|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Classical Conditioning | Operant Conditioning |
| Pioneers | Ivan PavlovJohn B. Watson | Edward ThorndikeB.F. Skinner |
| Major Terms | Neutral Stimulus (NS)Unconditioned Stimulus (UCS)Conditioned Stimulus (CS)Unconditioned Response (UCR)Conditioned ResponseConditioned emotional response (CER) | Reinforces (primary and secondary)Reinforcement (positive and negative)Punishment (positive and negative)ShapingReinforcement schedules (continuous and partial) |
| Example  | Cringing at the sound of a dentist’s drill | A baby cries and you pick it up |
| Shared Terms | GeneralizationDiscriminationExtinctionSpontaneous Recovery | GeneralizationDiscriminationExtinctionSpontaneous Recovery |
| Major Differences | Learning based on paired associationsInvoluntary (subject is passive) | Learning based on consequencesVoluntary (subject is active and “operates” on the environment) |
| Order of effect | NS comes before the UCS | Reinforcement or punishment comes after behavior |