

Instructor

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Only contact me by email from a Rutgers University email address (@rutgers.edu, @scarletmail.rutgers.edu)!

I will respond to pressing questions or concerns by email within 24 hours.

Chat room: There is a Chat Room on Sakai for this section, which many of you have already used to indicate your attendance for the first in-class meeting.

You can ask general questions there at any time and I will respond within 36 hours. I will check the Chat Room for new messages daily (on weekdays).

I have designated online office hours that will be held in the Chat Room (see below).

Office hours: Chat room sessions on Tuesdays 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM and by arrangement.

You can also come to room 105 in days that we do not meet in person for extra help, or to the open office hours listed by other instructors (to be announced).

Because the other sections are using the same software and doing similar assignments, you can go to any of the instructors office hours for help. If you have content questions (about the topic of the experiment, for example) then make sure you go to see an instructor who teaches cognition lab.

Cognition and Sensation & Perception Instructor Office Hours

All office hours are in the Busch Psychology Building

Instructor	Class	Office hours	Room
Chris	Cognition	Friday, 9-10	221
Nathan	S&P	Tuesday, 1-2	A134
Lily	Cognition	Wednesday, 3:20-4:40	105
Nic	S&P	Wednesday 10:20-11:40	105
Gwendolyn	Cognition	Thursday 3:20-4:40	105
Bruno	S&P	Thursday 3 -4	315
Yelda	S&P	Monday, 3:20 - 4:40	105
Omer	Cognition	Thursday, 10:20 - 11:40	105
Shuqi	Cognition	Wednesday, 2 - 3	110

Course Description

We will be doing various lab exercises that will give you hands on experience with the research methods and important findings in Cognition and in Sensation and Perception. These exercises will give you opportunity to experience some phenomena first hand, as well as the opportunity to generate and test

some hypotheses of your own. You'll also be able to improve some basic skills in using software, analyzing data and communicating scientific findings.

Learning Goals

1. Develop scientific thinking skills, including how to form and test hypotheses and how to draw sound conclusions from results.
2. Demonstrate some well-known cognitive and perceptual phenomena by running lab exercises.
3. Learn-by-doing the main research methods of the field.
4. Learn how to analyze data and evaluate hypotheses.
5. Learn research communication skills.
6. Improve computer literacy

Materials

Course materials are all available on the course Sakai website ([here](#)). Because this is an online course, there will be assigned videos in lieu of lectures.

Class Requirements

Weekly activity and assignments: Each week students will learn some new material, participate in a lab exercise, and have a written assignment. Assignments will be graded such that there will be opportunity for revisions and improvements. Your instructor will announce the due dates of weekly assignments.

Timetable and deadlines: Completion of work and uploading to Sakai according to the instructor specified timetable is required. You are responsible for all material, as well as completion of all assignments.

Getting help: Options for getting help include the instructors' office hours or the chat room for the week's lab. Instructors will monitor the chat room and reply according to a schedule to be announced. The chat room is also a good forum for students to answer each other's questions. Doing so will help your own understanding of the material.

Final Project: There will be a final capstone project which will be based on an original lab exercise. The project, including the experimental design, collection and analyses of data and the written report (written in the style of journal articles in the field) gives you the opportunity to use the skills you have learned during the semester. Details of the project assignment will be described later in the semester.

Grades: 50% weekly assignments. 50% final project.

Computers: Lab exercises require computers that run either Windows or Macintosh operating systems. Lab software is not compatible with operating systems used on devices that use iOS, Android, or other mobile operating systems (notebooks, tablets, or iPads). Contact the instructor if you aren't sure whether your computer meets the requirements. You will need to install software on whatever computer you use, so make sure to use either a device you own personally or that you have permission from the owner to install software. If you do not have a compatible computer, lab exercises may be run on computers in a university computer lab (see <https://oit-nb.rutgers.edu/service/computer-labs-0> for a list of university computer lab locations). If you choose to run the exercises in a computer lab, be sure to bring a thumb-drive so that you can keep copies of your work. In addition, some of the exercises may require use of headphones.

Some important rules: **No electronic recording** (audio, video, photos) **of class materials is**

allowed. No online posting of class material is allowed other than as approved by the instructor.

Data Collection: In this course we are doing lab exercises, not original research. All data for weekly exercises as well as the final project will be collected with either you or your classmates serving as the participants. **Collecting data from anyone else (roommates, friends, family members) is never permitted.**

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity: Rutgers University's Academic Integrity policy (<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers/>) states, among other things, that

“every Rutgers University student...make sure that all work submitted as his or her own in a course or other academic activity is produced without the aid of unsanctioned materials or unsanctioned collaboration.”

This includes having someone else run your experiment, having someone else read the material and/or watch the lectures for you, and having someone else run the analysis for you. If the instructors believe that someone else is doing the work for you, this will be investigated in accordance with the university's procedures and policies.