Sensation & Perception

01:830:301:B6

Summer 2020

5/26/2020-7/3/2020

Instructor: Angela Dao
Email: angela.dao@rutgers.edu
Office hours: By arrangement, virtual meeting

This course will be completely asynchronous, meaning there will be no "live" classes online. Instead, it is your responsibility to keep up with the lectures, quizzes, and tests on your own time, as stated in the syllabus.

Course Description:

Sensation & Perception is the area of psychology that studies how humans and other animals convert information from the outside world into information that brains can use and convert it into information we (or the animal) can use to navigate the outside world. As such, it is central to almost all aspects of behavior and cognition. In this class, we will be examining this process from a broader, information-theoretic based angle to gain a greater understanding of these underlying processes.

Learning Goals

1. Understand how sensory organs interact with the nervous system to create a picture of the world
2. Learn how psychophysical and biological methods are used to scientifically measure perception
3. Identify how connections are made between the brain and the environment

Course Readings:

Sensation and Perception, 5th edition. Wolfe JM, Kluender KR, Levi DM et al.

Previous versions *may* be acceptable, but you are responsible for all the information in the 5th edition. Assigned chapters are posted for the 5th edition and it is your responsibility to ensure you are reading the proper chapters if using an older edition.

Grading Policy:

Participation:		10%
Midterm:		35%
Final Exam:		35%
Presentation:		20%
Total:	=	100% maximum

Gradescale:

90%-100%	A
85%-89.9%	B+
80%-84.9%	B
75%-79.9%	C+
65%-74.9%	C
51%-64.9%	D
<50%	F

Course Policy & Requirements:

1) Participation: 10%
    a. Weekly quizzes will count as your participation grade for this semester. They will be due every Friday by 12pm. Video lectures will be posted with ample time to watch them and complete the weekly quizzes
    b. Assigned readings for each class will be posted – it is expected that you are all familiar with the course material assigned
2) Exams: 2 total (both worth 35%) 70%
    a. Exams will be available online for 48hrs and due at 11:59 as posted on the syllabus
    b. A makeup exam will only be given in the case of a documented illness-such absences will require a doctor's AND dean's note in order to qualify for a makeup exam.
3) Presentation: (20%)
    a. A 20 minute presentation about a topic of your choice to be uploaded to the course sakai site. You will each be assigned a certain number of other students' presentations to watch and "grade" as part of a participation grade for your own presentation grade
4) Any information regarding changes in class scheduling will be made via sakai
5) Any problems that arise that may interrupt your online learning *must* be brought to my attention ASAP! I understand that a fully online summer session during a global pandemic is not ideal for everyone and I am willing to work with you to agree on accommodations where necessary and appropriate. *All accommodations must be made before assignments are missed.*

Academic Integrity:

Students must comply with the Rutgers Academic Integrity Policy: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/. Do not cheat during exams-it is not worth the risk. If you are struggling in the course I am happy to help.

Course Schedule:
The course schedule provided is a suggestion of how to break up the weekly readings and lectures, but it is up to you to watch lectures on your own time. The weekly quizzes will be on the chapters assigned for each individual week.

Week#	Date	Objective, Readings, Assignment
Week 1Tue	Tue, May 26	*Reading*: Ch1, Ch 2 Course Obj: Intro to S&P, Psychophysics and biology of perception, Light physics, information processing
Week 1Thr	Thr, May 28	Reading: Ch3, 4 Course Obj: Spatial vision, light optics, the striate cortex, perceiving and recognizing objects
Week 2Tue	Tue, Jun 2	Reading: Ch5, 6 Course Obj: Color perception, space perception and binocular vision, depth perception
Week 2Thr	Thr, Jun 4	Reading: Ch7, 8 Course Obj: visual attention and scene perception, disorders of attention, motion perception, eye movements
Week 3Tue	Tue, Jun 9	Midterm! 35% (ch1-8) Due 11:59pm
Week 3Thr	Thr, Jun 11	Reading: Ch9, Ch10 Course Obj: hearing physiology, psychoacoustics, structure of auditory system, sound localization **Presentation topics due**
Week 4Tue	Tue, Jun 16	Reading: Ch12, 13 Course obj: vestibular sensation, spatial orientation perception, touch physiology, haptic perception
Week 4Thr	Thr, Jun 18	Reading: Ch14 Course Obj: olfaction physiology, neurophysiology of olfaction
Week 5Tue	Tue, Jun 23	Reading: Ch15 Course Obj: anatomy and physiology of gustatory system, taste vs. flavor, taste contribution to regulation of nutrients Presentation! 20%, Due 11:59pm
Week 5Thr	Thr, Jun 25	Presentation participation/grades due 11:59pm
Week 6Tue	Tue, Jun 30	Final Exam! 35% (ch 9, 10, 12-15) Due 11:59pm

***Syllabus and course schedule subject to change**