

Cambridge Elements =

Elements in Perception edited by James T. Enns The University of British Columbia

ECOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Miguel Segundo-Ortin
University of Murcia
Vicente Raja
University of Murcia







Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009451406

DOI: 10.1017/9781009451413

© Miguel Segundo-Ortin and Vicente Raja 2024

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781009451413

First published 2024

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-009-45140-6 Hardback ISBN 978-1-009-45136-9 Paperback ISSN 2515-0502 (online) ISSN 2515-0499 (print)

Additional resources for this publication at www.cambridge.org/Miguel_Vicente

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.



Ecological Psychology

Elements in Perception

DOI: 10.1017/9781009451413 First published online: March 2024

> Miguel Segundo-Ortin University of Murcia Vicente Raja University of Murcia

Author for correspondence: Miguel Segundo-Ortin, miguel.segundo@um.es

Abstract: Ecological psychology is one of the main alternative theories of perception and action available in the contemporary literature. This Element explores and analyzes its most relevant ideas, concepts, methods, and experimental results. It first discusses the historical roots of the ecological approach. The Element then analyzes the works of the two main founders of ecological psychology: James and Eleanor Gibson. It also explores the development of ecological psychology since the 1980s until nowadays. Finally, the Element identifies and evaluates the future of the ecological approach to perception and action.

Keywords: affordances, direct perception, embodied cognition, J. J. Gibson, E. J. Gibson

© Miguel Segundo-Ortin and Vicente Raja 2024
ISBNs: 9781009451406 (HB), 9781009451369 (PB), 9781009451413 (OC)

ISSNs: 2515-0502 (online), 2515-0499 (print)



Contents

	Introduction	1
1	The Historical Roots of Ecological Psychology	2
2	The Ecological Approach to Perception and Action: Theses, Concepts, and Methods	12
3	Ecological Psychology Today	27
4	The Future of Ecological Psychology	46
	Conclusion	61
	Glossary	62
	References	65