UNSW Course Outline

PSYC5008 Perception and Cognition - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC5008
Year : 2024
Term : Hexamester 5
Teaching Period : KR
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Science
Academic Unit : School of Psychology
Delivery Mode : Online
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Distance Education
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Postgraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course introduces students to those areas of psychology that are more closely concerned with “the mind”. The fundamental principles underlying human perception and cognition introduced in the course are perceptual organisation, perception of spatial layout, perceptual

learning, object recognition, attention, memory storage and retrieval, problem solving and decision making. The course is appropriate for the student with knowledge of advanced statistics and research methods. The course content will be delivered via asynchronous (pre-recorded) lectures, synchronous tutorials, readings and self-paced modules and quizzes.

Course Aims

This course aims to introduce students to the perceptual and cognitive processes that underlie human behaviour such as perceptual organisation, perception and spatial layout, perceptual learning, object recognition, attention, memory storage and retrieval, problem solving, and decision making. It will demonstrate the use of psychophysical methods, experimental approaches to the study of cognitive processes, and the application of these findings in everyday life.
This course provides foundational knowledge for further studies and research in perception and cognition.

Relationship to Other Courses

In order to enrol in PSYC5008, completion of the PSYC5001-PSYC5004 sequence is required.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Identify and compare major concepts, theories, and research evidence in the field of perception and cognition.
CLO2 : Apply knowledge of different research methods and data analysis in the perception and cognition research.
CLO3 : Select and apply appropriate statistical methods to analyse data, answer research questions and test hypotheses in the field of perception and cognition.
CLO4 : Review and evaluate evidence from the relevant perception and cognition literature to identify gaps in previous research and develop an evidence-based argument.
CLO5 : Assess and explain the implications of theoretical concepts and research findings from the field of perception and cognition on understanding various human behaviors.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Identify and compare major concepts, theories, and research evidence in the field of perception and cognition.	• Weekly Quizzes • Literature Review
CLO2 : Apply knowledge of different research methods and data analysis in the perception and cognition research.	• Research Report • Weekly Quizzes • Literature Review
CLO3 : Select and apply appropriate statistical methods to analyse data, answer research questions and test hypotheses in the field of perception and cognition.	• Research Report
CLO4 : Review and evaluate evidence from the relevant perception and cognition literature to identify gaps in previous research and develop an evidence-based argument.	• Literature Review
CLO5 : Assess and explain the implications of theoretical concepts and research findings from the field of perception and cognition on understanding various human behaviors.	• Research Report • Literature Review

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

Moodle contains lectures, tutorials, content topic materials, assessment materials, and any updated information. You are expected to check Moodle regularly. You are also expected to

check your UNSW email regularly. All news updates and announcements will be made on the 'Announcements' forum on the Moodle page and/or by email. You must check Moodle and your student emails regularly to keep up to date.

Given that the course content and all assessable components are delivered online, you must ensure that you have access to a computer with a stable internet connection and a browser capable of handling the features of the Moodle eLearning website and any of its content. No special consideration will be granted due to internet connection or computer issues arising from personal technical issues. If an internet disconnection takes place during an assessment/exam, there will be no way of changing a mark, and these will be allocated according to the progress that was saved. To help you establish whether your computer/internet access is suitable for the online exam/s, a test quiz is available. This quiz will not contribute to final marks and can be completed multiple times to test computer/internet connection prior to assessments/exams.

NOTE: THIS COURSE REQUIRES SIGNIFICANT WEEKLY ASSESSABLE ENGAGEMENT THROUGH MOODLE. You are expected to engage with all materials delivered each week. There will be a combination of formative and summative assessments throughout the course. The expected level of engagement is approximately 20 hours per week (in the 6-week term). Average engagement levels are as follows (a) 2-2.5 hours of engagement with the lecture content (5-6 lectures per week); (b) Tutorial attendance, 3 hours per week including preparation for the tutorial discussion. Note we recommend that you complete the synchronous tutorial, however completion of the recorded asynchronous tutorial will also be accepted; (c) 4.5 hours to complete the assigned activities, including revision modules; (d) 4.5 hours to complete the assigned weekly readings that accompany the content for each lecture topic; (e) 4-5 hours to complete the weekly assessments (secured quizzes) and prepare for the major assessments.

Under no circumstances will employment be accepted as an excuse not to meet expectations for class participation or assessments. Remember, the term times are very short, so it is your responsibility to ensure that you do not fall behind with the ongoing assessment demands of the course.

Tutorial Attendance: Attendance and participation in tutorials is compulsory. All tutorials will be delivered in an online mode, through Blackboard Collaborate. Given that this is a fully online course, it is understood that some students may be unavailable at the designated live tutorial time. Therefore, you will be required to participate in the tutorial either synchronously (as the tutorial is streamed live) or asynchronously (a recorded version of the tutorial). NB: Engagement with online tutorials and timely completion of asynchronous online tutorials is essential in

accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure. You are expected to be aware of the UNSW Assessment policy and understand how to apply for special consideration within the Graduate Diploma Special consideration policies and procedures if you cannot complete an assignment/exam due to illness and/or misadventure. It is expected that students have read through the Graduate Diploma in Psychology (5331) Guide.

Additional Course Information

Learning and teaching activities

This is a fully online course, all materials, lectures and tutorials are delivered through Moodle.

The course web page is available through Moodle: https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/login/index. Login with your student number and password, and follow the links to the PSYC page.

The course will be delivered over six weeks, covering six major topic areas. The major topics will be delivered in Weeks 1 to 6, with a new topic presented each week. Students are expected to engage with all materials delivered each week. There will be a combination of formative and summative assessments throughout the course. The expected level of engagement is approximately 20 hours per week, including preparation for the weekly quizzes and written assessments.

Each week students can expect the following:

Lectures will be digitally recorded. Links to the lecture recordings will be available on the course web page. Lecture slides will be also available on the Moodle course page. This will be broken down into 6 lectures covering the main concepts for each sub-topic of the week.

Online tutorials will be held in weeks 1-6. There are six (6), two (2) hour tutorials delivered through Blackboard Collaborate on the Moodle course page each week. All tutorials will be live streamed for synchronous participation and recorded for asynchronous participation, should a student be unable to join the synchronous tutorial at the designated time. Students will be able access the recorded tutorials, including a transcript of tutor and student contributions, for the remainder of the course. Tutorial discussions are based on lecture content and readings. In order to participate in class discussions, you will need to prepare for tutorials by reviewing the available materials.

Online activities: Each week there will be a range of online activities, including formative revision quizzes and interactive learning modules. These activities will allow students to explore the

topics of the week in greater depth and provide formative assessment for the students and revision opportunities.

Readings: There will be assigned readings each week that cover the major topic of the week. Students will need to read scientific journal articles in order to prepare for the online tutorials. In addition, as part of this preparation students are encouraged to post one comment/discussion point on the Study Group Forum and reply to the comment of at least two other students in the course.

The general discussion forum connects students in the course to encourage discussion of weekly content, revision, or topics of interest with each other. Regular engagement in the Study Group Forum will help students gain an understanding of the material, critique the contributions of fellow students, and help develop written communication skills.

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

Formative topic revision quizzes are available for students that provide an opportunity to evaluate understanding of course material on a weekly basis. Timely completion of the weekly quizzes will assist students in gaining a proper understanding of each topic so that this knowledge can be built on.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Weekly Quizzes Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Start Date: Thursday Week 1-6 at 7am Due Date: Sunday Week 1-6 at 11:59pm
Literature Review Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Start Date: Week 1 Due Date: Week 3
Research Report Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Start Date: Week 1 Due Date: Week 6

Assessment Details

Weekly Quizzes

Assessment Overview

You will be required to complete 6 quizzes under official exam conditions. Quizzes are conducted under timed conditions and are designed to be taken without reference to lecture notes or study resources. These quizzes will cover the content of the lectures and readings. The quizzes will be held in weeks 1-6 and will cover content presented in the week they are released. The weekly quizzes form part of a continuous assessment. The top five grades out of the six quizzes will be used to count towards the final weekly quiz grade which accounts for 20% of the course mark. The purpose of this assessment is to test your level of comprehension regarding the course material. Your marks and solutions will be provided on completing each quiz.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify and compare major concepts, theories, and research evidence in the field of perception and cognition.
- CLO2 : Apply knowledge of different research methods and data analysis in the perception and cognition research.

Assessment Length

20 multiple choice questions

Submission notes

Moodle quiz

Assessment information

Not applicable

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

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.

Literature Review

Assessment Overview

The aim of this assessment is to provide you with the opportunity to research and summarise literature on an assigned topic within the field of perception and cognition.

You will write a 1000-word long literature review. This literature review will be linked to the experimental data you will analyse in Assessment 3. This will provide you with the opportunity to receive and respond to feedback on your writing prior to submission of Assessment 3. The assessment information will be available on the first day of the course. The assessment is due in Week 3. You will receive feedback through annotated rubric and a series of in-text comments.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify and compare major concepts, theories, and research evidence in the field of perception and cognition.
- CLO2 : Apply knowledge of different research methods and data analysis in the perception and cognition research.
- CLO4 : Review and evaluate evidence from the relevant perception and cognition literature to identify gaps in previous research and develop an evidence-based argument.
- CLO5 : Assess and explain the implications of theoretical concepts and research findings from the field of perception and cognition on understanding various human behaviors.

Assessment Length

1000 words

Submission notes

Text file

Assessment information

Not applicable

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

Planning/Design Assistance

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service

should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.
If your Convenor has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text or media that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text and media as a starting point and some traces may remain. 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.

Research Report

Assessment Overview

The aim of this assessment is to familiarise you with the formal reporting style of psychological research, and to further develop your information literacy skills.

In this assessment you will analyse data from a study and report the results in the form of a research report. In the report you will summarise the aims, and hypotheses of the study, describe the method, and present, and discuss the results of the analysis in relation to the literature.

The word limit for this assessment is 2000 words. The assessment information will be available on the first day of the course. The assessment is due in Week 6. You will receive feedback through annotated rubric and a series of in-text comments.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Apply knowledge of different research methods and data analysis in the perception and cognition research.
- CLO3 : Select and apply appropriate statistical methods to analyse data, answer research questions and test hypotheses in the field of perception and cognition.
- CLO5 : Assess and explain the implications of theoretical concepts and research findings from the field of perception and cognition on understanding various human behaviors.

Assessment Length

2000 words

Submission notes

Text file

Assessment information

Not applicable

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

Planning/Design Assistance

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.
If your Convenor has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text or media that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text and media as a starting point and some traces may remain. 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.

General Assessment Information

Not applicable

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

Not applicable

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 26 August - 1 September	Lecture	Visual perception Lectures 1 and 2: Monocular cues and stereopsis Lectures 3 and 4: Cue combination and sensing motion Lectures 5 and 6: High-level motion and visual-vestibular interactions
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss the processes involved in perception of distance and motion.
Week 2 : 2 September - 8 September	Lecture	Visual perception Lectures 1 and 2: Why do things look as they do? Lectures 3 and 4: Visual coding and natural environment Lectures 5 and 6: Adaptation and perceptual plasticity
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss language comprehension and production. Starting from a detailed overview of the basic components of words and sentences, the content of the module will progress towards explaining complex processes involved in speech perception and language comprehension and production
Week 3 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Approaches to human cognition and attention Lectures 1 and 2: Cognitive psychology: Studying the mind Lectures 3 and 4:Attention Lectures 5 and 6:Similarity
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss the fundamentals of human cognition, using the evidence from behavioural research and evidence obtained from research on the brain and behaviour. You will also learn about attention and the factors that influence our ability to process information.
Week 4 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Memory Lectures 1 and 2: Learning, memory and forgetting Lectures 3 and 4: Long-term memory systems Lectures 5 and 6: Everyday memory
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss the memory models, memory processes and research methods used in research on memory.
Week 5 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Decision making Lecture 1 and 2: Judgment Lecture 3 and 4: Decisionmaking Lecture 5 and 6: Decisionmaking
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss the higher-level cognitive processes involved in judgment and decision-making, focusing on processes, errors and biases involved in judgment and decision making.
Week 6 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Language Lectures 1 and 2: Speech perception Lectures 3 and 4: Language comprehension and reading Lectures 5 and 6: Language production
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss process involved in speech perception and production, reading, and language comprehension.

Attendance Requirements

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

General Schedule Information

Each week this course typically consists of 2-2.5 hours of lecture material, 2 hours of face to face tutorials, and 4.5 hours of online activities. Students are expected to take an additional 5-6 hours each week of self-determined study to complete assessments, readings, and quiz preparation.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Goldstein, E. B., Cognitive psychology (5th ed.). Cengage Learning.

E-book and Mindtap resources are available via Moodle course page.

Recommended Resources

Not applicable

Additional Costs

Not applicable

Course Evaluation and Development

In order to gather comprehensive student feedback on the course, we utilise the anonymous myExperience survey as one of the primary methods. This survey provides a structured platform for students to share their thoughts, opinions, and suggestions regarding various aspects of the course. Additionally, students are encouraged to email their feedback directly to the program authorities for further discussion and consideration. The myExperience survey will be administered towards the end of the course to capture students' experiences and perspectives. The survey will cover different dimensions of the course, including teaching quality, course materials, assessments, and overall learning environment. The anonymous nature of the survey ensures that students can express their feedback freely and honestly.

Once the survey responses are collected, they will be analysed. The analysis will involve examining both quantitative and qualitative data to identify common themes, patterns, and areas for improvement. Quantitative data, such as ratings responses, will be aggregated and summarised to gain a quantitative overview of student satisfaction and areas of concern. Qualitative feedback, such as open-ended comments, will be carefully reviewed and categorised to extract valuable insights and specific suggestions.

Based on the findings from the analysis, appropriate actions will be taken to address the identified areas for improvement. These actions may include revising course materials, adjusting teaching approaches, providing additional support resources, or modifying assessment methods.

Feedback from students is considered a valuable asset in shaping the course. We aim to create

a more student-centred learning experience by actively seeking and incorporating student input. The feedback students provide serves as a catalyst for continuous improvement and ensures that the course responds to their needs and expectations.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Program director	Lidija Krebs-Lazendic					No	Yes
Administrator	Deliana Freky					No	No

Other Useful Information

School Contact Information

For GD Psych courses (PSYC5001 - PSYC5010), please email: gdpsychology@unsw.edu.au.

For GCChildDev courses (PSYC5111 - PSYC5116), please email: gcchilddev@unsw.edu.au