

PSYC 365	Cognitive Psychology		Winter 2024
<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Julia Kam	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	ST 145
<b>Phone:</b>	403-220-5954	<b>Lecture Day/Time:</b>	MW 3:30 – 4:45pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:julia.kam@ulcalgary.ca">julia.kam@ulcalgary.ca</a> *	<b>TA Name:</b>	Congkai Zhang
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	By Appointment		

\*Email: please enter “**Psyc 365**” in the subject line.

### Course Description

Cognitive Psychology is the study of the mind and its operations. This course will provide a general introduction to the theoretical and empirical approaches to the study of human cognitive processes. Major topics covered will include: perception, attention, memory, concepts, language, problem-solving, and decision making. Together, we will use our own minds to understand processes involved in all aspects of our thinking.

### Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Psychology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate (see <https://live-arts.ucalgary.ca/psychology/about#program-learning-outcomes>), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Establish an understanding of the basic terminology, concepts, and theories of cognitive psychology.	Exams and Assignments	1, 4, 5	C
Identify, evaluate, and apply relevant theories or concepts of cognitive psychology to explain mental or behavioral phenomena or processes related to human cognition – from empirical findings, to everyday behavior, to issues of social and societal importance.	Exams and Assignments	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C
Accurately interpret statistical results and figures, and summarize research findings.	Exams and Assignments	4, 5, 7	C
Describe research methods used in studying cognition, as well as their advantages and disadvantages. Identify the most optimal method for addressing any cognition-related research question.	Exams and Assignments	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C
Critically evaluate and communicate research findings and ideas effectively, using clear and concise arguments.	Assignments	2, 4, 5	C

Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles in a diverse world, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills, 8 = Demonstrate multicultural competence and awareness of issues related to equity, diversity, and inclusion. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

### Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 and 6).

### Course Format

This is an in-person class held on campus.

### Prerequisites

Psych 200 and 201 – Principles of Psychology I and II.

### Required Text

Goldstein, E.B. (2019). *Cognitive psychology: Connecting mind, research, and everyday experience* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage.

**Note:** When purchasing this book from the university bookstore, please choose to purchase the textbook bundled with a *MindTap Access Code*. In this course, we will be completing a number of assignments that draw on the material from the class. If you choose to purchase MindTap, then you will be asked to complete assignments using their CogLab experiments, which will give you an appreciation for some of the classic experiments in Cognitive Psychology. If you go this route, please note that each Access Code will only work once - so if you choose to buy the textbook from another retailer, please ensure that you are getting the bundle with MindTap. Or, if you choose to purchase a previous edition or used copy, and would like CogLab access, you would need to purchase a CogLab Access Code directly from the publisher (it costs about \$50 on its own, but does not include the rest of the MindTap content). The link is here: <https://www.cengage.ca/c/coglab-5-44-1-term-6-months-instant-access-44-5th-edition-5e-francis-neath/9781285461083/>.

If you would prefer not to purchase MindTap (or CogLab), you will have to complete an alternative assignment on the topic (for each of the four assignments). See below for details.

### Assessment Methods

Course component	Weighting	Due date
<b>Exam 1</b>	20%	February 5
<b>Exam 2</b>	20%	March 11
<b>Exam 3</b>	15%	April 8
<b>Individual CogLab Assignments (24% total)</b>		
Assignment 1 – Sensory and Perception	9%	January 29
Assignment 2 – Attention	9%	February 14
Assignment 3 – Long Term Memory	9%	March 6
<b>Group Infographic Assignment</b>	18%	March 25

## **Exams**

There are three exams (each worth 15-20% of the final grade) will be based on lecture material, textbook and assignments. Exams will take up most of the class time, and no lectures will be given afterwards. All exams will consist of multiple-choice questions. Exams will be non-cumulative (i.e., material covered on Exam 1 will not be explicitly covered in subsequent exams), but knowledge from earlier sections of the course may be necessary to answer certain questions on later exams. Refer to *Absence from an exam* section in case of absence from exams.

## **Individual Assignments**

CogLab Assignments: CogLab is an online learning platform. It can be purchased as a standalone product (if you purchase used/older versions of the textbook), or it comes included in MindTap (if you purchase the package of a brand new textbook). Coglabs allow students to experience important classic and current experiments in cognitive psychology. They help demonstrate some of the concepts via experiments that we will discuss in the course. There are two parts to each assignment. First, students will complete a specific experiment (or two) on CogLab for each assignment. The experiments are all fairly brief (10-25 minutes). Second, students will complete three to five short answer questions. The questions for the assignment typically include one or two factual questions about the material, a question that requires interpretation of your data relative to predictions, and one or two questions that require application of the concepts outside of the typical cognitive psychology lab or classroom and into everyday life. You will be graded primarily on the content of your responses (e.g. were the interpretations of your data correct), as well as your communication – including the correct use of relevant terminology.

Alternative Assignments: Students will be asked to read an original research article, and answer questions based on their reading. The topics of these articles will be the same as those for the CogLab assignments, and the length and depth of questions will be as similar as possible.

Each assignment is worth 9% of your final grade. All assignments must be submitted on D2L in the appropriate dropbox folder by 11:59pm (MT) on the due date indicated on the Tentative Schedule. Without instructor approval, late assignments will be penalized 10% per day (including weekend days), up to a maximum of 7 days late. After this time, the assignment will receive a grade of 0. Students may be asked for documentation <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.

## **Group Infographic Assignment**

Across the four “Experiment Days”, the entire class will work together to design and execute an experiment that can be implemented in the classroom setting. On each of the four “Experiment Days” during lecture time, we will conceptualize a research question, craft an experimental design that addresses the question, “collect” data, and discuss the results. The goal of this assignment is to engage students in the research process, from beginning to end.

For this infographic, students will work in groups of two or three. The goal of this infographic is to convey the research questions, experimental design, results and what they mean, in a clear and effective manner. The ability to communicate scientific findings to the general public is important for

scientists. Therefore, the purpose of this assignment is to encourage critical evaluation of our own research findings and clear presentation of such findings in the form of an infographic intended for the general public. Detailed information about the assignment and evaluation criteria will be available on D2L after week 2.

This group assignment is worth 18% of your final grade and is due 11:59pm MT on the due date. One student from the group will submit the assignment via D2L in the appropriate dropbox folder. With instructor approval, late assignments will be penalized 10% per day including weekends, up to a maximum of 7 days late. After this time, the assignment will receive a grade of 0.

Once approved by the course instructor, and at their discretion, alternative arrangements for missed assessments may be considered <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-2.html>. Students may be asked for documentation <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.

### **University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy**

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. Research integrity, ethics, and principles of conduct are key to academic integrity. Members of our campus community are required to abide by our institutional code of conduct and promote academic integrity in upholding the University of Calgary's reputation of excellence. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have read and are familiar with the student academic misconduct policy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

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

Psychology course instructors 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%

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. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A, but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

### Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity/Due Date	Chapter Reading
M Jan 8	Introductions University Lectures begin.	
W Jan 10	Lecture 1 (L1): Cognitive Psychology L2: Cognitive Neuroscience	Chapters 1,2
M Jan 15	L2: Cognitive Neuroscience	Chapter 2
W Jan 17	L3: Sensation and Perception	Chapter 3
R Jan 18	Last day to drop a class without financial penalty	
F Jan 19	Last day to add or swap a course	
M Jan 22	Experiment Day 1	
W Jan 24	L4: Attention	Chapter 4
F Jan 26	Fee payment deadline for Winter Term full and half courses	
M Jan 29	L4: Attention <b>*Assignment 1 due</b>	
W Jan 31	L4: Attention	
M Feb 5	<b>Exam 1 (L1-L4)</b>	<b>Chapters 1-4</b>
W Feb 7	L5: Sensory, Short-Term & Working Memory	Chapter 5
M Feb 12	L5: Sensory, Short-Term & Working Memory	
W Feb 14	L5: Sensory, Short-Term & Working Memory <b>*Assignment 2 due</b>	
Feb 18-24	Term Break. No Classes. February 21 <sup>st</sup> Alberta Family Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries).	
M Feb 26	Experiment Day 2	
W Feb 28	L6: Long Term Memory	Chapters 6 & 7
M Mar 4	L7: Everyday Memory & Memory Errors	
W Mar 6	L7: Everyday Memory & Memory Errors	Chapter 8

	<b>*Assignment 3 due</b>	
M Mar 11	<b>Exam 2 (L5-L7)</b>	<b>Chapters 5-8</b>
W Mar 13	Experiment Day 3	--
M Mar 18	L8: Conceptual Knowledge	
W Mar 20	L9: Core Executive Functions	
M Mar 25	L9: Core Executive Functions <b>*Group Assignment due</b>	--
W Mar 27	L10: Execution Function – Decision Making	Chapter 13
F Mar 29	University Closed – Good Friday	
M Apr 1	University Closed – Easter Monday	
W Apr 3	L11: Execution Function – Emotion Regulation	
M Apr 8	<b>Exam 3 (L8-L11)</b>	<b>Chapter 13</b>
T Apr 9	Winter Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Winter Term half courses.	
Apr 12-23	Winter Final Exam Period	

### 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 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 **April 9, 2024**.

### Seating During Exams

Instructors and exam invigilators are free to ask students to move seats before an exam begins or even during an exam. Students must comply with this request and refusal to do so may warrant a charge of academic misconduct

### Absence From An Exam

Makeup exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-1-1.html>. Students who miss an exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup exam. It's the instructor's discretion if they will allow a make-up exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Once approved by the instructor a makeup exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>. Students may be asked for documentation <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>.

### **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 by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>. Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology (psyugrd@ucalgary.ca).

### **Reappraisal of Term Work or Final Grade**

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

### **Academic Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf>.

### **Academic Misconduct**

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed, or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **Copyright Legislation**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ([https://library.ucalgary.ca/services/copyright?\\_gl=1\\*bcjlpn\\*\\_ga\\*OTY1ODc0Njg0LjE2NjkxNTA1NTM.\\*\\_ga\\_X4GN9Y4W7D\\*MTY3Nzc5MjM3Ni4xNy4xLjE2Nzc3OTI4MDYuMC4wLjA](https://library.ucalgary.ca/services/copyright?_gl=1*bcjlpn*_ga*OTY1ODc0Njg0LjE2NjkxNTA1NTM.*_ga_X4GN9Y4W7D*MTY3Nzc5MjM3Ni4xNy4xLjE2Nzc3OTI4MDYuMC4wLjA)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor

notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

### **Student Support and Resources**

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Last day add/swap a course is **Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**.