

PSYC 3334: Cognitive Processes

Fall 2023

Instructor Information

Instructor

Bonnie B. Laster, Ph.D. CCSP

Office Number/Telephone Number

Life Science 426

817-273-2281

Email Address

bonnie.laster@uta.edu **official means of communication* *do NOT utilize Teams chat**

Faculty Profile

<https://www.uta.edu/academics/faculty/profile?username=lasterbb>

Course Information

Section Information

PSYC 3334-001

Time and Place of Class Meetings

T/Th 9:30-10:50 a.m.

SIER 294

Face to face lecture

Office Hours

MTWTh 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Description of Course Content: Current theory and research in cognitive processes such as learning and memory, information processing, concept formation, and problem solving. Prerequisite: PSYC 1315.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will identify, describe and discuss biological, psychological, social and political factors in the study of cognitive processes.
Students will identify and describe the major concepts in cognition and cognitive development, distinguish among major theoretical orientations, and discuss empirical and historical trends.
Students will explore issues related to social and personal cognitive structures to encourage ethical and social responsibility in a diverse world.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials

McBride, Cutting & Zimmerman (2023). Cognitive Processes. 3rd ed. Sage. ISBN: 9781544398327 (Digital: \$64.80)

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations

Exams: There will be 3 exams, each worth 50 points. Exams include multiple choice, short-answer, and essay questions requiring students to apply material from assigned readings, class discussions, and class lecture material (including video, discussions, and in-class assignments/activities).

Chapter questions/Homework: At the end of each chapter, students will answer brief multiple choice and/or short answer questions through Canvas 50 pts.

Case Study: Students will analyze one case study to apply concepts learned in class and explore real-world application of principles. 30 points. ***Specific guidelines posted on Canvas and discussed in class***

Attendance/Participation: 30 pts. Official attendance will be taken a random times throughout the semester. If you miss said class period for a university-sponsored event (e.g. athletic events, university sponsored travel, etc.), you will not be penalized; however, you will need to notify me in advance of such absences and it is your responsibility to obtain class notes/assignments, etc. from a fellow classmate (i.e., not me). ***Specific guidelines will be distributed in class.***

Technology Requirements

This course will utilize Canvas, Teams, and UTA email. Students can access tutorials on these tools by clicking on the “Get Started” Box on their Canvas Homepage. You will not need a webcam.

Grading Information

Grading

Assignment Category	Number of Graded Items	Point Value per Item	Total Points
Exams	3	50	150
Chapter questions/homework	various	various	50
Case Study	1	30	30
Attendance/Participation	varies	varies	30
Total Course Points:			260

Final Grade Policy: This class will utilize an unweighted points system. Final grades will be calculated as a percentage of total points earned. To calculate individual student final grades, add up the total points earned on each graded item and divide that sum by the total maximum points for the course (270). Multiply by 100 to get the percentage. Final grades falling 9.5 and above will be rounded up (e.g., 89.5 will round to an A, 79.5 will round to a B, etc). Final grades falling below this will not be rounded up. There are no exceptions to this policy.

Exam Day/Assignment Policy: **There will be NO make-up exams or assignment extensions except for extreme circumstances/emergencies (criteria professor's discretion).** The schedule notes the dates for all, giving you plenty of time to make arrangements accordingly. Any makeup exam/assignments that meet the extreme criteria must be scheduled IN ADVANCE of the due date. If, for whatever reason, extreme circumstances arise ON exam day, you are responsible for contacting me **PRIOR TO THE START OF CLASS to apprise me of the situation. WAITING UNTIL THE TEST HAS BEEN ADMINISTERED/DUE DATE HAS PASSED IS UNACCEPTABLE.** Be prepared to provide documentation of the circumstance. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in an automatic "0" for that exam grade. University-related absences are exempted from this policy, but you are still required to notify me in advance of such a conflict.

Technology note for exams and assignments: All exams and assignments will be due via Canvas at **11:59 p.m. CST** on their designated due dates. To account for potential technology and other issues (loss of WIFI, laptop issues, cats playing with modem, boss calling you into work last minute, forgetting when the assignment was due, traveling, falling asleep unexpectedly, etc.), I **HIGHLY** recommend submitting **EARLY**. *Exams/assignments will not be available for submission past 11:59 p.m. Emailed assignments will not be accepted.*

Course Schedule

As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. –B.B. Laster

Date	Subject	Reading	Assignment
Tues Aug 22	Intro/syllabus, etc.	Syllabus/course information	
Thurs Aug 24	Intro to Cognitive Psychology	Ch. 1	
Tues Aug 29	Con't		
Thurs Aug 31	Cognitive Neuroscience	Ch. 2	
Tues Sept 5	Con't		
Thurs Sept 7	Peception	Ch. 3	
Tues Sept 12	Con't		
Thurs Sept 14	Attention	Ch. 4	
Tues Sept 19	Con't		
<i>Thurs Sept 21</i>	<i>Catch-up & Review</i>		<i>Ch. Questions due to Canvas 11:59 p.m.</i>
<i>Tues Sept 26</i>	<i>Exam 1</i>	<i>Ch. 1-4</i>	
Thurs Sept 28	Memory Structures and Processes	Ch. 5	
Tues Oct 3	Con't		
Thurs Oct 5	Long-Term Memory Retrieval	Ch. 6	
Tues Oct 10	Con't		
Thurs Oct 12	Memory Errors	Ch. 7	
Tues Oct 17	Con't		
Thurs Oct 19	Language	Ch. 8	
Tues Oct 24	Con't		
<i>Thurs Oct 26</i>	<i>Catch-up & Review</i>		<i>Ch. Questions due to Canvas 11:59 p.m</i>
<i>Tues Oct 31</i>	<i>Exam 2</i>	<i>Ch. 5-8</i>	
Thurs Nov 2	Concepts and Knowledge	Ch. 9	
Tues Nov 7	Con't		
Thurs Nov 9	Imagery	Ch. 10	
Tues Nov 14	Con't		
Thurs Nov 16	Problem Solving	Ch. 11	

<i>Tues Nov 21</i>	<i>Field Work- No Class</i>		<i>Case Study due to Canvas 11:59 p.m.</i>
<i>Thurs Nov 23</i>	<i>Happy Thanksgiving- No Class</i>		
Tues Nov 28	Con't		
Thurs Nov 30	Reasoning	Ch. 12	
<i>Tues Dec 5</i>	<i>Catch-up & Review</i>		<i>Ch. Questions due to Canvas 11:59 p.m.</i>
<i>Tues Dec 12</i> <i>8:00-10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Final Exam</i>	<i>Ch. 9-12</i>	

Institutional Information

UTA students are encouraged to review the below institutional policies and informational sections and reach out to the specific office with any questions. To view this institutional information, please visit the [Institutional Information](https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php) page (<https://resources.uta.edu/provost/course-related-info/institutional-policies.php>) which includes the following policies among others:

- Drop Policy
- Disability Accommodations
- Title IX Policy
- Academic Integrity
- Student Feedback Survey
- Final Exam Schedule

Grade grievance procedure: <https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/science/departments/psychology/degree-programs/graduate/graduate-resources/student-grievance-form>

Counseling and Psychological Services <https://www.uta.edu/caps/services/Lets%20Talk.php>

Students experiencing a crisis may call MAVS Talk 24 Hour Crisis Line 817-272-TALK (8255) or UTA Police: 817-272-3003

Additional Information

Email Response: UTA email is my official means of communication; Phone calls will not be returned in a timely manner. I will respond to all emails within 24-48 hours.

Face Covering Policy

Face coverings on campus are no longer mandatory, but students and instructional staff are encouraged to wear face coverings while on campus. If a student needs accommodations to ensure social distancing in the classroom due to being at high risk they are encouraged to work directly with the Student Access and Resource Center. Masks may be obtained at the Central Library, the E.H. Hereford University Center's front desk or in the student's home department.

Emergency Exit Procedures

Should we experience an emergency that requires evacuation of the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting during an emergency, do not take an elevator- use the stairwells instead. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities. Evacuation plans may be found at [Evacuation Route Maps \(Buildings\)](#).

Academic Success Center

The Academic Success Center (ASC) includes a variety of resources and services to help you maximize your learning and succeed as a student at UTA. ASC services include supplemental instruction, peer-led team learning, tutoring, mentoring and TRIO SSS. Academic Success Center services are provided at no additional cost. For additional information visit: [Academic Success Center](#). To request disability accommodations for tutoring, please complete this [form](#).

The [IDEAS Center](https://www.uta.edu/ideas/) (<https://www.uta.edu/ideas/>) (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **FREE tutoring** and [mentoring](#) to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. Students can drop in or check the schedule of available peer tutors at www.uta.edu/IDEAS, or call (817) 272-6593.

The English Writing Center (411LIBR)

The Writing Center offers **FREE** tutoring in 15-, 30-, 45-, and 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Register and make appointments online at the [Writing Center](https://uta.mywconline.com) (<https://uta.mywconline.com>). Classroom visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see [Writing Center: OWL](#) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2nd floor [Academic Plaza](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) (<http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>) offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services available during the [library's hours](#) of operation.

Librarian to Contact

Each academic unit has [Librarians by Academic Subject](#) to assist students with research projects, tutorials on plagiarism and citation references, and support with databases and course reserves.

Emergency Phone Numbers

In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UTA Police Dept at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381

Library Information

Research or General Library Help

Ask for Help

- [Academic Plaza Consultation Services](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza) (library.uta.edu/academic-plaza)
- [Ask Us](http://ask.uta.edu/) (ask.uta.edu/)
- [Research Coaches](http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach) (<http://libguides.uta.edu/researchcoach>)

Resources

- [Library Tutorials](http://library.uta.edu/how-to) (library.uta.edu/how-to)
- [Subject and Course Research Guides](http://libguides.uta.edu) (libguides.uta.edu)
- [Librarians by Subject](http://library.uta.edu/subject-librarians) (library.uta.edu/subject-librarians)
- [A to Z List of Library Databases](http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php) (libguides.uta.edu/az.php)
- [Course Reserves](https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course_reserves) (https://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/course_reserves)
- [Study Room Reservations](http://openroom.uta.edu/) (openroom.uta.edu/)