Bringing teaching, learning and research to life

Psychology
Teaching with Case Study Video
Content Type

Case study videos are generally brief (10-20 min) and examine one aspect of a specific topic in psychology in more depth. Examples include creating false memories using the DRM method, narcissistic personality disorder, the decoy effect, and the case of Henry Molaison. Case Studies put a “spotlight” on a key problem in an area of psychology to allow students to consider the issue in the context of the larger topic. Case Studies can be assigned as homework to be viewed outside of the classroom or can easily be incorporated into a lecture to provide additional information about a specific topic of interest. Instructors can create quizzes from Case Studies to assess students’ knowledge. They can also serve as great launching pads for exciting classroom discussion and interesting assignments.

Creating False Memories Using the DRM Method

http://sk.sagepub.com/video/creating-false-memories-using-the-drm-method

This case study video presented by Dr. Dawn McBride, professor of psychology at Illinois State University, provides an in-depth look at false memories, how they can be created, and how researchers study them using a method known as the DRM procedure. Among the topics discussed are what false memories are, how false memories influence daily life and social issues (such as eyewitness testimony), and how psychologists use the DRM method to study false memory creation.

Classroom Clips

Listed below are a few examples of clips that focus on key concepts:

- This clip defines false memories. Clip 0:45 – 1:10.
- Demonstration of the DRM procedure used to experimentally create false memories with recognition test and description of how the method creates false memories. Clip 3:53 – 8:23.

Research Assignment

See below for an example assignment that you might use for students.

Find a research study that used the DRM procedure to create false memories. What did the researchers learn about false memories from this study?

Course examples might include:

- introduction to psychology,
- cognitive psychology,
- memory, and
- social psychology.

Classroom Discussion

Here are some examples of questions which might be used for in-class discussion.

1. Can you think of a time when a false memory might have occurred in your life? How might you verify whether your memory is accurate or false?
2. Do you think the DRM procedure is a good way to learn about false memories that might happen in an eyewitness situation? Why or why not?
3. Knowing what you now know about false memories and how they are created, what are some of the issues that should be considered when eyewitness testimony is used in the our legal system?