

Psychology 200-001: Cognitive Psychology Spring Semester 2020

Tuesday & Thursday 3:00-4:20 pm – 118 Psychology Bldg

Online information: D2L course SS19-PSY-200-001 Cognitive Psychology

<i>Instructors</i>	<i>Office</i>	<i>Office hours</i>	<i>Contact</i>
<i>Instructor</i> Jan Brascamp	Psych Building 282A	Fri 1:00-2:00 pm	brascamp@msu.edu but not for questions about the HPR/Sona system (see below)
<i>Graduate TA</i> Ruofan Ma	Psych Building 40B	Wed noon - 1:00 pm	maruofa1@msu.edu but not for questions about the HPR/Sona system (see below)
<i>Undergraduate TA</i> Dana Jung	Giltner Hall 349	Mon 2:30-3:30 pm	jungdoon@msu.edu but not for questions about the HPR/Sona system (see below)
<i>Undergraduate TA</i> Grace Anderson	Giltner Hall 349	Mon 2:30-3:30 pm	ande2028@msu.edu but not for questions about the HPR/Sona system (see below)

Course description and objectives: This course is an introduction to the field of cognitive psychology and will provide an overview of the major theories, findings and methods of the cognitive approach. Cognitive psychology views the mind as an information processing system and attempts to discover and explain the mental processes underlying perception, attention, memory, language, thinking, and decision making. The course will also introduce a number of different methods that are used to investigate brain processes and their functions. At the end of the course, you should be familiar with the main theories, methods, and findings of cognitive psychology.

Prerequisite: PSY 101.

Recommended text: The recommended text is *Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience, 4th Edition* by E. Bruce Goldstein. 5th edition is also allowed, but the chapter numbering in the Course schedule below follows the order of edition 4.

CogLab 5: You also need to have access to the CogLab 5 Online Laboratory. This is an online tool that allows you to get hands-on experience with experiments from cognitive psychology at your own computer. If you bought your text from the bookstore, your access code may have been bundled with the text. If you did not get the disk bundled with your text, you have 2 options.

1. Go to the following link. <http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/isbn/9781285461083> (a credit card is required)
2. The bookstore may order some standalone copies of the CogLab access code

Once you have an access code (from a bundled copy or bought as a standalone) you will need to create your online CogLab account. Please go to D2L (see below) for detailed instructions on how to do so (document *CogLab instructions* under *Practical information*).

Assigned reading: The schedule at the bottom of this document lists required reading for each class day. It is a good idea to keep up with reading at the pace indicated in this document, because you will find it easier to follow along with the lectures and to take meaningful notes.

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D2L: I will maintain a D2L course page (look for *SS20-PSY-200-001 Cognitive Psychology*). It will have all kinds of practical information like this syllabus and CogLab instructions. The slides used in class will also be posted there shortly before each class, as well as study guides when exams approach. Grades on exams and quizzes will also be on D2L, but your Sona credits will not: those are listed in a dedicated system (see instructions below).

Getting help: The best way to get help is to come to the office hours that the assistants and I hold regularly (see top of document). If you can't make office hours, you can email one of us to make an appointment for a different time (addresses listed at top of document). If you have a question that requires only a short response, then see next point.

Email: If you have a question that requires only a short response and that is not about the Sona system, you can email one of us (addresses listed at top of document). For all questions about research participation / the Sona system, please contact the Research Participation Coordinator (Ms. Audra Jeffrey jeffre22@msu.edu).

Exams: There will be three multiple choice exams: two midterms and a non-cumulative final exam. Each exam will consist of 52 multiple choice questions about material that has been discussed in lectures (since the previous exam). The majority of this material can be found in the book as well, in the chapters assigned for those lectures. Each exam counts for 26% of your final grade, except for your best exam: that one counts for 30%.

Quizzes & CogLab participation: On the schedule (see bottom of document), I have assigned 15 CogLab experiments that are applicable to different course topics. Your participation in these experiments will familiarize you with behavioral methods that are used to investigate human cognition, and will help you better understand the lectures. Please go to D2L and read the information under 'Coglab information' to see how to create an account to participate in the Coglab experiments. There will be three short multiple choice quizzes during class (also shown in the schedule), designed to assess your familiarity with the procedures, results, and implications of these CogLab experiments. Each CogLab quiz covers the 5 experiments that were assigned to the dates leading up to that quiz (and that were not covered in the previous quiz or quizzes), and counts for 5% of your total grade. Thus, I strongly recommend you familiarize yourself with the CogLab experiments prior to the course for which they are assigned. Beware: the order of the 15 experiments in the schedule below does not follow the numbering in the online CogLab system.

Make up exams & quizzes: You may take a makeup exam or quiz in case of (1) a documented medical emergency, or (2) a legitimate schedule conflict, such as a religious holiday or sports travel, that you inform the professor about at least 1 week in advance. In either case, please send an email to me identifying the emergency or conflict. In either case, you may take the exam either at another time on the normal exam day, or sometime prior to the next course meeting. If you cannot take the exam on one of those days, then that exam will be omitted from your final score and its points distributed over the other exams. If you miss an exam for any other reason, or don't notify me in time about your emergency or conflict, your score will be 0.

If some other circumstance arises during the term that interferes with your ability to keep up in the course, please be aware that there is little that can be done to change a final grade once the term is over. If such a circumstance arises, please seek advice as soon as possible.

Subject Pool Participation (HPR/Sona): 2% of your total grade for this course comes from participation in the subject pool, which is coordinated through the Psychology department's Sona system. You will receive 1 point for every ½-hour credit of research participation up to a total of 4 points (2% of your total). Please make sure you participate before the final deadline for Sona participation: Friday, April 26th. Details for how to

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create your Sona account are available in the document *Class SONA Instructions_SS2020.pdf* in the folder *Practical information* on D2L. Be careful: some experiments posted on Sona compensate with money, not course credit! For all questions about research participation, please contact the Research Participation Coordinator (Ms. Audra Jeffrey jeffre22@msu.edu). And a final reminder: be sure to sign up for the Psychology department's Sona system; some other departments have their own but participation in those systems doesn't count for Psychology courses.

Subject Pool Participation (HPR/Sona) alternative assignment: If you are under 18 years old and therefore cannot participate in research, you can perform an alternative assignment. Information on this alternative assignment can be found in the document *Class SONA Instructions_SS2020.pdf* in the folder *Practical information* on D2L, and for further details please contact the Research Participation Coordinator (Ms. Audra Jeffrey jeffre22@msu.edu). If you do not wish to participate in research for any other reason but would still like to get the points, then you can perform the following alternative assignment. Select 10 of the CogLab experiments that are not among the 15 assigned for the course (i.e. not in the schedule below), complete these experiments, and answer *all* the associated questions in the CogLab student manual (log into CogLab and choose 'View student manual'). Your answers must be typed out and emailed to me no later than the *Catch up and review* session that precedes the final exam (see schedule below) and points will be assigned in proportion to the experiments/questions completed (up to 4 points). If there is evidence that your answers are partially or completely plagiarized/copied from another source (a different student, etc), then points will be subtracted and you will be reported to the appropriate authorities (see <https://ombud.msu.edu/academic-integrity/plagiarism-policy.html>).

Extra credit: This course has a total of 2% of extra course credit that you can earn. You can earn 1% of extra credit by showing up to all lectures (see section 'Attendance'). On top of this, an additional 1% of extra credits for this course can be earned in one of two ways, but you can select only one of the two (not both). These are the ways:

1. You may complete up to 2 points (1 hours) of HPR/Sona experiments, in addition to any points you completed as part of the course's HPR/Sona requirement. Because the total number of points for the course is 200, each point completed in this way will add ½ percentage point to your grade, up to a total of 1%. The same deadline applies as for the standard HPR/Sona experiments (see above).
2. You may complete the HPR/Sona alternative assignment listed above, which consists of performing additional CogLab experiments and answering the associated questions. Extra credits will be awarded in proportion to the number of CogLab experiments completed in this way, with a maximum of 2 points (1%) for 10 completed experiments. Note: if you already performed the HPR/Sona alternative assignment and would like to make use of this second extra credit option, then you need to select different CogLab experiments for the extra credit option (i.e. ones that are neither among the 15 in the schedule below, nor among the ones you selected as an HRP/Sona alternative). The same deadline applies as for the standard HPR/Sona alternative, and the same plagiarism rules apply (see above).

Attendance: You can earn a total of 2% of course credit by showing up to the lectures. 1% of this is regular course credit, and the remaining 1% is extra credit. In other words, you can earn full regular credits by showing up to half the lectures, and an additional 1% point of extra credit if you show up to all of them. An attendance list will be passed around each lecture, including review sessions but not including exam days, and each student will receive credit proportional to the number of attended lectures. Aside from the credit, it is a good idea to attend lectures because I will present material in a different way than the textbook and I will present material that is not covered by the textbook. Everything that is discussed in class may be part of an exam.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at <http://rcpd.msu.edu>. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a Verified Individual Services Accommodation ("VISA") form. Please present this form to me at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date may not be honored.

If you require testing accommodations (additional time, less disruptive room, etc.) you must contact me and present your VISA at least two weeks before the exam date to schedule an alternative exam. Typically, I will schedule for you to take the exam during a special exam session offered by the Psychology Department. Those exams occur in small group settings and are offered every Tuesday between 4:00pm and 7:00pm, and every Thursday between 3:00pm and 6:00pm in Giltner 346. If you are unable to make either of those times, or that option does not meet your VISA accommodations, you may be able to schedule to take your exam at the RCPD office. In either case, the exam must be scheduled well in advance, so you need to adhere to the two-week prior notification requirement.

Final Grade Breakdown

	# points	% of final grade
Best Exam	60*	30.0%*
Other Exam	52	26.0%
Other Exam	52	26.0%
Quiz 1	10	5.0%
Quiz 2	10	5.0%
Quiz 3	10	5.0%
Class		
Attendance	2	1.0%
Subject Pool	4	2.0%
Course total	200 points	100%

*Each exam has 52 questions. In calculating your overall grade, you can treat your best exam as if it

contained 60 questions, while keeping your *proportion* of correct questions on that exam the same as it was in reality (e.g. 26 out of 52 becomes 30 out of 60).

Final Grade Scale, unless announced otherwise

90½ % and above	4.0
86½ % and above	3.5
80½ % and above	3.0
76½ % and above	2.5
70½ % and above	2.0
66½ % and above	1.5
60½ % and above	1.0
Less than 60½ %	0.0

Course schedule

This schedule is tentative. I reserve the right to change it to best suit the course.

Date	Topic	Reading	CogLab experiment (<i>tested in quiz #</i>)
1/7	Introduction to the course		
1/9	History of cognitive psychology 1	Ch 1	1. Signal detection (1)
1/14	History of cognitive psychology 2	Ch 1	2. Simple detection (1)
1/16	Cognitive neuroscience 1	Ch 2	22. Sternberg search (1)
1/21	Cognitive neuroscience 2	Ch 2	6. Müller-Lyer illusion (1)
1/23	Cognitive neuroscience 3 + Methods 1	Ch 2	7. Visual search (1)
1/28	Methods 2 + CogLab quiz 1: all experiments labeled (1)	Ch 2	
1/30	Catch up & Review		14. Blind spot (2)
2/4	Midterm 1: all lectures till this point		
2/6	No class		
2/11	Perception 1	Ch 3	3. Apparent motion (2)
2/13	Perception 2	Ch 3	9. Change detection (2)
2/18	Perception 3 + Attention 1	Ch 4	12. Spatial cueing (2)
2/20	Attention 2	Ch 4	13. Stroop effect (2)
2/25	Attention 3 + CogLab quiz 2: all experiments labeled (2)	Ch 5	
3/27	Memory 1	Ch 6	18. Partial report (3)
3/3	No class (Spring break)		
3/5	No class (Spring break)		
3/10	Memory 2	Ch 7	24. Memory span (3)
3/12	Memory 3	Ch 8	28. Encoding specificity (3)
3/17	Catch up & Review		31. Serial position (3)
3/19	Midterm 2: all lectures since previous exam		
3/24	Conceptual knowledge	Ch 9	48. Prototypes (3)
3/26	Imagery 1 + CogLab quiz 3: all experiments labeled (3)	Ch 10	

3/31	Imagery 2	Ch 10	
4/2	Language 1	Ch 11	
4/7	Language 2	Ch 11	
4/9	Language 3 + Problem solving 1	Ch 12	
4/14	Problem solving 2	Ch 12	
4/16	Judgment, decisions and reasoning 1	Ch 13	
4/21	Judgment, decisions and reasoning 2	Ch 13	
4/23	<i>Catch up & Review</i>		
<i>Non-cumulative final exam: all lectures since previous exam. Thursday, Apr 30 2020 5:45pm - 7:45pm in 118 Psychology Bldg</i>			

Cell phones: Please ensure that your cell phone is turned off or on silent mode before class begins.

Recording lectures: Students are expected to respect the intellectual property of course instructors. All course materials presented to students are the copyrighted property of the course instructor and are subject to the following conditions of use:

1. Students may record lectures or any other classroom activities and use the recordings only for their own course-related purposes.
2. Students may not post the recordings or other course materials online or distribute them to anyone not enrolled in the class without the advance written permission of the course instructor and, if applicable, any students whose voice or image is included in the recordings.
3. Any student violating the conditions described above may face academic disciplinary sanctions.

Academic Honesty: Article 2.III.B.2 of the [Student Rights and Responsibilities \(SRR\)](#) states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, the (insert name of unit offering course) adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See [Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide](#) and/or the MSU Web site: www.msu.edu.)

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com Web site to complete any course work in this course. Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. (See also the [Academic Integrity](#) webpage.)

Disruptive Behavior: Article 2.III.B.4 of the [Student Rights and Responsibilities \(SRR\)](#) for students at Michigan State University states: "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." Article 2.III.B.10 of the [SRR](#) states that "The student and the faculty share the responsibility for maintaining professional relationships based on mutual trust and civility." [General Student Regulation 5.02](#) states: "No student shall . . . interfere with the functions and services of the University (for example, but not limited to, classes . . .) such that the function or service is obstructed or disrupted. Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Judicial Affairs office."