

Cognition

(305:02, Prof. Feldman, Spring 2014)



What we observe is not nature itself, but nature exposed to our method of questioning.

-Werner Heisenberg

Course: Cognition (Psychology 305:02, Index number 16477)

Professor: Jacob Feldman, A125, Busch Psychology Annex ([email](#), [website](#))

and possibly guest lecturers.

Class time and place: Mondays and Thursdays, 10:20am—11:40am, Tillett 242

Readings: There is **no textbook** for this course. Readings are posted below, with links to Sakai.

Additional readings will be assigned over the course of the semester and posted on

Sakai. **Course webpage:** <http://ruccs.rutgers.edu/~jacob/Cognition2014/>

Sakai page: [Click here](#)

Additional readings will be posted in Resources on the Sakai site, and linked below.

Professor's office hours: Tuesdays, 11:00 - 12:00pm, A125, Room Psychology (Busch) Addition. Best to email me if you plan to visit.

Teaching Assistant: [Dominic Freschi](#). Office hours: Wednesdays, 10:00 - 11:00am, Busch Psychology A235.

Exams and grading

1. (25% of grade) **On-line quizzes:** Sakai quizzes will be given weekly. [Rules for on-line quizzes can be found here.](#)

Quizzes are 30 minutes long, and will be available on-line Fridays 7am - 7pm.

2. (25% of grade) **Midterm:** March 13 during class

3. (10% of grade) **Written assignments:** Two brief essays (5% each) will be assigned over the course of the term.

4. (35% of grade) **Final exam: Monday, May 12, 8-11am, Tillett 242**

Policies

“Graduation insurance.” If this is your last semester and you need to pass this course in order to graduate on time, **email me before the midterm**. If you don’t ask before the midterm, “graduation insurance” will not be offered.

Final grades are final. Once grades are assigned after the final exam, grade changes will not be considered. Don’t even ask. If you are having trouble with the material before that, email me or come to office hours.

Academic integrity. Cheating and other violations of academic integrity will not be tolerated in this course. The university’s policy on academic integrity can be found [here](#).

Weather alerts. If there is bad weather (e.g., snow or threat of snow), class may be canceled, even if the university remains open. If so, I will send an email to the entire class and also post an announcement on Sakai. So if you suspect bad weather please check your email before coming to class.

Schedule of topics (dates approximate)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Read</i>
Jan. 23	Welcome	
Jan. 27, 30	The mind as a machine	Whitman, Ch. 1
Feb. 3, 6	Roots of cognitive psychology	Turing article; Pinker, The Blank Slate, Ch. 1
Feb. 10, 13	Neuroscience	Friedenberg & Silverman, ch. 6; Quiroga et al. article
Feb. 17, 20	Perception	Goldstein, ch.5
Feb. 24, 27	Attention	Revlin, ch. 2-
Mar. 3, 6	-	-
Mar. 10	-	-
Mar. 13	Midterm	
Mar. 17, 20	Spring break–no class	
Mar. 24, 27	Memory, Knowledge	Kellogg, ch. 4; Kellogg, ch. 5 Smith:
Mar. 31, Apr. 4	Concepts and Categories	Categorization
Apr. 7, 10	Language	Reed, ch. 10; Wynn: Aping Language
Apr. 14, 17	-	-

Apr. 21, 24	Reasoning & Decision Making Making	Sternberg & Sternberg, ch. 12
Apr. 28, May 1	-	-
May 5	Review Session	

Final: **Monday, May 12, 8-11am, Tillett 242** (35% of grade)