

01:830:305:H6

Cognition

TTh 6 – 9:00 pm

MU-212, CAC

Instructor: Lu Wang

Office hours: Thursday 3:30-5:00 pm, or by appointment,

(Location): Psychology room 131, Busch Campus

Contact: via email at luwan@rci.rutgers.edu

GRADING

Grades are calculated from a total of 100 points:

A: 90 – 100 B+: 85 – 89 B: 80 – 84 C+: 75 – 79 C: 70 – 74 D: 60 – 69 F: <59

EXAM

There will be three in-class exams (15 points each, **45** points in total) composed of some combination of multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank questions. On an exam day, the first hour of the class will be allotted for the exam, the rest of the class will be lecture on new material. **No make-up exams will be allowed.** The lowest points will be dropped, and the highest one will be counted twice for your final grades. Therefore, you could choose to drop one of the exams, at most.

A cumulative final exam (**25** points) will be given at the end of the course. **It is not possible to drop this grade!** The exam will cover material from the entire class and will be composed of multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank questions.

GROUP REPORT

At the end of the course, we'll talk about the current topics of cognitive psychology. You will work in groups and find a recent article on a topic you are interested in, and present that to the whole class. A summary of the article (5-6 pages) and an in-class presentation (20 minutes) are required (**20** points).

IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS & PARTICIPATION

Throughout the course we will be doing some in-class exercises and discussions, for a total of **10** points. Some examples of in-class assignments and participations:

- Discuss in class, or write up a 2-3 pages essay on the topic we discussed.
- Read one journal articles related to a topic that we discussed in class and summarize the articles in 2-3 pages.

BONUS POINTS: PARTICIPATION IN EXPERIMENT

Optional: you could participate in any experiments related to Cognition (5 points). Throughout the semester I will let you know about the opportunities.

Each meeting includes two topics, one hour and twenty minutes for each topic. You'll have 10 minutes break in-between. There is a 10-minutes discussion session at the end of each meeting.

SCHEDULE

Note: this schedule is subject to change

Time	Contents	In Class Discussion	Reading / Listening
7/10 T	History of Cognition	Behavioral vs. Cognitive Psychology	NPR radio programs [1]: Turing Test
7/12 Th	Vision & Perception	Guest Lecture: Seha Kim Guest Lecture: Vicky Froyen	
7/17 T	Attention	Review for Exam 1	Fan et al.
7/19 Th	Exam 1: Perception & Attention		
	Memory (part I: WM, STM, LTM)		
7/24 T	Memory (part II: Amnesia, FM, Consolidation)	Emotion, Memory consolidation and reconsolidation, and PTSD Review for Exam 2	Schiller et al., 2010
7/26 Th	Exam 2: Memory	Decision Making Biases: why do we have the bias?	Times Article: Optimism Bias
	Reasoning & Decision Making		
7/31 T	Cognitive Development	Review for Exam 3 Reading an APA paper?	Article for 8/9
8/2 Th	Philosophy of Cognition	Guest Lecture: Derek Anderson Article for group report on 8/14	NPR radio programs [2]
8/7 T	Exam 3: Decision Making & Cog. Development	Guest Lecture: Sydney Levine	TBA Article for 8/14 (by 8/5)
	Cognitive Psychology of Morality		
8/9 Th	Current topics in Cognitive Psychology 1 (1-3)	Group report 1 & 2 (Send me the article by 7/31)	TBA
	Current topics in Cognitive Psychology 2 (4-6)		
8/14 T	Current topics in Cognitive Psychology 3 (7-10)	Group report 3 (Send me the article by 8/5)	TBA
	Review for Final		
8/16 Th	Final Exam		

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any student who attempts to pass off someone else's words as his or her own will receive a zero for the assignment and will be reported to the Dean of his or her College. Students are expected to adhere to the University Policy on Academic Integrity: <http://cat.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>.