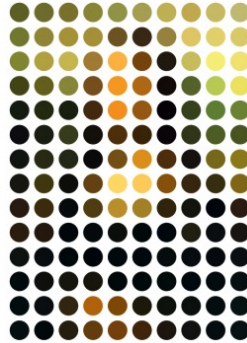


PSYC S210: Cognitive Psychology

Fall 2020



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1 Course information

Class schedule Section 01: F 1:00 pm–1:50 pm
 Section 02: F 2:00 pm–2:50 pm
 Room M111

Instructor Alan Jern
 Email: jern@rose-hulman.edu

Open meeting time TBD (On Microsoft Teams)

2 Overview and objectives

Cognitive psychology is the study of the mind. This course will provide an overview of the science of how the mind works, including how people perceive, learn, think, remember, use language, reason, and make decisions. In particular, we will frequently focus on the ways in which the human mind is and is not like a computer. At the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe prominent theories of cognition and recall key experimental results that support these theories.
2. Formulate and defend a position on several key theoretical debates within cognitive psychology.

3. Apply basic cognitive psychology concepts to everyday situations.

3 Assessment

Component	Points
Syllabus quiz	10
Quizzes	360
Assignments (6)	300
Participation	330
Total	1000

3.1 Quizzes

There will be three non-cumulative quizzes. Each quiz will consist of several short answer questions about topics from the preceding weeks. Quizzes will be online and will be open-book and open-notes. Collaboration and copying answers (plagiarism) is prohibited. Your answers must be in your own words. If you violate these rules you will get a 0. There will be no final exam.

3.2 Assignments

There will be six assignments throughout the quarter. Each assignment will require you to think more deeply about one topic or reading from the class and/or perform a simple experiment then write a short paper.

3.3 Participation

Most of this course will involve the discussion of assigned readings. There will be 1–3 readings assigned each week. To keep these reading assignments fairly predictable, they will always be due on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays. You won't have readings due every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, but you won't ever have readings due on other days of the week.

The discussion will take place online and in class. Discussion includes asking questions, answering questions, or responding to comments made by fellow classmates. Your participation score will be based on two components.

3.3.1 Online score (180 points)

Most discussion will take place online through [Perusall](#). See Moodle for details about signing up and using this site. Your online score for each reading will be based on the number of thoughtful, high-quality comments you make throughout the reading and the number of upvotes and responses you make to other students' comments. In general, the more thoughtful and engaged you are in the discussion, the higher your score will be. Your score for the first reading and your lowest score will be dropped.

3.3.2 In-class score (150 points)

On in-class days, we'll have more in-depth discussions about one or more readings from the previous week. I will assign participation scores at three points throughout the quarter. Your in-class participation score will be the sum of these scores. Note: If the course ends up moving to fully online, this part of your final grade will change.

3.4 Final grade

Grades will be assigned as follows.

Points	Grade
≥ 900	A
870–899	B+
800–869	B
770–799	C+
700–769	C
670–699	D+
600–660	D
< 600	F

4 Course policies

4.1 Late assignments

For the entire course, you will have **two free late days** that can be used for assignments (you cannot use these to submit late comments for online discussions). Assignments will be considered one day late if they are submitted any time after the submission deadline up to 24 hours later. Assignments will be considered two days late if they are submitted any time between 24 and 48 hours after the submission deadline. You don't need to notify me in advance if you plan to use one of your late days—I will keep track of your late days and notify you by email when you have no late days remaining.

Any assignments submitted after your using your late days will not be accepted. The purpose for this policy is to help me grade and return your work in a timely fashion.

4.2 Blind grading

Do not include your name on anything (including file name) you submit on Moodle, unless I say otherwise. The reason for this is because I use a feature on Moodle called blind grading that lets me grade your assignments without seeing your names—your names (which Moodle knows) are revealed after I've finished grading the assignment. I do this to keep my grading as fair as possible. If you put your name on the assignment, it undermines the process.

4.3 Asking for help

I highly encourage you to contact me if you ever need help in this course. That's what I'm here for! But I also want you to encourage you to be self-sufficient whenever possible. So if you ever

ask me a question that can be easily answered on this syllabus or the Moodle page (a due date, a page limit, whether an upcoming exam is open-book), **I will deduct 1 point from your grade total.**

The corollary of this policy is that if you ever find anything on this syllabus or the Moodle page that looks like a genuine mistake (the wrong date, inconsistent information) and you ask me about it, **I will give you 1 point of extra credit.** (Only the first person to tell me gets the extra credit.)

4.4 Academic integrity

Academic misconduct will be addressed according to the policies described in the Rose-Hulman student handbook. Academic misconduct includes: (1) submitting work that is not your own; (2) copying ideas, words, or graphics from any source without appropriate citation; (3) misrepresenting your work or yourself (i.e., deliberately submitting the wrong assignment or lying to explain a late assignment); (4) collaborating with other students when this is not permitted; and (5) submitting the same work for credit in two courses without prior consent of both instructors. If you are unsure whether something qualifies as academic misconduct, please check with me before engaging in the behavior.

5 Course schedule

Below is a tentative schedule for the quarter. I've left off specific due dates because they may vary from week to week and even these dates should be considered approximate. Check Moodle regularly for updated information.

Everything that needs to be completed each week, including readings, quizzes, exercises, and activities, will be posted on Moodle.

Module	Week(s)	Due
Intro and foundations	0/1	Syllabus quiz
Perception and attention	2	Assignment 1
Concepts	3/4	Quiz 1 (Week 3) Assignment 2 (Week 4)
Memory	5/6	Assignment 3 (Week 6)
Judgment and decision making	7/8	Quiz 2 (Week 7) Assignment 4 (Week 7)
Language	8/9	Quiz 3 (Week 9)
Consciousness	10	Assignment 6 (Week 10) Assignment 7 (Finals)