



# The Psychology of Humor: An Integrative Approach

By Rod A. Martin

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## **The Psychology of Humor: An Integrative Approach** By Rod A. Martin

Research on humor is carried out in a number of areas in psychology, including the cognitive (What makes something funny?), developmental (when do we develop a sense of humor?), and social (how is humor used in social interactions?) Although there is enough interest in the area to have spawned several societies, the literature is dispersed in a number of primary journals, with little in the way of integration of the material into a book.

Dr. Martin is one of the best known researchers in the area, and his research goes across subdisciplines in psychology to be of wide appeal. This is a singly authored monograph that provides in one source, a summary of information researchers might wish to know about research into the psychology of humor. The material is scholarly, but the presentation of the material is suitable for people unfamiliar with the subject-making *The Psychology of Humor* suitable for use for advanced undergraduate and graduate level courses on the psychology of humor-which have not had a textbook source.

2007 AATH Book Award for Humor/Laughter Research category!

- Up-to-date coverage of research on humor and laughter in every area of psychology
- Research findings are integrated into a coherent conceptual framework
- Includes recent brain imaging studies, evolutionary models, and animal research
- Draws on contributions from sociology, linguistics, neuroscience, and anthropology
- Provides an overview of theories of humor and early research
- Explores applications of humor in psychotherapy, education, and the workplace
- Points out interesting topics for further research and promising research methodologies
- Written in a scholarly yet easily accessible style
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## **Editorial Review**

### **From the Back Cover**

Most of us laugh at something funny multiple times during a typical day. Humor serves multiple purposes and though there is a sizable and expanding research literature on the subject, the research is spread in a variety of disciplines. Until now there has been no systematic integration of that literature into a single book. *The Psychology of Humor* reviews the literature, integrating disparate findings from across subdisciplines in psychology, as well as related fields such as anthropology, biology, computer science, linguistics, and sociology. The book begins by defining humor, followed by a discussion of theories of humor, and then begins analyzing research findings from the various subdisciplines in psychology. Coverage includes the cognitive processes involved in humor, as well as the effects of humor on cognition, the neurobiology of humor, the social functions of humor, individual differences in personality and humor, the development of humor understanding and use over the lifespan, the association of humor with both physical and mental health, and applications of humor use in psychotherapy, education, and the workplace.

### **About the Author**

Rod A. Martin has been a professor of clinical psychology at the University of Western Ontario since 1984. Much of his research has focused on the role of humor in mental and physical health, and he has published more than 40 journal articles and book chapters in this area. He is currently president of the International Society for Humor Studies and is on the editorial board of the society's journal. His research has been featured in numerous national and international newspaper and magazine articles and radio and television programs.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **George Clark:**

The book *The Psychology of Humor: An Integrative Approach* can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. So just why must we leave the great thing like a book *The Psychology of Humor: An Integrative Approach*? A few of you have a different opinion about publication. But one aim which book can give many info for us. It is absolutely suitable. Right now, try to closer together with your book. Knowledge or information that you take for that, you are able to give for each other; you are able to share all of these. Book *The Psychology of Humor: An Integrative Approach* has simple shape but the truth is know: it has great and massive function for you. You can look the enormous world by wide open and read a e-book. So it is very wonderful.

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