

CSP 502 Summer 2019: Summary of Teaching Responsibilities

Course: CSP 502: Cognitive Foundations of Behavior

Role: Instructor of record

Term: Summer 2019 (special 1.5-week session)

Department: Clinical & Social Psychology, University of Rochester

Course Description

This APA-required course is an introduction to cognitive science for Clinical Psychology Ph.D. students who are training to be clinicians. This department runs the course as a short and intense bootcamp: the class met for six 2.5-hour sessions with an additional half-hour introductory lecture. The general structure of the class is primarily focused on the discussion of primary research articles, which are generally a mix of classic papers in cognitive science, and papers on clinical topics approached from a cognitive perspective. For the last 30-60 minutes of class, the instructor gives a lecture introducing the topic of discussion for the next class.

Course Goals

The major goal of the course is (i) to give clinicians a general background on research in cognitive science, and (ii) to demonstrate how concepts and theories from cognitive science can be applied to the students' individual clinical interests.

Course Composition

Thirteen Clinical Psychology Ph.D. students from the full spectrum of the program, from those who just finished their first year to those entering their final year. This course is only taught once every 3-5 years, which is why it spans such a range.

Summary of Teaching Responsibilities

- Syllabus preparation: Designed a new syllabus for this course by curating a list of classic and contemporary research papers from the major topics of cognitive science (perception, learning, memory, language, etc.)
- Assessment: Designed assignments and final assessments for the course. See sample syllabus below for descriptions.
- Lecturing: Prepared and delivered lectures on the major topics discussed in the class. Sample slide deck of a short lecture is given below.
- Communication with students: Emailed and met with students to advise them on assignments.
- Maintenance of course website: Uploaded course materials, moderated discussion forums.