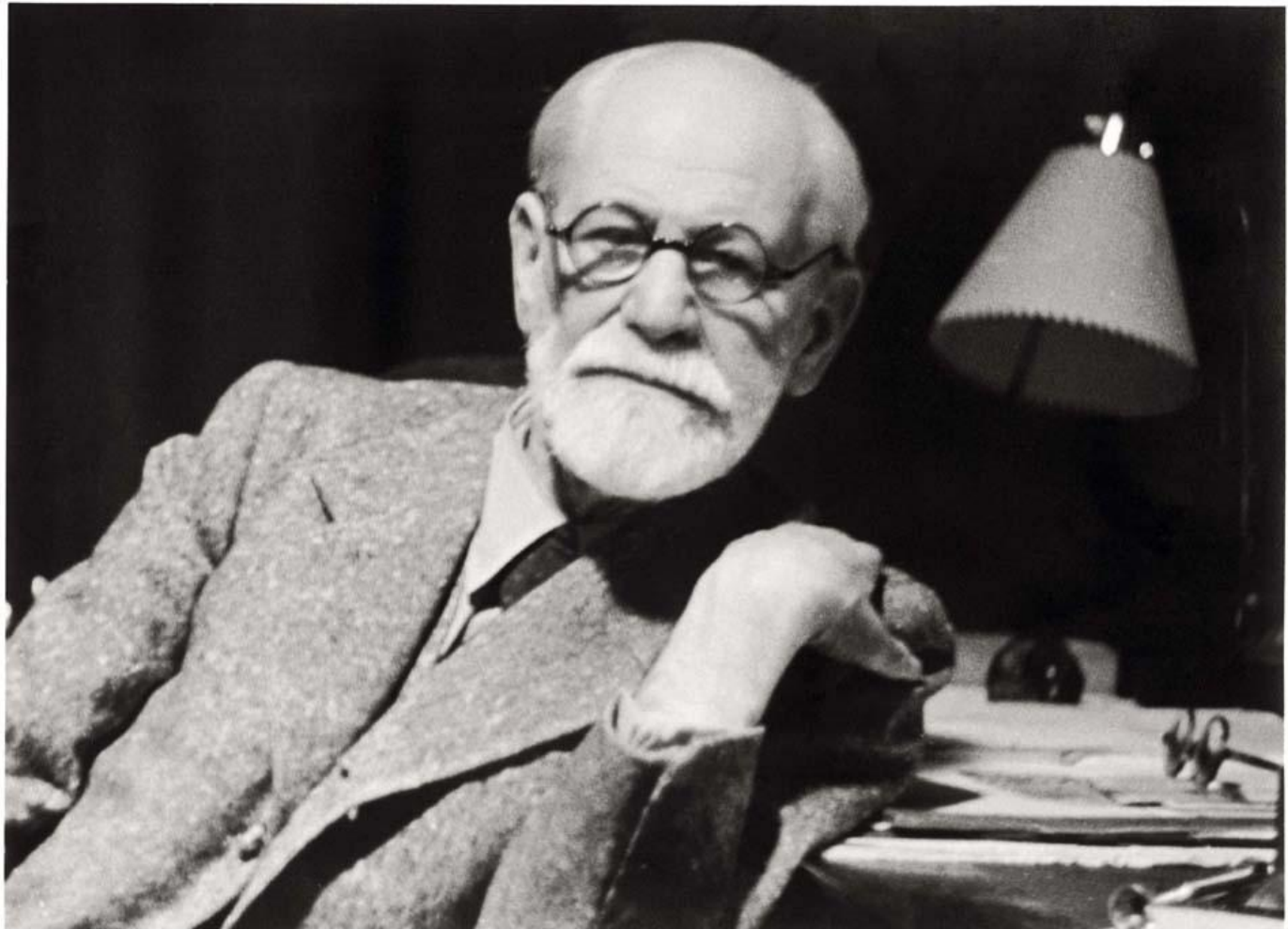


# Alfred Binet

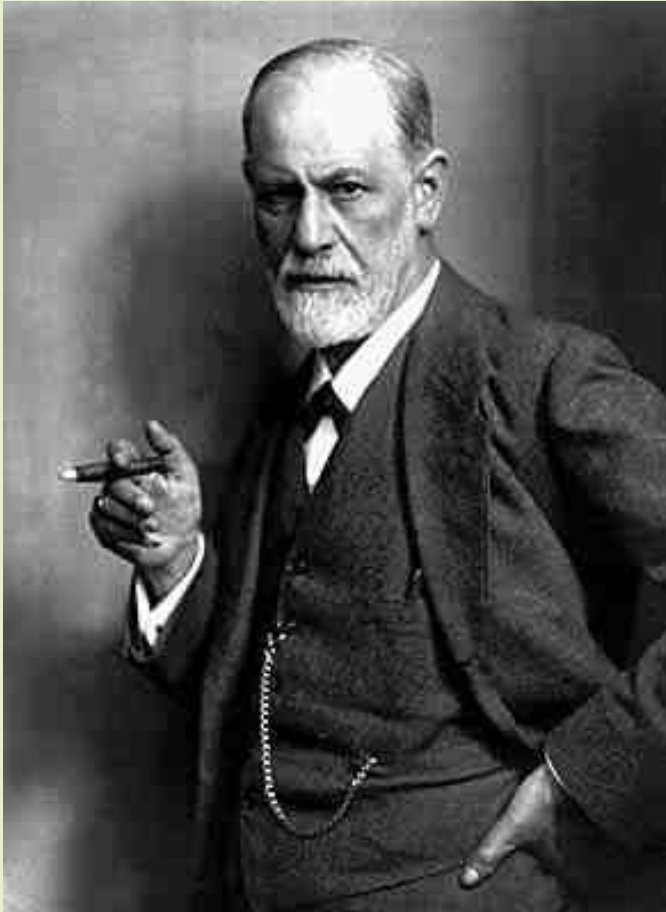


- ✿ 1857-1911
- ✿ Stanford-Binet (IQ)

# Sigmund Freud



# Sigmund Freud



- ✿ 1856-1939
- ✿ Psychoanalytic Theory

# John B. Watson



- ✿ 1878-1958
- ✿ Founder of Behaviorism



# Research

- ✿ Why???
- ✿ Components of a scientific research
- ✿ Theory
- ✿ Theorists

# 5 Major Theoretical Perspectives

## ✿ Biological Perspective

- ✿ Maturational / Ethological

## ✿ Psychodynamic Perspective

- ✿ Freud / Erikson

## ✿ Learning Perspective

- ✿ Skinner / Bandura

## ✿ Cognitive-Developmental Perspective

- ✿ Piaget

## ✿ Contextual Perspective

- ✿ Vygotsky

# Themes in Child-Development Research

- ✿ Early development is related to later development but not perfectly
  - ✿ *Continuity-Discontinuity*
- ✿ Development is always jointly influenced by Heredity and Environment
  - ✿ *Nature-Nurture*
- ✿ Children influence their own development
  - ✿ *Active-Passive child*
- ✿ Development in different domains is connected

# Doing Child-Development Research

- ✿ Measurement in Child-Development Research
- ✿ General Designs for Research
- ✿ Designs for Studying Age-Related Change
- ✿ Ethical Responsibilities
- ✿ Communicating Research Results



# Measurement in Child-Development Research

- ✿ Systematic Observation (*Naturalistic & Structured*)
- ✿ Sampling Behavior with tasks
- ✿ Self-Reports
  - ✿ Questionnaire
  - ✿ Interview
  - ✿ Response-Bias
- ✿ Physiological Measures (*less common*)
- ✿ Evaluating Measures
  - ✿ Reliable
  - ✿ Valid
- ✿ Representative Sampling
  - ✿ Population
  - ✿ Sample


# General Designs for Research

## ✿ Correlational Study

- ✿ Correlational Coefficient =  $r$
- ✿ Positive Correlation
- ✿ Negative Correlation

## ✿ Experimental Studies

- ✿ Independent Variable (Varied)
- ✿ Dependent Variable (Behavior being measured)



Correlation  
is not  
Causation

# Designs for Studying Age-Related Change

- ✿ Longitudinal Designs
- ✿ Cross Sectional
- ✿ Longitudinal-Sequential



# Ethical Responsibilities

- ✿ Minimize risk to participants
- ✿ Informed Consent
- ✿ Avoid Deception
- ✿ Results are kept anonymous or confidential
- ✿ Communicate results

# Review

- ✿ Next Week – KWL
- ✿ APA Manual
- ✿ Questions / Comments