

Psychology 3348: Cognitive Psychology CRN: 13806

Instructor: Dr. Ashley Bangert

Office: Prospect Hall 215

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Office Hours: Mondays – 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Class Schedule: MW 9:00-10:20 AM Classroom Building Room C305

Course Description: This course will introduce you to the field of cognitive psychology and the critical methods used in this field of study. As indicated in your textbook, “cognitive psychology is the study of how people perceive, learn, remember, and think about information” (Sternberg & Sternberg, 2012). Major topic areas that will be covered include visual perception, attention, memory, language and problem solving, among others. For each of these topics students will learn about relevant experiments that helped to shape or test critical theories related to that topic. Some of the course will also cover what functions are served by different parts of the brain as well as different neuroimaging techniques used to study brain structure and function. You will also have the opportunity to delve more deeply into a specific topic related to cognitive psychology by reviewing, editing and adding content to a Wikipedia entry on that topic. To accomplish this you will receive training on information literacy and will engage in research, writing, and peer-review activities throughout the semester.

Course Objectives:

- Learn about and articulate the history of and major topics in cognitive psychology.
- Learn the critical research methodologies used in the field of cognitive psychology. Be able to provide examples of important experiments and articulate how and why they were designed to test particular theories in cognitive psychology.
- Hone critical thinking, information literacy and communication skills through class participation, Wikipedia research activities and assignments, and peer-review exercises.

Required Text: Sternberg, R. J. & Sternberg, K. (2012). Cognitive Psychology (6th edition). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.

Note: You do not need to purchase any of the supplemental materials available with this text. It is probably fine to purchase an earlier edition of this book (4th or 5th edition) if you find a used copy. However, there may be some content included in the 6th edition that is not in prior editions.

Office Hours: My office hours will be in Prospect Hall, Room 215 on Mondays from 2 – 5 PM. If you need to meet but cannot attend my established office hours, please e-mail me to set up an alternative time.

Course Evaluation

Assignments 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	40%
Quizzes (4 will be given but the lowest grade will be dropped)	21%

Exam I	11%
Exam II	13%
Final Exam	15%
Total	100%

Grading: The percentage-score-to-letter-grade conversion for this course is as follows:

- A = 90% or higher
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = below 60%

Course Librarians: Sol Lopez and Angela Lucero will be assisting with the information literacy training for this course to help you as you research and prepare your Wikipedia entries. They will be embedded in the course Blackboard shell to address questions about library resources and information literacy on the Discussion Board. They have also created a library guide with information and helpful links to help you in your search for resources and information about your Wikipedia entries. Their contact information and availability is listed below:

Sol Lopez
smlopez@utep.edu

Library Room 102

(915) 747-6703

MTWRF = 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Angela Lucero

ajmartinez5@utep.edu

Library Room 214

(915) 747-5685

MTWF = 8:30AM-5:30PM; R = 10:00AM-7:00PM

Assignments: You will be asked to complete five class assignments to prepare your Wikipedia entry. The requirements for these assignments will be described in separate handouts. These assignments will be due at the beginning of class on the due date shown in the course outline.

Late Assignments: A LATE ASSIGNMENT WILL BE DOCKED 20% OF THE TOTAL POSSIBLE GRADE FOR EACH 24-HOUR PERIOD IT IS LATE. If you think you will miss class on the date an assignment is due, please either post the assignment to blackboard or e-mail the assignment to me. WHEN YOU POST TO BLACKBOARD, BE SURE THAT YOU HAVE INCLUDED ALL ATTACHMENTS BEFORE SUBMITTING.

Wikipedia: I have created a page for our course through the American Psychological Society Wikipedia Initiative (APSWI) Portal. You will all be asked to sign up for accounts to the APSWI portal and Wikipedia. We will discuss how to do that during one of the early class sessions.

<http://www.psychologicalscience.org/index.php/members/aps-wikipedia-initiative>

The Wikipedia Course Code for our class is: Tex3348240-000-asb

Library Workshops: Several times throughout the semester the class will attend workshops hosted by the course librarian. These workshops will be focused on different information literacy topics, including an introduction to the library and its resources, how to search for and judge the

type and quality of research sources, and information on copyright and fair use. This information will help you as you work on your Wikipedia article. As noted above, the last three quizzes will be based on information you learned in these workshops. Unless you are told otherwise, the workshops will be held in the library in Room 204A and 204B. In order to prepare for each workshop, you will need to complete the related breakthrough tutorials located on the UTEP library website at the following link:

<http://libguides.utep.edu/content.php?pid=210333&sid=1751171>

The tutorials you need to complete to prepare for each workshop are listed in the course outline.

Attendance: While attendance will not be graded for this course it is VERY important. We will cover material in class and in the library workshops and tutorials that will not be in the textbook, and this class content will be included on quizzes and exams. In fact, most of the quizzes will cover content discussed in the library workshops. Therefore, if you miss a class session, you will need to get notes from another student. Also, some class sessions will have time devoted to peer activities related to preparing your Wikipedia article. If you miss those class sessions it could affect your grade. **YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS CLASS ON THE DAY A QUIZ IS GIVEN AS QUIZZES CANNOT BE MADE UP.**

Quizzes: 4 quizzes will be given throughout the semester. The lowest quiz grade that you receive will be dropped. Therefore, there will be no make-ups for quizzes. Quizzes will be given during the first 10 – 15 minutes of class on the day the quiz is scheduled. **IF YOU MISS A QUIZ YOU WILL RECEIVE A 0 ON THAT QUIZ AND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE IT UP.**

Exams: The 3 exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. There may also be some short essay questions. The final exam will mostly cover the last 4 chapters of the book but will have some cumulative components, as later concepts in the course build on earlier concepts that we have covered.

Make-Up Policy: Make-up exams and assignments will only be given for 2 reasons, 1) absence due to a university-sanctioned activity (e.g. away games for athletes, research conferences) or 2) serious medical circumstances. You must give me prior notification of your absence **AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE** so that appropriate accommodations can be made. If prior notification due to medical circumstances cannot be given, you must contact the professor or TA **WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER** the exam or have someone else make contact on your behalf. Contact can be made via e-mail to the professor or TA or by leaving a telephone message with the professor at the contact phone number listed above. Documentation of your absence must be presented in writing along with any supporting material (e.g., a doctor's note).

Blackboard: I will use the course blackboard website to post a version of my lecture slides to help you study more efficiently. These are not meant to be complete or to serve as a substitute for attending class. Instead, they should be used as a study guide and to provide structure for taking and interpreting your own notes. Other resources will be available through blackboard as well, including the ability to communicate with the librarians associated with this course.

<https://blackboard.utep.edu/>

Once you log in to the blackboard site you should be able to navigate to the course blackboard site: Cognitive Psychology - PSYC-3348

If you have trouble accessing the site, please let me know as soon as possible.

Cell-phone policy: When you are in class, you are here to learn. Talking or texting on your phone is not only discourteous, it is disturbing to me and to other students. Therefore, when class begins you **MUST TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE AND PUT IT AWAY**. If you are caught talking or texting on your phone, you will be asked to put your phone away immediately or leave class.

Academic Integrity: Each student has a responsibility to understand, accept, and comply with the University's standards of academic conduct.

<http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/>

<http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/student-conduct/student-conduct-process-appendix/>

Except for special group assignments, all graded work (e.g. ready for class assignments, quizzes, tests, extra credit, etc.) that you produce for the course **IS TO BE COMPLETED INDEPENDENTLY AND SHOULD REFLECT YOUR OWN IDEAS AND EFFORT. YOU MAY NOT PRESENT AS YOUR OWN ANY MATERIALS THAT ARE THE WORK OF ANOTHER**. These include, but are not limited to, work produced by another student, materials printed in books or articles, and materials published on the web. Note that if you share your work with another student and they try to pass that work off as their own **YOU** are still guilty of collusion.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

- cheating – use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, student aids or information in any academic exercise
- fabrication – falsifying or inventing information or data in an academic assignment
- collusion – aid or attempt to aid another student in committing academic misconduct
- plagiarism – use of ideas, words or statement of another person without giving credit to that person

Students who are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty should consult the instructor.

Evidence of academic dishonesty or any other violation of the Standards of Conduct **WILL BE REPORTED** to the Dean of Students.

<http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/student-conduct/>

Accommodations For Students With Disabilities: If you feel that you may have a disability that requires accommodation, contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) Office (<http://sa.utep.edu/cass/>) at 747-5148, go to Room 106 Union Building East, or email cass@utep.edu. If you need accommodations for a disability, please **LET ME KNOW BY THE END OF THE 3RD WEEK OF CLASSES**. Some aspects of this course, the assignments, the in-class activities, or the way I teach may be modified to facilitate your participation and progress. If you require accommodation for an exam, such as extra time, you need to provide a note from the CASS office **AT LEAST ONE WEEK** prior to the exam date.

Psychology 3348: Cognitive Psychology Course Outline

Week	Day/Date	Assignment	Reading/Topic
1	Monday, Aug. 25		Syllabus, Course Overview, Introducing the Course Librarians
1	Wednesday, Aug. 27	SYLLABUS QUIZ 1 Review Wikipedia Assignment	Chapter 1: Introduction; What is Cognitive Psychology?
2	Monday, Sept. 1	NO CLASS – LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	
2	Wednesday, Sept. 3		Chapter 1: Research Methods
3	Monday, Sept. 8	ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE – Information Literacy Assessment	Chapter 2: Brain anatomy, structures, functions; brain imaging
3	Wednesday, Sept. 10	Library Workshop 1 – Creating Wikipedia accounts; Library Resources <i>Location: Library 204A & B</i>	All Breakthrough tutorials from Module A and the first tutorial from Module B – Library of Congress Classification System Take the online quiz from Module A
4	Monday, Sept. 15	Quiz 2 – Library Resources Deadline to Submit APSWI/Wikipedia Username to Dr. Bangert	Chapter 3: Visual Perception
4	Wednesday, Sept. 17		Chapter 3: Visual Perception
5	Monday, Sept. 22	ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE – Choose Wikipedia Article and outline weaknesses	Chapter 4: Attention
5	Wednesday, Sept. 24		Chapter 4: Attention & EXAM REVIEW
6	Monday, Sept. 29	EXAM 1	
6	Wednesday, Oct. 1	Library Workshop 2 – Finding Resources, Databases; Source quality (Scholarly vs. Non- scholarly; Primary vs. Secondary) <i>Location: Library 204A & B</i>	All Breakthrough tutorials from Module C Other tutorials: TBA Take the online quiz from Module C
7	Monday, Oct. 6	Quiz 3 – Research sources and quality	Chapter 5: Memory – Models of memory
7	Wednesday, Oct. 8		Chapter 5: Memory – Models of memory
8	Monday, Oct. 13		Chapter 6: Memory – encoding; retrieval
8	Wednesday, Oct. 15		Chapter 6: Memory - retrieval

9	Monday, Oct. 20	ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE – Wikipedia article resource Selection; Initial draft	Chapter 7: Mental Imagery and Spatial Maps
9	Wednesday, Oct.22		Chapter 7: Mental Imagery and Spatial Maps
10	Monday, Oct. 27		Chapter 8: Knowledge representation
10	Wednesday, Oct. 29		Chapter 8: Knowledge representation & EXAM REVIEW
11	Monday, Nov. 3	EXAM 2	
11	Wednesday, Nov. 5		Chapter 9: Language – comprehension
12	Monday, Nov. 10		Chapter 9: Language – reading, discourse
12	Wednesday, Nov. 12	ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE – Wikipedia article peer review	Chapter 10: Language – Language and thoughts, language in social context
13	Monday, Nov. 17		Chapter 10: Language – Neuropsychology
13	Wednesday, Nov. 19		Chapter 11: Problem Solving
14	Monday, Nov. 24	Library Workshop 3 - Copyright, Fair Use Location: TBA	All Breakthrough tutorials from Module D Other tutorials: TBA Take the online quiz from Module D
14	Wednesday, Nov. 26	Quiz 4 – Copyright & Fair Use	Chapter 11: Problem Solving
15	Monday, Dec. 1	ASSIGNMENT 5 DUE – Final Wikipedia Draft and Posting	Chapter 12: Decision Making & Reasoning
15	Wednesday, Dec. 3	Evaluation of Wikipedia assignment and information literacy training	Chapter 12: Decision Making & Reasoning
16	Wednesday, Dec. 10	FINAL EXAM	10:00 AM – 12:45 PM Classroom Building C305