

Cognitive Psychology

Instructor Information

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Office: LS 511

Office Hours: By email appointment

Email: *Please email the instructor ONLY via the course CANVAS site.* It will make a more direct and organized method of communication between the instructor and the students enrolled in this course, in that such email shows the course title as the subject.

The instructor will only reply to emails that originate from Canvas. Once logged into this course, click on “Inbox” from the left menu, then find the course, and send to “Teachers” (which will send email to both Instructor and TA) or find my name directly (to send just to me).

Course Information

Section Information: Psy 5313-001

Time: Tues/Thurs 9:30 – 10:50 am

Location: LS 102

Course Description: This course is designed to be a survey of core topics of Cognitive Psychology. This course will be a combination of lecture and presentation/discussion format. The instructor will provide an overview of a topic and students will discuss assigned articles (e.g., Tuesday) and related articles (e.g., Thursday). All readings will be provided through Canvas. To promote classroom discussion, students will be required to submit a set of discussion slides via Canvas one day prior to the presentation.

Learning Outcomes: We will have several goals to achieve in the class. The first goal we will have is to explore and understand cognitive research ranging from early classics to contemporary work. Our second goal in this course will be to develop an appreciation for methods of research used by cognitive psychologists and to implement this methodology to develop your own research proposal. Our final goal is to think more critically about what we read and hear, with the aim of critiquing new research in our own areas of research and application. We will accomplish this through a variety of activities including demonstrations, group discussions, presentations, etc. The ultimate goal is for you to not only gain a fundamental understanding of the cognitive processes that shape our everyday interactions with the world, but also to develop skills that will be applicable outside of the classroom environment (e.g., critical thinking, programming, writing, cooperative group work, public speaking, grant writing).

Textbook (*Suggested*): There is no *required* textbook for this class, but the textbook serves as supplemental reading.

1. [Anderson, J.R. \(2015\). *Cognitive psychology & its implications*. Macmillan. 8th Edition](#)

-The instructor will provide a lecture from this book one day a week. Email instructor for details prior to purchase.
[There is also a 2020 version (9th edition), but in my reading it is not too much different]

Published Articles (*Required*): Multiple published papers will be provided for each week of the course and we will discuss these papers in class. All course readings will be posted on Canvas. Each week the assigned readings will include citation classics in the history of Cognitive Psychology and/or more contemporary papers that adopt innovative approaches or methodology (e.g., neuroimaging, eye-tracking, computational modeling, machine learning) to bring more theoretical depth to the topic.

Meeting Format: The course will be a mix of synchronous (in-person) and asynchronous (recorded) learning. Lecture material will be pre-recorded and posted online for students to view prior to the in-person meetings. This information will provide the relevant foundation for the assigned articles. The synchronous meetings at the regularly scheduled class time to discuss articles.

Major Assignments & Examinations: Students are required to submit discussion posts and to actively participate in class discussion. In addition, students will be asked to develop a research project and submit a final NSF style grant proposal. Students are expected to attend class, to complete the weekly readings before class and to prepare questions for discussion of relevant topics during class. There is no mid-term or final exam.

Grading Information

1. Attendance (0%): Students must attend all classes. Your participation for the class is vital for your progress in this course. Although there is no official grade for attendance, each day in class there is a graded assignment. If you are not present, you will receive a zero on those assignments. Therefore, attendance is expected. Excused absences will be allowed only for family, health, or

related emergencies as well as for conference travel and job interviews. If a student misses more than two unexcused classes in a given semester then they will be asked to withdraw from the course.

2. Pre-lecture and Post-lecture Quizzes (10%): Testing your knowledge prior to study, even if incorrect, has been shown to be an effective way to facilitate subsequent learning. Thus, prior to each lecture, there will be a brief (ungraded) quiz on the lecture material. Retrieval practice has also been shown to be an effective way to promote long-term retention of learned information. Thus, at the end of each lecture, there will be a brief (graded) quiz on the lecture material due by Monday at 5 pm. However, it is strongly encouraged that you complete this sooner, as you should watch the lecture prior to reading the assigned article discussed on Tuesday and you don't want to wait until the last minute to read the article. Each post-lecture quiz is worth 1 point, with your lowest score dropped.

3. Article Discussion (10%): Students are expected to participate in class actively. Participation in discussion will be assessed through your active questioning and the involvement in discussion during presentation of target articles. I will present the assigned articles every Tuesday. However, you should be prepared to talk about them. You must contribute to the discussion each of the 11 days of article discussions (Tuesday). Each contribution is worth 1 point, with your lowest score dropped, totaling 10 points.

4. Mini-Powerpoint Presentation (40%): Students are expected to participate in class actively. For *each article assigned for class*, students should prepare 1 "mini-powerpoint" presentation. The discussion slides will be submitted via Canvas by Wednesday at 5 pm and discussed in class on Thursday. The tentative schedule and templates are available and should be used for preparation of the class. There will be 11 weeks for discussions. Each presentation is worth 4 points, with your lowest score dropped, totaling 40 points.

5. Mini-Powerpoint Discussion (10%): Students are expected to participate in class actively. Participation in discussion will be assessed through your active questioning and the involvement in discussion during mini-powerpoint presentation of related articles on Thursday. The presenter may provide some talking points and it is your job to actively participate in those discussions. Likewise, you should be prepared to ask questions without provocation from the presenter. This active discussion is to increase critical thinking skills and should promote thoughtful dialogue among students in the classroom. You must contribute to the discussion each of the 11 days of mini-powerpoint presentations. Each contribution is worth 1 point, with your lowest score dropped, totaling 10 points. *These files should be saved as "LastName_FirstName_WeekXXX"*

6. Research/Grant Proposal (25%): Each student will work their own programmatic line of research ideas that culminates in a grant proposal. Each student will write a formal NSF style grant proposal that is due at the end of the semester. It should include significance, background information, methods, preliminary and/or anticipated results, and impacts. A grading rubric is available on Canvas. The proposal will be worth 25 points.

7. Oral Presentation of Proposal (5%): Each student will work their own programmatic line of research ideas that culminates in a grant proposal. Each student will give a formal presentation at the end of the semester of the research proposal. This assignment will be worth 5 points.

Grading Policy: Grades are based on a percentage score and not a curve. All coursework must be completed by the last day of class for credit. Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester, which Canvas facilitates, and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see "Student Support Services," below.

Percentage Score required to obtain each letter grade

100%-90% A	[100 - 90 points]
89%-80% B	[89 - 80 points]
79%-70% C	[79 - 70 points]
69%-60% D	[69 - 60 points]
59%-less F	[<59 points]

Grades will rounded to the nearest whole number. For example, if the final grade earned is a 89.49%, this will be rounded to an 89% (this is non-negotiable). Missed work including presentations or discussion will be accorded a grade of zero unless the student submits a valid written excuse recognized by the university's rules. The final grade will be calculated based on the sum scores of points above.

Grade Grievances:

The Department of Psychology is dedicated to resolving student issues in a fair and equitable manner, consistent with course policies, as well as the policies of the Department and the University. Please follow this link to see departmental policies for grade grievances:

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

Please see the following for university policies

Grading Policy: <https://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>

Student Complaints: <http://www.uta.edu/deanofstudents/complaints/index.php>

Schedule**

Week	Day	Date	Lecture Topic	Topic Type
Week 1	Tues	17-Jan	Course Overview & Introductions	
	Thurs	19-Jan	<i>No Class</i>	Watch lecture, read article
Week 2	Tues	24-Jan	Science of Cognition	Article Discussion
	Thurs	26-Jan		Presentations
Week 3	Tues	31-Jan	Perception	Article Discussion
	Thurs	2-Feb		Presentations
Week 4	Tues	7-Feb	Attention	Article Discussion
	Thurs	9-Feb		Presentations
Week 5	Tues	14-Feb	Knowledge Representation	Article Discussion
	Thurs	16-Feb		Presentations
Week 6	Tues	21-Feb	Memory Encoding	Article Discussion
	Thurs	23-Feb		Presentations
Week 7	Tues	28-Feb	Memory Retrieval	Article Discussion
	Thurs	2-Mar		Presentations
Week 8	Tues	7-Mar	<i>Writing a research or grant proposal</i>	Read example before class
	Thurs	9-Mar		<i>Project idea due</i>
Week 9	Tues	14-Mar	<i>Spring Break</i>	Article Discussion
	Thurs	16-Mar		Presentations
Week 10	Tues	21-Mar	Problem Solving	Article Discussion
	Thurs	23-Mar		Presentations
Week 11	Tues	28-Mar	Reasoning	Article Discussion
	Thurs	30-Mar		Presentations
Week 12	Tues	4-Apr	Decision Making	Article Discussion
	Thurs	6-Apr		Presentations
Week 13	Tues	11-Apr	Individual Differences	Article Discussion
	Thurs	13-Apr		Presentations
Week 14	Tues	18-Apr	Language	Article Discussion
	Thurs	20-Apr		Presentations
Week 15	Tues	25-Apr	Final Presentations	
	Thurs	27-Apr	Final Presentations	
Week 16	Tues	2-May	Peer Review for paper	Final <i>draft</i> due on Canvas
Finals	Fri	5-May	Final Paper Due (by 5:00 pm)	Final <i>paper</i> due on Canvas

**Lecture content/Presentation dates are tentative and subject to shift according to the needs of an individual class. 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. Any revisions to this syllabus will be announced during class time. It is your responsibility to make a note of any changes in this syllabus.

READING LIST FOUND ON CANVAS WEBSITE!

Institution Information

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering.

Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

Disability Accommodations: UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)**. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or 817-272-3364(T).
Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or 817-272-3671(T).

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence. I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Any violations to the academic integrity policy will be result in the course grade of 'F'.

Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

Active Shooter: The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by UTA Police regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. <https://police.uta.edu/activeshooter>

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick

Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>

The IDEAS Center (<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>). 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>) offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation.

Librarian to Contact: Each academic unit has access to Librarians by Academic Subject that can assist students with research projects, tutorials on plagiarism and citation references as well as support with databases and course reserves.

Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381