PSYC2071 Perception and Cognition - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC2071
Year : 2024
Term : Term 3
Teaching Period : T3
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Science
Academic Unit : School of Psychology
Delivery Mode : In Person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course focuses on major aspects of human perception and cognition, such as sensory coding, perceptual organisation, object perception, attention, and memory. You will learn about contemporary theory and research in perception and cognition, with an emphasis on developing

research methods and communication skills. The content delivered in lectures and tutorials is designed to foster critical thinking skills, an appreciation of experimental approaches to the study of perceptual and cognitive processes, and the application of psychological principles derived from understanding perceptual and cognitive processes in everyday life, society, and technology.

Course Aims

This course aims to highlight theoretical perspectives, research and application of the major topics in perception and cognition. You will develop knowledge and understanding of research methods in perception and cognition and will be able to apply and communicate this knowledge in novel settings.

Relationship to Other Courses

PSYC2071 is a more advanced continuation of topics related to perception, cognition and experimental methodology covered in the relevant first year courses (PSYC1001 and PSYC1011 and PSYC1111). Successful completion of PSYC2071 is necsessary for a number of third year elective subjects in this area, for example, PSYC3211 Cognitive Science and PSYC3221 Vision and Brain.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Understand and explain major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings and historical trends in perception and cognition.
CLO2 : Understand, evaluate, and apply research methods in perception and cognition.
CLO3 : Develop and apply critical thinking skills in the context of perception and cognition.
CLO4 : Understand and evaluate appropriate research and professional values and the ethical use of information.
CLO5 : Communicate scientific information effectively in a variety of formats.
CLO6 : Apply psychological principles gained from understanding of perception and cognition in a broader framework including everyday life, society and technology.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Understand and explain major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings and historical trends in perception and cognition.	• Mid-Term Exam: Perception • Final Exam; Cognition
CLO2 : Understand, evaluate, and apply research methods in perception and cognition.	• Design a Study Assignment
CLO3 : Develop and apply critical thinking skills in the context of perception and cognition.	• Mid-Term Exam: Perception • Design a Study Assignment • Final Exam; Cognition
CLO4 : Understand and evaluate appropriate research and professional values and the ethical use of information.	• Design a Study Assignment
CLO5 : Communicate scientific information effectively in a variety of formats.	• Design a Study Assignment
CLO6 : Apply psychological principles gained from understanding of perception and cognition in a broader framework including everyday life, society and technology.	• Mid-Term Exam: Perception • Final Exam; Cognition

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

Lectures: Lectures will be delivered in-person in schedule lecture time. All lectures will be recorded and accessiible via the Lecture Recording links in Moodle.

Tutorials: In addition to the traditional lecture format, there will be 7 x 120 min tutorial classes, designed to allow for in-depth discussion and active learning in smaller groups. Tutorial classes will be in-person and will include interactive exercises, hands on experience in measuring perceptual and cognitive functioning like perceptual discrimination, face perception, decision making, attention and memory. These activities will be used to familiarise students with research methods in perception and cognition and to prepare students to complete the in-session assessment. In addition, opportunities will be provided to discuss theoretical issues and applications of perception and cognition research.

Weekly Revision Activities: Formative topic revision quizzes are available for students that provide an opportunity to evaluate understanding of course material on a weekly basis. These quizzes are for practice only and will not be graded. However, timely engagement with and completion of these quizzes will assist students in gaining a proper understanding of each topic so that this knowledge can be built on in future content.

Discussion Forum; The Discussion Forum provides students with an opportunity to question and clarify the concepts and ideas mentioned in the lectures. Students are strongly encouraged to engage with this forum by posting questions or comments, and reading, answering, or replying to other student's posts to enhance understanding of the content, critical thinking, and written communication skills.

Additional Course Information

Psychology Student Guide: The School of Psychology Student Guide contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- Attendance requirements
- Assignment submissions and returns
- Assessments
- Special consideration
- Student code of conduct
- Student complaints and grievances
- Equitable Learning Services
- Health and safety

It is expected that students familiarise themselves with the information contained in this guide

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Mid-Term Exam: Perception Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 7: 21 October - 27 October
Design a Study Assignment Assessment Format: Individual Short Extension: Yes (2 days)	40%	Due Date: 04/11/2024 11:59 PM
Final Exam; Cognition Assessment Format: Individual	30%	

Assessment Details

Mid-Term Exam: Perception

Assessment Overview

The mid-term test will be assessing all of the perception materials covered in Weeks 1-5 (inclusive). The test will be held in Week 7 and will be a multiple-choice questions format.This will be an online test. Feedback will be provided following the completion of the test.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Understand and explain major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings and historical trends in perception and cognition.
- CLO3 : Develop and apply critical thinking skills in the context of perception and cognition.
- CLO6 : Apply psychological principles gained from understanding of perception and cognition in a broader framework including everyday life, society and technology.

Detailed Assessment Description

The mid-term exam will be assessing students' knowledge and understanding of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives and empirical findings covered in lectures and tutorials delivered in Weeks 1-5. Students will be completing the mid-term exam in their scheduled tutorial classes in Week 7 and will have only one attempt to complete this exam.

If you are unable to sit the mid-term exam for a valid reason, you will be able to sit the deferred exam. Please keep in mind that the deferred exam may be in a different format than the original (for example, a smaller number of open-ended questions). However, it will be based on the same materials as the original exam.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

This assessment is designed for you to complete without the use of any generative AI. You are not permitted to use any generative AI tools, software or service to search for or generate information or answers.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see here.

This is an in-class supervised assessment with no external assisstance permitted.

Design a Study Assignment

Assessment Overview

Design a Study Assignment emphasises your ability to apply knowledge and understanding of research methods in perception and cognition in a new context and your scientific communication skills. Based on activities performed and materials discussed in perception tutorials, you will be asked to design an experiment and to write a research report (Introduction, Method and Results sections) based on your experiment.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Understand, evaluate, and apply research methods in perception and cognition.
- CLO3 : Develop and apply critical thinking skills in the context of perception and cognition.
- CLO4 : Understand and evaluate appropriate research and professional values and the ethical use of information.
- CLO5 : Communicate scientific information effectively in a variety of formats.

Detailed Assessment Description

In the Design a Study Research Report assessment students will be demonstrating understanding of research methods in perception and cognition and effective scientific communication skills. Students will be asked to design a study using a Signal Detection approach and to write up Introduction, Method and Results sections for their chosen study. The assessment will be released in Week 4 and due in Week 9 (Monday 4 November, 23:59pm; submission via Moodle). Marks and feedback will be provided 10 working days from the due date, any assessment submitted after this time will not be marked and will receive a grade of 0.

Assessment Length

2000 words maximum.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Generative AI Permission Level

Assistance with Attribution

This assessment requires you to write/create a first iteration of your submission yourself. You are then permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to improve your submission in the ways set out below.

Any output of generative AI tools, software or services that is used within your assessment must be attributed with full referencing.

If outputs of generative AI tools, software or services form part of your submission and are not appropriately attributed, your Convenor will determine whether the omission is significant. If so, you may be asked to explain your submission. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see here.

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to find and summarise relevant papers, and/or brainstorm initial ideas, structures, or outlines. You are also permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to improve your final submission. However, you must write/create the first and subsequent iterations of your submission yourself. At the time of submission of your assignment, you will need to acknowledge which tool(s) you used (if any), and how by completing a declaration of Ai-use. You should keep copies of your prompts and revisions to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

Final Exam; Cognition

Assessment Overview

This exam is based on all of the cognition materials covered in Weeks 7-10 (inclusive). The exam will be multiple-choice questions format. It will be held within the official university examination period and delivered via Inspera. Feedback is available through inquiry with the course convenor.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Understand and explain major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings and historical trends in perception and cognition.

- CLO3 : Develop and apply critical thinking skills in the context of perception and cognition.
- CLO6 : Apply psychological principles gained from understanding of perception and cognition in a broader framework including everyday life, society and technology.

Detailed Assessment Description

The final exam will be assessing students' knowledge and understanding of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives and empirical findings covered in lectures and tutorials delivered in Weeks 7 to 10. The exam will consist of multiple choice questions. It will be held within the official university examination period and will be administered as an invigillated Inspera exam.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

This assessment is designed for you to complete without the use of any generative AI. You are not permitted to use any generative AI tools, software or service to search for or generate information or answers.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see here.

General Assessment Information

Special Consideration: Students who experience circumstances outside of their control that prevent them from completing an assessment task by the assigned due date due can apply for Special Consideration. Special Consideration applications should include a medical certificate or other documentation and be submitted via myUNSW within 3 days of the sitting/due date.

Important note: UNSW has a "fit to sit/submit" rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

Once your application has been assessed, you will be contacted via your student email address and advised of the official outcome. If the special consideration application is approved, you may be given an extended due date, or an alternative assessment/supplementary examination may be set. For more information about special consideration, please visit: https://

student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration.

Alternative assessments: will be subject to approval and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure and Psychology Student Guide.

Supplementary examinations: will be made available for students with approved special consideration application and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy and Psychology Student Guide.

All course assessments have been designed and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

The APA (7th edition) referencing style is to be adopted in this course. Students should consult the publication manual itself (rather than third party interpretations of it) in order to properly adhere to APA style conventions. Students do not need to purchase a copy of the manual, it is available in the library or online. This resource is used by assessment markers and should be the only resource used by students to ensure they adopt this style appropriately.

<u>Grading Basis</u>

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 0 : 2 September - 8 September	Online Activity	Introduction to PSYC2071 Video (S. Most & B. Spehar)
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Monday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Introduction to Perception (Goddard) Wednesday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Overview of the Early Visual System (Goddard)
	Tut-Lab	No tutorial-labs this week!
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Monday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Visual Cortex and Dorsal Visual Stream (Motion) (Goddard) Wednesday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Ventral Visual Stream (Colour) (Goddard)
	Tut-Lab	Measuring Perception/ Signal Detection Theory (MAT 209)
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Monday 2-3 pm (MAT A): MId-Level Vision (Spehar) Wednesday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Perceptual Organisation (Spehar)
	Tut-Lab	Colour Vision/ Neural Coding/ Spatial Frequency Processing (MAT 209)
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Monday 2-3 pm (MAT A): High-Level Vision (White) Wednesday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Individual Differences in Face Perception (Dunn)
	Tut-Lab	Individual Differences in Perception (MAT 209)
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	Monday 1-2 pm (MAT A): NO LECTURE - PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Labour Day) Wednesday 2-3 pm (MAT): Computational Approaches to Face Perception (White)
	Tut-Lab	Writing Research Reports: Method and Results (MAT 209)
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Lecture	FLEXIBILITY WEEK - No lectures
	Tut-Lab	FLEXIBILITY WEEK - No tutorials
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	Monday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Cognitive Psychology: History and Philosophy (Li) Wednessday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Similarity (Li)
	Tut-Lab	MId-term exam (Weeks 1-5) in tutorial classess.
	Assessment	Mid-term exam (Weeks 1-5) will be held in tutorial classes.
	Online Activity	Decision-making online module (self-paced; can be completed any time during this week).
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	Monday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Reasoning (Li) [A] Wednesday 2-3 pm (MAT A): An Integrative Case Study (Li)
	Tut-Lab	Measuring the Mind (MAT 209)
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	Monday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Attention I (Most) Wednesday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Attention II (Most)
	Tut-Lab	Reasoning (MAT 209)
	Assessment	Research Report Assessment Due, Mon, 04/11/2022, 23:59pm Please note that short extension (3 days) is possible for this assessment. Please apply through the Short Extension Portal.
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Lecture	Monday 2-3 pm (MAT A): Memory I (Most) Wednesday 2-3 pm (O'Shane 104): Memory II (Most)
	Tut-Lab	Applied Cognitive Psychology (MAT 209)

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

There are no prescribed textbooks for this course.

Recommended Resources

These textbooks are recommended to supplement and provide additional background for the materials covered in lectures.

Wolfe, J. (2023). *Sensation and Perception* (6th ed.). Oxford University Press.

Chun, M., & Most, S. (2021). *Cognition* (1st ed.). Oxford University Press.

Additional Costs

None.

Course Evaluation and Development

PSYC2071 Class Representatives

While you should feel free to raise feedback or matters of concern directly with the course coordinator or other teaching staff, we realise that there are situations where you may prefer to do so anonymously. In this case, you will be able to contact your student representatives. These will be your fellow students in the course, and they will pass the information on to the course coordinator without revealing your name, and can also forward back to you a response from the course coordinator.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Branka Spehar		Mathews 715		Please contact via email	Yes	Yes
	Steven Most				Please contact via email	Yes	No
Lecturer	Erin Goddard				Please contact via email	No	No
	David White				Please contact via email	No	No
	James Dunn				Please contact via email	No	No
	Sonny Li				Please contact via email	No	No
Head tutor	Zoe Little				Please contact for MON 10-12pm, MON 12-2pm, and MON 3-5pm tutorials.	No	No
Tutor	Kateryna Marchenko				Please contact for TUE 10-12pm, TUE 12-2pm and TUE 3-5pm tutorials.	No	No
	Kevin Yuk-Ting Tsang				Please contact for WED 9-11am, WED 11-1pm and WED 3-5pm tutorials.	No	No
	Filip Mencevski				Please contact for THUR 9-11am, FRI 9-11am and FRI 11-1pm tutorials.	No	No
	Nick Kennedy				Please contact for THUR 11-1pm, THUR, 2-4pm and FRI 2-4pm tutorials.	No	No

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website.

Academic Honesty and Plagarism

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Further information about referencing styles can be located at https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing

Academic integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage. At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.

Further information about academic integrity, plagiarism and the use of AI in assessments can be located at:

- The Current Students site,
- The ELISE training site, and
- The Use of AI for assessments site.

The Student Conduct and Integrity Unit provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Penalty for Late Submissions

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Any variations to the above will be explicitly stated in the Course Outline for a given course or assessment task.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request extensions as early as possible before the deadline.

Special Consideration

If circumstances prevent you from attending/completing an assessment task, you must officially apply for special consideration, usually within 3 days of the sitting date/due date. You can apply by logging onto myUNSW and following the link in the My Student Profile Tab. Medical documentation or other documentation explaining your absence must be submitted with your application. Once your application has been assessed, you will be contacted via your student email address to be advised of the official outcome and any actions that need to be taken from there. For more information about special consideration, please visit: https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration

Important note: UNSW has a "fit to sit/submit" rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

- The Current Students Gateway
- Student Support
- Academic Skills and Support
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety
- Equitable Learning Services
- UNSW IT Service Centre
- Science EDI Student Initiatives, Offerings and Guidelines