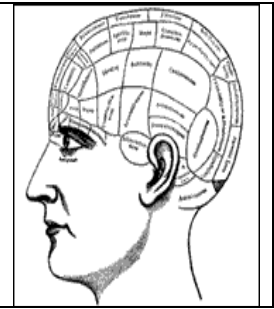


Psychology 207 - Cognitive Processes

Fall, 2008



Class Time: Monday, Wednesday & Friday @ 11:30 – 12:20

Place: AL116

Instructor: Jonathan Fugelsang

Office: PAS 4055

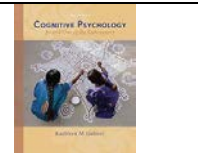
Office hrs: Fridays @ 12:30 – 2:30 and by appointment.

Phone: 888-4567 x37197

e-mail: jafugels@uwaterloo.ca

Required Text:

Galotti K. M.(2007). *Cognitive Psychology: In and Out of the Laboratory: Fourth Edition*. Thomson Publishing.



Teaching Assistants:

<u>Name</u>	<u>e-mail</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Office Hours</u>
Jason Locklin	jalockli@artsmail.uwaterloo.ca	PAS 2246	TBA
Michelle Jarick	majarick@artsmail.uwaterloo.ca	PAS 4214	TBA
Erin Maloney	eamalone@artsmail.uwaterloo.ca	PAS 4267	TBA

Course Description:

The objectives of this course are to introduce you to important concepts, phenomena, experimental techniques, and theoretical issues in the field of cognitive psychology. As cognitive psychology is the study of how people come to know about their world, this course will cover how people attend, encode, represent, and understand that world, as well as solve problems, make decisions, and communicate their thoughts. The course will involve an assessment of current theoretical issues and experimental methodology, and whenever possible, links to real-life situations will be considered. Though we will only have a chance to touch on a few aspects of this vast research domain, the material will hopefully give you new insights into how your mind works. Because of the large number of students in the class, I will spend most of class time lecturing. However, I do encourage discussion and questions to clarify material. I think the class will be much better if you participate by asking, and answering, questions! As well, because cognitive psychology is a science, the course will focus on discussing original experimental research, providing a foundation for other psychology courses such as *Memory*, *Decision Making*, etc. I hope that you enjoy your *Introduction to Cognitive Processes* and go on to enjoy more specialized courses in the area of cognitive psychology.

Finding Course Materials on the Web:

The Psychology 207 course web page can be found in the UW-Angel system: at <https://uwangel.uwaterloo.ca/uwangel>. Here, you will find links to the syllabus, to my lecture slides, and to important announcements. I will try my best to have the lecture slides for the upcoming week up at least 24 hours in advance of the first class of the week.

Evaluations – (4x Exams = 96% + Research Participation = 4%):

There will be four non-cumulative exams (September 29th, October 20th, November 7th, and December 1st, each worth 24% of your final grade (Total = 96%). The exams will be predominately made up of multiple-choice questions and a couple short answer concept questions. All exams will be based on the material presented in the text and in lectures.

Research Participation (4%):

Experiential learning is considered an integral part of the undergraduate program in Psychology. Participation in research is one example of this. A number of undergraduate courses have been expanded to include opportunities for Psychology students to volunteer as research participants enabling them to learn first-hand about psychology research and related concepts. Many students report that participation in research is both an educational and interesting experience.

Student participants may earn up to 4 percentage points towards their final mark in Psychology 207 by participating in Cognitive Psychology or Behavioral Neuroscience studies conducted by students and faculty in the Department of Psychology. Participation is worth .5 participation credits (percentage points) for each half hour session. Researchers will record student's participation and will advise the course instructor of the total points earned by each student at the end of the term. Students who do not wish to participate in research may choose an alternative approach to earning the same number of points; this is explained below in "Alternative to participating in research".

Since experiential learning is highly valued in the Department of Psychology and part of this course, students can earn up to 4% of their final grade by participating in these experiments (i.e., 96% for course work, 4% for REG participation/assignments).

Please note that all Psychology studies have undergone prior ethics review and clearance through the Office of Research Ethics.

Educational focus of participation in research

To maximize the educational benefits of participating in research, students will receive feedback information following their participation in each study detailing the following elements:

- Purpose or objectives of the study
- Dependent and independent variables
- Expected results
- References for at least two related research articles
- Provisions to ensure confidentiality of data
- Contact information of the researcher should the student have further questions about the study
- Contact information for the Director of the Office of Research Ethics should the student wish to learn more about the general ethical issues surrounding research with human participants, or specific questions or concerns about the study in which sh/he participated.

How do I sign up?

Once you are registered in the course, you will get an account on SONA (our web-based Study Sign-Up system) at <http://uwaterloo.sona-systems.com>. User ID is your Quest ID (eg. j2smith), temporary password is your Student ID (eg 2001234). Log in to your account, read/acknowledge the ORE "Human Subjects/Privacy Policy" then complete a very brief (10 minute) "Prescreen" questionnaire to provide basic demographic info. You won't receive a credit for this and you may decline if you wish however *completing it will increase your eligibility for other studies*. Once you have completed (or declined) the Prescreen questionnaire you should go to "My Profile" and enter your preferred (Alternate) email address. Then you can go to "Study Sign-Up" and select a Psych 207-eligible study that interests you and a day/time that fits your schedule. You'll receive a confirmation email and a reminder the day before the study. Upon completion of the study you are granted your Study Credit and given feedback about the study hypothesis, design and predictions.

When should I sign up?

Right away, the sooner the better!!! The On-line study "Mass Testing Survey F08" (one full credit) will only be offered for a few weeks and you *should do this study as soon as possible*. Researchers often select participants based on their responses and doing this survey increases your eligibility for other studies. Note that you can only do this survey if you have completed the Prescreen questionnaire. Doing both Prescreen and Mass Testing Survey helps you (by providing more qualifying studies and it helps researchers (by identifying more qualified participants) so we would greatly appreciate it if you would do both.

Are there any restrictions to the studies I can sign up for?

Yes ... i) the study must be eligible for a credit in this class (as noted with the study) ii) only 2 of your 4 credits can be for On-line studies and iii) you should try to spread your participation out over the term. The last day to participate for credit is December 1 but you can participate for pay until December 19.

Where can I get more information, instructions, help with login problems etc?

REG website: <http://www.arts.uwaterloo.ca/~regadmin/regparticipant>
REG Coordinator: regadmin@watarts.uwaterloo.ca

Alternative to participating in research:

Students are not required to participate in research, and not all students wish to do so. As an alternative to participation in research, students may submit short reviews (1½ to 2 pages) of journal articles relevant to Cognitive Psychology or Behavioral Neuroscience. Each review article counts as one percentage point. You should contact your TA to get approval before writing the review. To receive credit, you must follow specific guidelines. The review must:

- **Be submitted before November 24. Late submissions will NOT be accepted under ANY circumstances.**
- Be typed
- Fully identify the title, author(s), source and date of the article. A copy of the article must be attached.
- Identify the psychological concepts in the article and indicate the pages in the Myers textbook that are applicable. Critically evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article. If inappropriate or incorrect, identify the error and its implications for the validity of the article. You may find, for example, misleading headings, faulty research procedures, alternative explanations that are ignored, failures to distinguish factual findings from opinions, faulty statements of cause-effect relations, errors in reasoning, etc. Provide examples whenever possible.
- Clearly evaluate the application or treatment of those concepts in the article.
- Keep a copy of your review in the unlikely event we misplace the original.

Students may complete any combination of a) participation in research or b) article review up to a total of 4% points.

Helpful suggestions to ensure your success in this (or any) class:

1. Read the chapter before coming to class.
2. Look over the lecture notes before coming to class.
3. Take additional notes to supplement the class notes that are provided (note: I often supplement the text and class note materials with examples that will only be provided during lectures).
4. If you have questions, please ask.
5. Be aware of the due dates.
6. After a chapter has been covered, see if you can complete the exercises at the end of the chapters.
7. Come by and visit one of the TA's or me during office hours.

Note for students with disabilities:

The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

Please be aware of the following university policies:

Academic Integrity: in order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm>

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Dates	Topic	Text Reading
9/8	Syllabus, History, Perception	Ch. 1 & 2
9/10	---	
9/12	---	
9/15	The Brain, Perception	Ch. 2 & 3
9/17	---	
9/19	---	
9/22	Perception, Attention	Ch. 3 & 4
9/24	---	
9/26	---	
9/29	Quiz #1 (Lectures & Chapters 1-4)	
10/1	Short Term Memory	Ch. 5
10/3	---	
10/6	Long Term Memory	Ch. 6
10/8	---	
10/10	---	
10/13	Thanksgiving – NO CLASS	
10/15	Semantic Memory	Ch. 7
10/17	---	
10/20	Quiz #2 (Lectures & Chapters 5 - 7)	
10/22	Concepts & Categorization	Ch. 8
10/24	---	
10/27	Imagery	Ch. 9
10/29	---	
10/31	---	
11/3	Reading/Comprehension	Ch. 10
11/5	---	
11/7	Quiz #3 (Lectures & Chapters 8 - 10)	
11/10	Thinking & Problem Solving	Ch. 11
11/12	---	
11/14	---	
11/24	Making Decisions	Ch. 13
11/26	---	
11/28	The Big Picture: What we have learned and how to apply it	
12/1	Quiz #4 (Lectures & Chapters 11 & 13)	