Bringing teaching, learning and research to life

SAGE video
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Psychology
Teaching with Interview Video
Content Type

Interviews are longer (45–60 min) and present an interview with an expert on a topic in psychology. Examples include “John Wixted Discusses Human Memory,” “Brian Cutler Defines Reconstructive Memory,” and “Eric Shiraev Defines Behaviorism.” Interviews provide an interview with an expert on a broad topic in the field. They can be assigned as homework to be viewed outside of the classroom or can easily be incorporated into a lecture to provide background on a topic. Instructors can create quizzes from interviews to assess students’ knowledge. They can also serve as great launching pads for exciting classroom discussion and interesting assignments.

John Wixted Discusses Human Memory
http://sk.sagepub.com/video/john-wixted-discusses-human-memory

This interview presented by Dr. John Wixted, professor and chair of psychology at the University of California—San Diego, provides an overview of human memory from an expert on this topic. Dr. Wixted discusses different forms of memory, theories of memory, how memories are encoded and retrieved, encoding specificity principle, why he chose to study memory, key researchers in the field, topics of his research, how the field has changed in recent years, key research methodologies, key research affecting public policy, where the field is going in the near future, and recommendations for students new to the field.

Suggested Courses or Topics

Course examples might include:

- cognitive psychology,
- memory,
- neuroscience—neuropsychology,
- cognitive neuroscience,
- research methodology, and
- criminal justice—eyewitness.

Classroom Clips

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

- Distinction between declarative and nondeclarative memory, including episodic and semantic memory and skills with examples. Clip 0:45 – 2:18.
- Key researchers in the field of memory (Tulving, Squire, Loftus). Clip 8:11 – 10:23.
- Recent developments in the field of memory. Clip 14:23 – 15:54.

Research Assignment

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

Find a research study by Dr. Wixted that examines eyewitness memory. How does what he said was eyewitness memory in his interview relate to the findings of his study?

Classroom Discussion

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

1. Did Dr. Wixted’s description of memory confirm or change any of your ideas about how memory works? How so?

2. Besides applications to eyewitness memory, can you think of any other social policy issues that memory research can inform us about?