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Psychology 365 (L01)	Cognitive Psychology	Spring 2014
<b>Instructor:</b> Lenka Zdrazilova	<b>Lecture Location:</b> PF 128	
<b>Phone:</b> 403-220 5220	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b> M/W/F 12:30 – 14:20	
<b>Email:</b> lzdrazil@ucalgary.ca		
<b>Office:</b> Admin 063		
<b>Office Hours:</b> Monday 11 AM – 1 PM or by appointment		

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**Course Description and Goals**

A survey of research and theory in cognitive psychology. Research in pattern recognition, attention, memory, language, thinking, and other cognitive abilities is explored, with discussion of associated brain mechanisms.

**Prerequisites**

Psychology 200 and 201 or Psychology 205

Not open to students with credit in Applied Psychology 411.

**Required Text**

Goldstein, E.B. (2011). Cognitive Psychology: Connecting mind, research, and everyday experience (3<sup>rd</sup> edition). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

The textbook is available in the University Bookstore. Used copies may also be available in the bookstore or at the Student Union's Bound & Copied.

**Evaluation**

Two term tests (30% each) and one final exam in the course. The two terms tests are not cumulative; the final is cumulative. Each test/exam will include multiple-choice questions, and will cover both lecture (videos, demonstrations) and textbook material. Access to textbooks and/or class notes will not be permitted during tests and final exam.

A student obtaining a failing grade on any test/exam will not automatically fail the course; however, a student with failing grade is strongly encouraged to contact the instructor to discuss strategies for success throughout the remainder of the course.

Test	Chapters	% of final grade	Date
Test # 1	Chapters 1-5	30	Wednesday, May 28
Test # 2	Chapters 6-10	30	Wednesday, June 11
Test # 3	Chapters 1-13	40	TBD by Registrar: June 27 – 30

### **Department of Psychology Grade Distribution Policy**

The distribution of grades in Psychology courses (the percentage of A grades, B grades, etc.) will be similar to the distribution of grades in other courses in the Faculty of Arts. The Department monitors the grade distributions of 200-, 300-, and 400-level courses in the Faculty to ensure that the grade distributions in Psychology courses are comparable. Based on these reviews, students can expect that 1) up to 30% of grades in 200- and 300-level psychology courses will be “A” grades (A+, A, and A-), and 2) up to 40% of grades in 400-level psychology courses will be “A” grades.

### **Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades**

Psychology professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

**A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance.*** An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

**A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance.*** Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student’s thorough knowledge of subject matter.

**B Range: *Good Performance.*** Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

**C Range: *Satisfactory Performance.*** Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

**D range: *Marginally meets standards.*** Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

**F grade: *Course standards not met.*** Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

### Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.

In this course there will be no rounding up of final grades, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research participation.

### Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings
W May 14	Course overview. Introduction to Cognitive Psychology Spring Term Lecture begins.	Chapter 1
F May 16	Cognitive Neuroscience	Chapter 2
M May 19	<b>Victoria Day, University Closed.</b>	
W May 21	Perception Last day to add/drop or swap spring courses.	Chapter 3
F May 23	Attention Fee Deadline.	Chapter 4
M May 26	Short-Term and Working memory	Chapter 5
W May 28	<b>Exam # 1: Chapters 1 – 5, lecture material</b>	
F May 30	Long-Term memory: Structure	Chapter 6
M June 2	Long-Term memory: Encoding and Retrieval	Chapter 7
W June 4	Everyday memory and memory errors	Chapter 8
F June 6	Knowledge	Chapter 9
M June 9	Visual Imagery	Chapter 10
W June 11	<b>Exam # 2: Chapters 6 – 10, lecture material</b>	
F June 13	Language	Chapter 11
M June 16	Language	
W June 18	Problem solving	Chapter 12
F June 20	Problem solving	
M June 23	Reasoning and decision making	Chapter 13
W June 25	Reasoning and decision making, Review	
R June 26	Spring Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw from full session Spring Term courses.	
June 27-28 & 30	<b>Final exam: Chapters 1 – 13, lecture material</b>	

**Reappraisal of Grades**

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 15 days. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

**Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

**Academic Accommodation**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

**Absence From A Test/Exam**

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

### **Travel During Exams**

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered except under exceptional circumstances. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act**

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

### **Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)**

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two (2) credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **June 26th, 2014**.

### **Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>. Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

### **Student Organizations**

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

**Student Union VP Academic:** Phone: 403-220-3911 [suypaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suypaca@ucalgary.ca)  
**Student Union Faculty Rep.:** Phone: 403-220-3913 [socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca)

### **Safewalk**

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333.

**Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course with no “W” notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** and the last day for registration/change of registration is **May 21, 2014**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **June 26, 2014**.