

Cognition 305:04

Syllabus Fall 2012

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Class time and location

Rutgers University Psychology 01:830:305:04

Fall 2012 semester

Mon & Thur 8:40-10am

SEC 117 (Busch Campus)

Course Description

Cognitive Psychology is the science of thought. We will cover topics including perception, attention, memory, concept formation, judgment and decision making, expertise, creativity, and others. For each of these topics, you will be able to recognize and recall important empirical findings and theories, evaluate experimental evidence as it applies to theories of cognitive processing, and analyze events in your own life in terms of cognitive processes. Prerequisite: 01:830:101

Course Materials:

Textbook

Cognitive Psychology - connecting mind, research, and everyday experience.

Author: E. Bruce Goldstein

Publisher: Wadsworth Cengage learning

Edition: Third Edition

ISBN-10: 0840033559 ISBN-13: 9780840033550

Additional Readings

Additional readings will be posted on Sakai

Lecture slides

Partial lecture slides will be posted on Sakai. These slides will not include all of the materials presented during lectures.

Assessments:

Exams

There will be a total of 4 exams for this class including the final exam. The final exam is cumulative, covering the entire semester.

Exams will be in the format of multiple choice, short answer, fill in the blank, matching, and essay.

Exam questions will come from both the lecture and the readings.

You must take all four exams. If you miss an in-class exam you will need to provide a valid/documented excuse in order to take a make-up exam on a scheduled date. The dates and times of each make-up exam will be announced prior to each exam. The make-up exams will be in the essay format.

Paper

The application paper is a chance for you to apply theories and experiments you've learned about in cognitive psychology to your own life.

The paper should be relatively short (2-3 pages). More details will be available on Sakai.

Extra credit

There are several different ways in which you can earn extra credit.

- 1) For each block of material covered on each exam you will have the opportunity to earn extra credit by writing 1 multiple choice exam question, 1 fill in the blank question **and** 1 essay question. You must provide the answer to each question. Out of all of the questions submitted for this assignment at least one of these will appear on the subsequent exam. The three questions are due one week prior to the exam that the questions pertain to. Each triplet of questions is worth up to **3** points for a total of **12** possible points.

For example: the block of material covered on exam 1 covers Introduction, Perception and Attention. You will need to design three questions to cover this material (and provide the answers!). Exam 1 is on Sept 24th. The extra credit assignment is due on Sept 17th. The assignments will be posted on Sakai.

- 2) Supplemental materials to the textbook and lectures will be posted on Sakai. These might take the form of journal articles and/or short videos and will relate to topics covered in the textbook and in lecture. Sometimes the supplemental material will expand on a specific concept, and sometimes the supplemental material will provide additional information to help you think about a given topic. You can earn extra credit by reading/viewing the supplemental material and completing a short assessment. Each assessment will be worth between 2-5 points for a total of 13 possible points. The assignments and due dates will be posted on Sakai.

Grading

Your grade will be based on exams, a paper and extra credit (if you choose).

Activity	Maximum point value
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Final exam	100
Paper	75
Extra credit	25
Total possible points	500

Your grade	Points
A	426 and up
B+	409-426
B	376-408
C+	359-375
C	326-358
D	276-325
F	below-275

Schedule

Topics and chapters will be covered on the dates assigned in the schedule. Additional readings might be assigned. Please check Sakai for notices of additional readings. Material not covered in the textbook or listed in the schedule might be covered in lectures.

Date	Topic	Reading
Sept 6	Introduction	Chap 1
Sept 10, 13	Perception	Chap 3
Sept 17, 20	Attention	Chap 4
Sept 24	Exam 1	
Sept 27	Short term & working memory	Chap 5
Oct 1, 4	Long term memory	Chap 6, 7 & 8
Oct 8, 11	Long term memory	
Oct 15	Long term memory	
Oct 18	Exam 2	
Oct 22	NO CLASS	
Oct 25	Knowledge	Chap 9
Oct 29, Nov 1	Knowledge	
Nov 5, 8	Visual imagery	Chap 10
Nov 12	Visual imagery	
Nov 15	Exam 3	
Nov 19	Problem solving	Chap 12
Nov 20 *	Problem solving	
Nov 22	No class	
Nov 26, 29	Problem solving	
Dec 3, 6	Reasoning and decision making	Chap 13
Dec 10	Reasoning and decision making	
Dec 17	Final exam	8-11am

NOTE

Any and all information contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class and/or via email notification. Updates to the syllabus will also be posted on Sakai.

Academic Honesty Policies

Cheating, plagiarism or any other violations of the university's policy on academic integrity will not be tolerated in this class.

Please visit this link to view the university's policies [Academic Honesty Policies](#)

Students with Disabilities

Our community values diversity and seeks to promote meaningful access to educational opportunities for all students. If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please follow these procedures outlined at <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/request.html> Since accommodations may require early planning and are not provided retroactively, please initiate this process as soon as possible.