

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](mailto:luwan@rci.rutgers.edu)

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**GRADING**

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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

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Note: this schedule is subject to change

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

### 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>.