DONDERS INSTITUTE

BKI134

Cognitive Psychology

Introduction: Course organization

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BKI134 Cognitive Psychology

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Course organization

- Building blocks of the course:
  1. On-campus lectures and slides
  2. Video recordings
  3. Brightspace pages
  4. Textbook
  5. Online resources (textbook website)
  6. Take-home assignments
  7. Digital exam

1. On-campus lectures and slides

- 2 x 90 minutes, Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Core topics in cognitive psychology
- Demonstrations of phenomena and/or experiments
- Any questions you have on the materials covered in class
- Take-home assignments (introduction and feedback)
- Slides will be posted on Brightspace before each lecture (under “Content”)

2. Video recordings

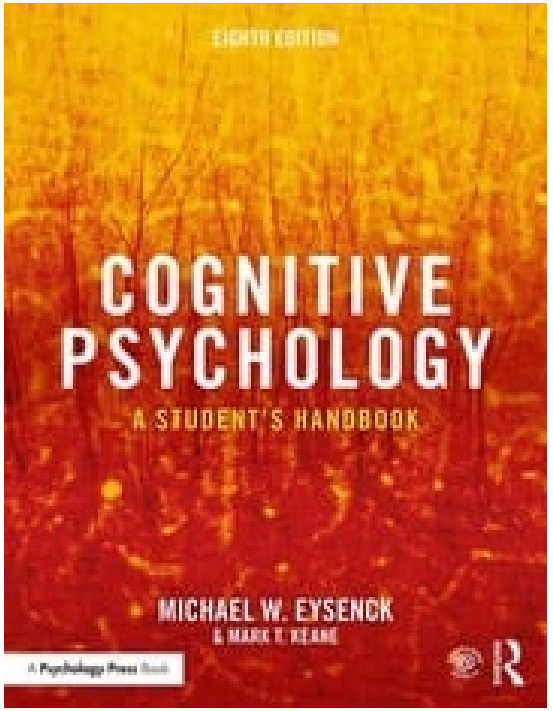
- Recordings of lectures
- Available on Brightspace soon after each class (under “Content”)

3. Brightspace

- Lecture slides
- Video recordings
- Announcements
- Information on course structure and organization
- Information on the exam and take-home assignments
- Link to online resources

4. Textbook

Cognitive Psychology: A student's handbook (8th Edition 2020)
Authors: Eysenck & Keane
Psychology Press



- OK to use 7th edition
- Up-to-date book
- But: too much to be covered in course
- Handbook for rest of your study
- We will indicate which parts of the book you have to study and which parts not
- The book comes with **Online resources**

5. Online resources

- Go to: https://routledgetextbooks.com/textbooks/9781138482234/
- Menu → students → choose a chapter
- What do you find there?
  - Case studies
  - Research activities
  - Flashcards (term / concept on one side, definition/ explanation on other side)
  - Multiple choice quizzes
- Also “Simulation experiments” (for the take-home assignments)
- Use these resources to learn!
  - The “testing effect”: forced recall of material improves memory
- Flashcards give an indication of the “fill in the blank” questions in the exam

6. Take-home assignments

- Three classic experiments ("simulation experiments" in on-line resources)
- Run yourself as a participant and then answer questions:
  - Fit of the experiment in the larger topic
  - Describe the experiment
  - Do your own results agree or disagree with the hypotheses?
  - Short critical personal evaluation
  - Screenshot of your own results
- Compulsory to submit your answers (on Brightspace, under *Assignments* tab)
- Before each assignment: Introduced in lectures
- After each one: Feedback in lectures

7. Digital exam

- “Closed book" exam in Cirrus

- 25 “fill-in-the-gap” questions, 1 point each; max. 25 points
- 25 multiple-choice questions, 1 point each; max. 25 points

- FITG example:
  - The course BKI134 is a course on _____ psychology
  - correct answer: cognitive (cognition, cognitief, …)

- MC example:
  - The course BKI134 has as main topic
  - (a) cognitive anthropology
  - (b) cognitive psychology
  - (c) anthropological psychology
  - Correct answer: (b)

- Flashcards and quizzes on on-line resources are practice questions

Grading

- 3 take-home assignments:
  - For each one: Pass or fail
  - 10 points if and only if you pass all three
- Digital exam
  - Maximum 50 points
  - 25 points or more: Pass
  - 24 points or fewer: Fail
- To pass the course overall, you need a pass on all three assignments AND a pass on the exam
  - 10 + 25 = 35; 35/60 x 10 = 5.83; final grade = 6
- Resits:
  - Assignments: Alternative assignments before the exam
  - Exam: Date to be announced (probably in March)

How to study for the course?

For each topic:

1. Go through course slides
2. Make sure you understand the points, terminology, and experiments on the slides
3. Come to the lecture(s)
4. **Then** read respective chapter
5. Use flashcards and multiple-choice quizzes to test yourself
6. Revisit material (in slides/videos/chapters)

- Some points on the slides are not in the book (or less explicitly), but you should also master these points
- The chapters have a lot of information. You have to know, for the exam, only those experiments that are explicitly discussed on the slides and in the lectures (logic of experiments, main results)
- For the exam, therefore, the lectures/slides are leading

Preparation for lectures

- For each session, we will indicate what you should have done to prepare. See “overview per week” on Brightspace.
- For example, for this **Thursday, November 9th**:
  - You should have:
    - Worked through the corresponding powerpoint slides
    - Noted down points / questions on this material
  - You do **NOT** have to read the corresponding chapter (Chapter 1 in this case) before the session, **but** you should read it before the exam

Timetable

- **See Brightspace ("overview per week") for details**
- Seven weeks, seven topics, seven chapters
- Topics:
  (1) Approaches to human cognition (Seijdel)
  (2) Visual perception (Miller)
  (3) Object recognition (Miller)
  (4) Perception, motion and action (Miller)
  (5) Attention and performance (Seijdel)
  (6) Learning, memory and forgetting (McQueen)
  (7) Long-term memory systems (McQueen)
  (chapters 1-7 of Eysenck & Keane)
- Exam: Tuesday January 16th 2024