

SYLLABUS

Course:	Psychology 3500	Instructor:	Doug R. Richards, Ph.D.
Title:	Cognition	Office:	Behavioral & Social Science 380E
Year:	Spring Semester 2012	Phone:	(801) 822-2289
Room:	Social Science 347	E-mail:	doug_r_richards@hotmail.com
Times:	T Th 10:30 am - 11:45 am	Office Hour:	F 11:30-12:20 pm

Required Text: Cognition: Exploring the Science of the Mind 4th edition (3rd edition is fine); Daniel Reisberg

Course Objectives

Students should develop a comprehensive knowledge of the basic theories, concepts and applications of cognition as measured by two mid-term examinations and a final examination.

Students should be able to critically evaluate and respond to theories and concepts of cognition by giving an oral presentation on a topic in cognition.

Class Schedule

Class Date	Chapter Title/Topic	Reading/Due Dates
Jan 3 rd , 5 th	Introduction & History of Human Cognition	Chapter 1
Jan 10 th , 12 th	Functional Neuroimaging & the Neural Basis for Cognition	Chapter 2
Jan 17 th , 19 th	Object Recognition	Chapter 3
Jan 24 th , 26 th	Attention	Chapter 4

JAN 27th – FEB 2nd First Exam in the Testing Centers (*Chapters 1-4 using Chi-Tester*)

Jan 31 st , Feb 2 nd	Memory-Acquisition	Chapter 5
Feb 7 th , 9 th	Memory-Retrieval	Chapter 6
Feb 14 th , 16 th	Memory-Complex Events	Chapter 7
Feb 21 st , 23 rd	Long-term Memory & Connectionism	Chapter 8
Feb 28 th , Mar 1 st	Categories & Concepts	Chapter 9

MAR 2nd – MAR 7th Second Exam in the Testing Centers (*Chapters 5-9 using Chi-Tester*)

Mar 6 th , 8 th	Language & Linguistics	Chapter 10
Mar 20 th , 22 nd	Visual Imagery	Chapter 11
Mar 27 th , 29 th	Judgment	Chapter 12
Apr 3 rd , 5 th	Problem Solving	Chapter 14
Apr 10 th , 12 th	Consciousness	Quest for Consciousness

The article “The Quest for Consciousness” will be available through Blackboard

APRIL 17th - 19th FINAL EXAMINATION (Chapters 10-12,14; articles) at Testing Centers

Examinations: This course will consist of three examinations (including the Final examination). The tests will all be of the same format and will come from lecture material, student presentations and material covered in the text. A study guide will be provided to help focus your study in preparation for the exam (but it does not cover all questions). An exam will consist of 50 multiple-choice questions (100 points). As you can see from the schedule, the final examination will **not** be comprehensive (on purpose anyway, sometimes material tends to build on itself).

In Class Assignments/Quizzes: This course will also have in class assignments which will be worth 3 pts each for a total of 42 points (3 X 14 = 42). These assignments cannot be made up.

Presentations: You will be required to make one presentation to the class on a relevant topic (100 pts). One of the most effective ways to learn something is to teach it to someone else. The presentation will be individual (minimum 10 minutes; maximum 15 minutes). I will hand out a sign-up sheet the first two days of class where you can sign up for a day. If possible, sign up on a day that has a subject that you are interested in. Be **specific** with your subject. For example, if you sign up for the day talking about concepts and categories, choose a topic such as prototypes or computer modeling of exemplars etc. It doesn't need to be in the chapter but should at least be **related** to the chapter that we are discussing that day. I will **SUBTRACT** points if the presentation merely summarizes the chapter that we are discussing. **Please let me know ahead of time** (e-mail would be the best way but calling is also fine) **your specific subject** so I can avoid talking about it in my lecture/discussion. You may choose to do a PowerPoint presentation. If you choose that type of presentation, please e-mail me the PowerPoint so I can put it in on Blackboard. Please prepare a **handout** (one page is the recommended length) to go with the presentation. Feel free to use other forms of presentation and/or class activities and/or class discussion. Be creative, don't hesitate to use personal experience as well. **I will derive some questions for the tests** from your presentations. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask me beforehand.

I will grade the presentations as follows:

Organization (coherent, ideas flow well)	20 pts.
Knowledge of the subject	15 pts.
Specific topic chosen	5 pts.
Preparation	20 pts.
Handout	10 pts.
Within minimum/maximum time limits	5 pts.
Creativity	15 pts.
Generates discussion	10 pts.
Simply summarizes entire chapter	-5 pts.

Grading: The most strict performance standards that I will use (may be modified down according to class performance)

A = 94-100%
 A- = 90-93%
 B+ = 87-89%
 B = 83-86%
 B- = 80-82%
 C+ = 77-79%
 C = 73-76%
 C- = 70-72%
 D+ = 67-69%
 D = 63-66%
 D- = 60-62%
 F (or E) = below 60%

Point Totals:

First Exam (JAN 27th – FEB 2nd)	100 points
Second Exam: (MAR 2nd – MAR 7th)	100 points
Final Exam: (APRIL 17th - 19th)	100 points
Presentation (varies)	100 points
In-Class Assignments	42 points

Total points possible 442 points

Power-points will be made available on Blackboard under Course Content – Content.

Blackboard can be accessed through the web-site <http://online.weber.edu> . You will have to login and give a username and password which should be the same as your Wildcat username and password (this can be obtained online or with IT using your W number). Please e-mail me if you have any questions.

Disclaimer: I reserve the right to make changes in a) course schedule, b) course requirements, c) course grading procedures, and/or d) any other aspects of the course at any time. Any alterations will be circumspect and will be made in the best interests of the students, the course, and the instructor.

Academic Honesty: as members of the Weber State University academic community, students shall:

1. Maintain academic standards including institutional, school, departmental, program, and individual course standards;
2. Maintain academic ethics and honesty. To this end, the following activities are specifically prohibited:
 - a. Cheating, which includes but is not limited to:

- i) Copying from another student's test;
- ii) Using materials during a test not authorized by the person giving the test;
- iii) Collaborating with any other person during a test without authorization;
- iv) Knowingly obtaining, using, buying, selling, transporting, or soliciting in whole or in part the contents of any test without authorization of the appropriate University official
- v) Bribing any other person to obtain any test;
- vi) Soliciting or receiving unauthorized information about any test;
- vii) Substituting for another student or permitting any other person to substitute for oneself to take a test.
- b. Plagiarism, which is the unacknowledged (uncited) use of any other person's or group's ideas or work. This includes purchased or borrowed papers;
- c. Collusion, which is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit;
- d. Falsification, which is the intentional and unauthorized altering or inventing of any information or citation in an academic exercise, activity, or record-keeping process;
- e. Giving, selling, or receiving unauthorized course or test information;
- f. Using any unauthorized resource or aid in the preparation or completion of any course work, exercise, or activity;
- g. Infringing on the copyright law of the United States which prohibits the making of reproductions of copyrighted material except under certain specified conditions.

Cheating infractions:

1. The first infraction shall result in a score of 0 (zero) points for the particular test, paper, presentation, activity etc.
2. The second infraction shall result in a failing grade (E) for the course.