

## Psychology 3320: Learning and Memory

Fall Semester 2023

MW 3:00-4:20

Psychology Building 308

### Professor: Dr. Wendy S. Francis

Office: Psychology 214 (747-8956)

Hours: MW 4:30-5:30

or by appointment

E-mail: wfrancis@utep.edu

### Teaching Assistant:

Office:

Hours:

or by appointment

E-mail:

### Required Text:

Baddeley, A. D., Eysenck, M. W., & Anderson, M. C. (2020). *Memory, 3rd Edition*. New York, NY: Psychology Press. The e-book is recommended.

### Course Content

The topic of this course is how humans (and animals) learn, remember, and forget. What we learn is stored in the brain and later retrieved when we need to use it. Determining the factors that affect our ability to store, retain, and later retrieve information reveals how the knowledge is organized in the mind and how we access it. The results of such research suggest methods for improving our memory in everyday life and for studying more effectively in school.

Memory researchers have identified different types of memory (e.g., short-term memory, long-term memory, working memory, implicit memory, explicit memory) as well as different techniques for measuring memory and learning. We will study how memory develops across the lifespan from childhood to old age and what happens when a person's memory systems break down, as in amnesia or in Alzheimer's disease. Research with patients has revealed important information about the relationship between memory and the brain, as have "functional neuroimaging" studies of healthy people performing memory tasks. In addition to these topics, we will also discuss eyewitness memory, bilingual memory, and how physiological and psychological states impact memory.

The primary learning objectives for the course are for the student to learn the mechanisms and dynamics of human memory and the role of memory functions in everyday life.

Basis of grading	%	Day, Date	Tentative Coverage
Assignments	10%	See Schedule	Varies
Midterm 1	18%	Monday, September 18th	(CH 1-4 + Lectures)
Midterm 2	18%	Wednesday, October 11th	(CH 5-7 + Lectures)
Midterm 3	18%	Monday, October 30th	(CH 8-14 + Lectures)
Midterm 4	18%	Wednesday, November 15 <sup>th</sup>	(CH 15-17 + Lecture)
Final Exam	18%	Monday, December 11 <sup>th</sup> (1:00-3:45)	(Supplementary Readings + Lectures)

**Assignments:** The assignments are designed to get you thinking about memory concepts that will be covered in the course as they relate to your own life. There will be 6 assignments of which you must complete 5, but see Extra Credit below. Each assignment is worth 2% of the final grade.

**Exams:** Exams will be multiple-choice, and you will need to bring a Scantron form to each exam. They will cover material from lectures and from the textbook, with an emphasis on the lectures. The final exam will not be cumulative, although understanding the concepts in the later part of the course will depend somewhat on understanding concepts covered earlier. No exams will be dropped, and no make-ups will be given

except for absences sanctioned by UTEP and arranged in advance or serious and unavoidable medical circumstances.

**Extra Credit:** Extra credit up to 2% of the final grade may be obtained by (a) participating in 2 hours of studies on SONA or (b) completing 6 rather than 5 of the assignments. See handout for information on completing studies for credit.

**Attendance:** Regular attendance in this course is very important for three reasons. First, a substantial portion of the material and examples given in the lecture are not covered in the text. Second, there will be several demonstrations in class to make the principles more clear. Finally, several of the concepts are difficult to understand just by reading about them. Reading someone else's notes is not the same as being there.

### Schedule of Class Sessions, Exams, Readings, and Assignments

Day, Date	Tentative Lecture Topic	Reading/Assignment due
Monday, 8/28	Introduction to Class, Study Techniques	
Wednesday, 8/30	What is Memory, Memory and the Brain	Chapter 1-2
Wednesday, 9/06	Memory and the Brain, Short-Term Memory	Chapter 2-3, <b>Assignment 1</b>
Monday, 9/11	Short-Term Memory, Working Memory	Chapter 3-4
Wednesday, 9/13	Working Memory	Chapter 4
<b>Monday, 9/18</b>	<b>EXAM 1</b>	<b>Chapters 1-4</b>
Wednesday, 9/20	Learning	Chapter 5, <b>Assignment 2</b>
Monday, 9/25	Learning	Chapter 5
Wednesday 9/27	Learning	Chapter 5
Monday, 10/02	Organizing and Remembering	Chapter 6
Wednesday, 10/04	Semantic Memory and Stored Knowledge	Chapter 7
Monday, 10/09	Semantic Memory and Stored Knowledge	Chapter 7
<b>Wednesday, 10/11</b>	<b>EXAM 2</b>	<b>Chapters 5-7</b>
Monday, 10/16	Retrieval	Chapter 8, <b>Assignment 3</b>
Wednesday, 10/18	Incidental Forgetting, Motivated Forgetting	Chapters 9-10
Monday, 10/23	Autobiographical & Eyewitness Memory	Chapter 11-12
Wednesday, 10/25	Prospective Memory	Chapter 13
<b>Monday, 10/30</b>	<b>EXAM 3</b>	<b>Chapters 8-13</b>
Wednesday 11/01	Memory in Childhood	Chapter 14, <b>Assignment 4</b>
Monday, 11/06	Memory in Aging	Chapter 15
Wednesday, 11/08	When Memory Systems Fail, Amnesia	Chapter 16
Monday, 11/13	When Memory Systems Fail: AD	Chapters 16
<b>Wednesday, 11/15</b>	<b>EXAM 4</b>	<b>Chapters 14-16</b>
Monday, 11/20	Improving Your Memory	Chapter 17, <b>Assignment 5</b>
Wednesday, 11/22	TBA	TBA
Monday, 11/27	Bilingual Memory	TBA
Wednesday, 11/29	Memory in Psychological States & Disorders	TBA
Monday, 12/04	Effects of Physiological States on Memory	TBA
Wednesday, 12/06	TBA	TBA, <b>Assignment 6</b>
<b>Monday, 12/11</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM (EXAM 5)</b>	<b>Chapter 17, supplemental</b>

**Course Drop Policy:** September 7<sup>th</sup> is the last day to drop a course with full refund and no listing of the course on your record. October 28<sup>th</sup> is the last day to drop a course with an automatic "W." It is the student's responsibility to officially drop any course that he or she no longer wishes to attend.

**CASS:** If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass).