Skinner’s (1945) essay, An Operational Analysis of Psychological Terms, planted the roots of Radical Behaviorism. Although the paper was not long—roughly 8 journal pages—it was remarkable in scope. It not only included a cogent analysis of private events and self-knowledge, but also outlined an approach to science as social process that was well ahead of its time. These topics were later fleshed out in more detail, but the distinctive characteristics of Radical Behaviorism were evident in the 1945 essay. We will read and discuss Skinner’s 1945 essay and explore some of its still-current implications.

Tim Hackenberg, Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Psychology
Reed College

Friday, Nov. 11, 2017
1728 Wood
12 p.m.

CEU’s Available