

COGNITION LAB

What: Cognition Lab Summer 2011 01:830:306:H6
When: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:00-9:55 pm
Where: Busch Psychology Room 105

Instructor: Sung-Ho Kim
E-mail: sungho4@rci.rutgers.edu (please put "Cognition Lab:" in the subject line of your emails)
Office: Psychology Building Annex, Room A134
Office Hrs: by appointment
Course WWW: <http://ruccs.rutgers.edu/~jacob/Psych306/lab.htm>
<https://sakai.rutgers.edu/portal>

COURSE GOALS: The aim of this course is to provide hands-on experience and training in some of the methodologies, experimental designs, and analytical methods that are common in research in cognitive psychology. Most of the course will be devoted to running some simple in-class experiments, analyzing the data, interpreting the results, and sharpening your scientific writing skills.

HOW WE WILL REACH THESE GOALS: For each lab, you will be asked to write a section of a lab report (i.e. an abstract, an introduction, methods, results, or a discussion) depending on that week's assignment. These sections, as a whole, comprise a scientific journal article. For the final lab, you will be asked to complete a full lab report that will enable you to integrate the skills you've learned from each aforementioned section.

HOW TO ARRIVE PREPARED EACH WEEK: Please review the materials at the above URLs. The lab manual on Professor Feldman's web site contains most of the material you will need for this class. I will post additional class materials on the Sakai website, including my class lecture notes, relevant articles, and writing guides. Below, you will find the schedule for the topics we will cover in class and the associated assignments.

THE SCHEDULE: The labs follow a week (two classes) cycle. During the first class of each lab, the theoretical background and motivation of the week's experiment are explained and students act as subjects in the experiment. During the second class, the statistical methods are explained and students analyze and interpret their results of the first week with the methods. After each lab, an assignment of writing a partial section of a lab report (i.e. an abstract, an introduction, a methods section, etc.) is asked. For the final lab, students are asked to write a complete lab report that enables students integrate the skills throughout the semester.

There is a possibility that we might not follow the order of labs as listed, and may sometimes substitute the labs listed with an alternate lab. You will be fully informed of any changes in advance.

DATE	TO DO IN CLASS	ASSIGNMENTS (DUE DATE)
7/12	Introductions/ Categorization and Typicality	PsycINFO Search (due 7/14)
7/14	Categorization and Typicality	Introduction (due 7/20)
7/19	Mental Rotation	
7/21	Mental Rotation	Methods & Results (due 7/27)
7/26	Numerical Estimation	Abstract (due 8/1)
7/28	Category Learning	
8/2	Category Learning	Discussion (due 8/8)
8/4	Working Memory	Draft of final lab report (due 8/8)
8/9	Working Memory	Final report (due 8/14)
8/11	Decision Making	In-class assignment
8/14	Final report due	

GRADING: Your final grade will be comprised of three components:

1. Attendance/Participation (see policy below) 10%
2. Writing assignments 50%
3. Final lab report (10 pages) 40%

ATTENDANCE and PARTICIPATION: Attendance is mandatory and will be taken at the start of each class. Although I understand that Rutgers' transportation is often unreliable, and that traffic is a challenge, it is your responsibility to account for this ahead of time and arrive at 6:00 pm every week. I know you can do it! If you miss a class, you must receive an official excuse from the Dean. This will excuse you from that part of the assignment. Missed assignments that are not excused will be given a "0." **You should note that if you miss the first part of a lab, you will not have data to analyze in the second part. If you miss the second part of a lab, you will not have results to write about.** Active participation is STRONGLY encouraged.

ASSIGNMENT:

- Assignments and final lab report should be printed in 12 pt font, double-spaced, and with 1-inch margins unless specified differently. At all times, adhere to the APA guidelines as they are set forth in the APA Publication Manual.
- Writing assignments are graded on a 10 point scale. Final lab report is graded on a 40 point scale. A grade of "0" will be assigned to papers that are not turned in.
- Assignments are due one week after they are assigned.
- All assignments should be turned in at the beginning of the class they are due (via Sakai web site). Emailed assignments are NOT accepted.

- Late assignments reduce by 1 point of grade for each day it is late (e.g. a paper which would have been graded as a 10 will be reduced to an 8 after 2 days late). Papers more than 5 days late will not be accepted.
- Students can ask me questions on assignments anytime in person or by email, but I will not reply to the questions asked after 6 pm on the night before due date.
- All work that students turn in must be done their own work. Students should not work collaboratively on assignments. Copied assignments or lab report results in failing the course. Any outside sources must be appropriately referenced (APA format). Plagiarism is NOT tolerated. See Rutgers' policy on Academic Integrity at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml>.

CLASSROOM DECORUM: You should not arrive late. Cell phones should be off.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Any student who feels he or she needs accommodation for a physical or learning disability, please speak with me so that appropriate arrangements are made. You may also contact the Office of Disability Services (151 College Ave, Suite 123; phone 732-932-2848) and read more about Rutgers' policy at <http://disability/services.rutgers.edu> .