

PSYC*2650, Course Outline: Winter 2020

General Information

Course Title: Cognitive Psychology

Course Description: An introduction to theory, methods, and research findings in the field of cognitive psychology. Topics may include object recognition, attention, memory, language, categorization, judgment and reasoning. Students will be exposed to laboratory demonstrations and experiments.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Academic Department (or campus): Psychology

Semester Offering: Winter 2020

Class Schedule and Location: Mon, Wed, and Fri 12:30-1:20pm, War Memorial Hall 103

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Naseem Al-Aidroos

Instructor Email: Please see Course Policy on Contacting the Instructor or TA. This email is for emergency contact only: naseem@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: MacKinnon Extension 4018; office hours TBD

GTA Information

GTA Name: Travis Francis

GTA Email: tfranc08@uoguelph.ca

GTA office location and office hours: Announced on CourseLink

GTA Name: Donnelle DiMarco

GTA Email: dimarcod@uoguelph.ca

GTA office location and office hours: Announced on CourseLink

GTA Name: Evan Mitton

GTA Email: emitton@uoguelph.ca

GTA office location and office hours: Announced on CourseLink

GTA Name: Jacqueline Visscher

GTA Email: jvissche@uoguelph.ca

GTA office location and office hours: Announced on CourseLink

Course Content

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Learning Outcome 1: Critical and Creative Thinking

- 1.1 Demonstrates knowledge of key concepts in cognitive psychology and integrates that knowledge across intra-disciplinary boundaries.
- 1.2 Can evaluate evidence to form conclusions and make judgments.

Learning Outcome 2: Literacy

- 2.1 The ability to know when there is a need for information, where to locate it, and the ability to identify the value of different potential resources in the pursuit of scholarly inquiry.

Learning Outcome 3: Global Understanding

- 3.1 Appreciation of historical development of subject matter within cognitive psychology, and the factors that shaped this development.

Learning Outcome 4: Communication

- 4.1 The ability to express one's ideas clearly and concisely, and summarize theory and research in cognitive psychology
- 4.2 The ability to understand sophisticated theoretical and empirical writing in cognitive psychology.
- 4.3 Can integrate existing knowledge to develop and communicate novel connections between different topic areas within cognitive psychology.

Lecture Content:

Date	Topics and in-class test dates	Chapter
Week 1: Jan 6-10	Intro: Thinking about thinking	1
Week 2: Jan 13-17	The mind and brain	2
Week 3: Jan 20, 22	Visual perception	3
	Test 1, Jan 24	
Week 4: Jan 27-31	Object recognition and attention	4, 5
Week 5: Feb 3-7	Memory I	6, 7
Week 6: Feb 10, 12	Memory II	8
	Test 2, Feb 14	
	Reading Week Feb 17-21	
Week 7: Feb 24-28	Concepts and categories	9

Date	Topics and in-class test dates	Chapter
Week 8: Mar 2-6	Language	10
Week 9: Mar 9, 11	Visual knowledge Test 3, Mar 13	11
Week 10: Mar 16-20	Thinking and deciding	12
Week 11: Mar 23-27	Problem solving	13
Week 12: Mar 30, Apr 1	Consciousness Essay Due, Apr 3; No class	14

Course Assignments and Tests:

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Test 1	Jan 24	50%; see additional notes	1.1, 1.2, 3.1, 4.2, 4.3
Test 2	Feb 14	50%; see additional notes	1.1, 1.2, 3.1, 4.2, 4.3
Test 3	Mar 13	50%; see additional notes	1.1, 1.2, 3.1, 4.2, 4.3
Essay	Apr 3	20%	1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 3.1, 4.1-3
Cumulative Final Exam	Apr 17	30%	1.1, 2.1, 3.1, 4.2, 4.3

Additional Notes (if required):

In-class tests: There are no make-up tests. If you write all three tests, then your total test grade will be based on your best two test grades (i.e., drop the lowest grade). If you miss a test for any reason, that is the one test grade that will be dropped, and your test grade will be based on the other two tests. See missed tests policy below. Tests are multiple choice, and non-cumulative.

Final examination date and time: Friday, April 17th, 7-9pm. Room TBA. See WebAdvisor for official time and location.

Final exam weighting: 30%

Course Resources

Required Texts:

Reisberg, D. (2018). *Cognition: Exploring the Science of the Mind* (7th Ed.). W.W. Norton & Company.

Other Resources:

CourseLink:

- Copies of the lecture slides will be posted to CourseLink by 10 am on the morning of each lecture, at the latest.
- Grades for all in class tests, and the final essay, will be shared through CourseLink. As soon as grades are posted, I will add an announcement to the CourseLink News Feed. Shortly thereafter, a TA will announce any associated office hours for reviewing your test or essay.
- It is your responsibility to periodically verify your grades on CourseLink

Course Policies

Contacting the Instructor or TA

To help your instructor and TAs stay on top of answering your questions, please use the following procedures when contacting us:

- The fastest way to get a response to simple questions is through the class discussion board on CourseLink. By simple, I mean questions that only require a sentence or two to answer. I check the board every weekday, and you are encouraged to respond to each other's posts.
- Longer questions, and questions of a confidential nature, should be brought to my office hours (times listed above). I'm always happy to have visitors, so take as much advantage of these office hours as you can!
- Please direct questions about test and essay grading to the TA during their office hours (announced on CourseLink).
- My email is to be used for emergencies only.

Grading Policies

Missed Tests: There are no make-up tests. The first test you miss for any reason will be counted as the lowest test score that gets dropped when calculating your final test grade. For any additional missed tests, you must contact the instructor and provide appropriate documentation supporting the reason for absence.

Late Essay: Essays are graded out of 100 marks, and 10 marks will be subtracted from the assigned grade each day the paper was late, including weekend days. Essays submitted more than 5 days late will receive a grade of 0. Late essays should be submitted through the Essay Dropbox on CourseLink.

Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted, they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

University Policies

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration:

[Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#)

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

[Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 54335 or email accessibility@uoguelph.ca or the [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](#) .

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is April 03, 2020. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#). Instructors must still [provide meaningful and constructive feedback to students prior to the 40th class](#) day. [Current Undergraduate Calendar](#)

Additional Course Information

Course instructors are allowed to use software to help in detecting plagiarism or unauthorized copying of student assignments. Plagiarism is one of the most common types of academic misconduct on our campus. Plagiarism involves students using the work, ideas and/or the exact wording of other people or sources without giving proper credit to others for the work, ideas and/or words in their papers. Students can unintentionally commit misconduct because they do not know how to reference outside sources properly or because they don't check their work carefully enough before handing it in. Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

In this course, your instructor will be using Turnitin.com to detect possible plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to prevent plagiarism in the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences.

A major benefit of using Turnitin is that students will be able to educate and empower themselves in preventing misconduct. In this course, you may screen your own assignments through Turnitin as many times as you wish before the due date. You will be able to see and print reports that show you exactly where you have properly and improperly referenced the outside sources and materials in your assignment.