Syllabus

General Plan. 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, and interpreting the results.

Handouts. There will be weekly handouts distributed in class. In addition, links to on-line versions of all the handouts, as well as this syllabus, can be found at

http://ruccs.rutgers.edu/~jacob/Psych306/labman.html

Schedule: The labs generally follow a two-week cycle. During the first week of each unit, students will act as subjects in an experiment. The TA will give some of the theoretical background and motivation of the week's experiment, and explain the experimental design. During the second week, the class will analyze and interpret the results. The TA will discuss the relevant statistical methods, both in general and as they apply to the results at hand.

The schedule of units is as follows (subject to modification at the TA's discretion):

Lab 1: **Categorization and typicality**
Lab 2: **Mental rotation**
Lab 3: **Numerical estimation**
Lab 4: **Category learning**
Lab 5: **Decision making**
Lab 6: **Working memory**

Grading: Each unit will include a writing assignment, usually a lab report (or part of a lab report) on the experiment conducted in class. The assignment will be explained in the handouts and discussed in class. Grades will be based on these assignments.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory because so much of the class depends on the hands-on experience of running in the experiments.