Instructors:

Instructor	Contact (but not for Sona-related questions; see below)	Online office hours
Jan Brascamp, instructor	brascamp@msu.edu	Fridays at 3-4 pm
Abby Dester, graduate TA	desterab@msu.edu	TBA
Ana Cuevas, undergraduate TA	cuevasan@msu.edu	TBA

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.

Communication: Almost all communication for this course will run through the D2L course page: look for *SS21-PSY-200-001 Cognitive Psychology*. You will need to make sure you receive D2L emails (see next section), and you will find yourself logging into D2L frequently throughout the semester.

D2L email: Important course information will be sent to you via D2L email, so make sure you don't miss D2L emails. The best way, which I recommend, is to set up D2L to forward D2L emails to your regular inbox (if you haven't done this at some point already). That way you won't miss important announcements. To set up D2L email forwarding please log onto D2L and navigate to Help > MSU Documentation > D2L Tools and Tips at MSU > D2L Email Forwarding. You can also view your D2L emails in the D2L interface itself rather than in your normal inbox. To do this please navigate to the email interface in D2L, and make sure the 'Filter By:' field is set to 'All Messages'. Without that filter setting important emails may not show. Did I mention that important information for this course will be sent to you via D2L email?

D2L lectures: All lectures for this course will be posted on D2L no later than the Sunday night at the beginning of each week. Typically, two lectures will be posted each week, but there are exceptions, for instance during weeks during which there is an exam (see the Course Schedule for details). Lectures will be posted in the form of a pre-recorded video of me presenting the lecture, as well as a separate file with just the lecture slides in PDF form, and additional separate files of any animated content (movies, gifs) that were featured in the lecture video.

Getting help, and online office hours: The best way to ask questions that have a short answer is to email the instructor or the TAs (see top of this document for email addresses). But we do not manage the Sona system so for questions about Sona please see the next section. For questions that require more interaction, please visit one of our office hours (see top of this document for times and days). If you plan to visit one of the office hours, please email the instructor/TA listed for that time/day and you will receive a zoom link to attend the office hour.

Questions about Sona: The Sona system is a department-wide system, and the instructors of this particular course don't know all of its details. So for all questions about research participation / the Sona system, please contact the Research Participation Coordinator: Ms. Audra Jeffrey. Her email address is jeffre22@msu.edu.

Recommended text and assigned reading: 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. The text is not required. The course schedule below lists recommended reading for each lecture. If you decide to read along, then it is a good idea to keep up with reading at the pace indicated in the course schedule, because the recommended reading will match the material of the associated lectures.

Attendance: Attending a lecture means going onto D2L and viewing the video of me presenting the lecture before the end of the Friday (i.e. by midnight, Lansing time) of the week that the video was posted. In other words, during a typical week you'll have two lecture videos waiting for you by Sunday night and you'll have all week (excluding the weekend) to view those lectures. All materials will remain available on D2L after that Friday, but viewing a lecture video after that Friday will not give you attendance credits. You can earn a total of 3.5% of course credit by viewing all lecture videos in time. 2.5% of this is regular course credit, and the remaining 1% is extra credit. If you view only some of the online videos in time, then credit will be assigned in proportion. Aside from the credit aspect, it is a good idea to view the lecture videos 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 lectures may be part of an exam, whereas material from the textbook that did not feature in lectures will not be part of the exam.

CogLab: You 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. For details on how CogLab works, please see the section labeled 'Quizzes' below. If you bought your text from the bookstore, your access code may have been bundled with the text. If you did not get an access code bundled with your text, you must purchase it separately. You have two 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 and access the document *CogLab instructions* under *Practical information* for detailed instructions on how to do so.

Exams: There will be three multiple choice exams: two midterms and a non-cumulative final exam. Each exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions about material that has been discussed in lectures (since the previous exam). Each exam counts for 25% of your final grade, except for your best exam: that one counts for 30%. Everything that is discussed in lectures may be part of an exam. Material from the textbook that did not feature in lectures will not be part of the exam. Exams will be offered on D2L, and you will take them at your computer. At the exam time and date listed in the course schedule below, go onto D2L, open the 'Assessments' dropdown menu and select 'Quizzes'. There you will see the relevant exam listed. More details about how to take the exams will be provided ahead of the exam dates. You are required to complete all exams on your own and without reference material.

Quizzes: There will be three short multiple choice quizzes. Each quiz counts for 5% of your final grade. Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple choice questions about CogLab (please see the section named CogLab to learn what that is). This is how that works: in the course schedule below I have assigned 15 CogLab experiments that are applicable to different course topics. These experiments will familiarize you with behavioral methods that are used to investigate human cognition, and completing them will help you better understand the lectures. You

are expected to participate in the assigned CogLab experiments around the time that they are assigned, but your participation in the experiments themselves will not be evaluated directly. Instead, during each of the three quizzes you will be tested on your knowledge of the 5 CogLab experiments that were assigned prior to that quiz, and this knowledge will depend on you having completed those experiments. Beware: the order of the 15 assigned CogLab experiments in the course schedule does not follow the numbering in the online CogLab system, so please pay attention. You are required to complete all quizzes on your own and without reference material.

Exam and quiz times, and requesting alternatives: Because this is an online asynchronous class, the registrar's office has not assigned days and times for our exams and quizzes. I have set specific days and times in the course schedule below, but you may have legitimate reasons why those don't work for you. If that is the case, please send an email to me identifying the issue, and we can reschedule the day and/or time for you. Please be sure to review your availability now: if you miss an exam or quiz and contact me after the assigned time has already passed, then there is little I can do to help.

Subject Pool Participation (HPR/Sona): 2.5% of your total grade for this course comes from participation in the subject pool, which is coordinated through the Psychology department's Sona system. This is equivalent to 2.5 hours of research participation. You may also complete more than 2.5 hours if you are interested in extra credit (see section 'Extra credit' below). Because this semester is online only, it is very likely that you will be completing this research participation at your computer rather than in person, as you may have during other semesters. Please make sure you participate before the final deadline for Sona participation: 12/11/2020. Details for how to create your Sona account are available in the document *Class SONA Instructions_FS2020.pdf* in the folder *Practical information* on D2L. For all questions about research participation, please contact the Research Participation Coordinator (Ms. Audra Jeffrey; jeffre22@msu.edu). Here are two further pointers. First, be careful because some experiments posted on Sona compensate with money, not course credit. Second, be sure to sign up for the Psychology department's Sona system; some other departments have their own Sona system 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_FS2020.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 2.5% of your grade). 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 viewing all lectures in time (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 1 more hour of HPR/Sona experiments, in addition to any points you completed as part of the course's HPR/Sona requirement. This will earn you 1% of extra credit. 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, up to 1% of course credit 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).

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 (exam, quiz, etc.). Requests received after this date may not be honored. If you require testing accommodations (additional time, etc.) please contact me and send your VISA well ahead of the date of the test.

Final Grade Breakdown

	# points	% of final grade
Best Exam	60*	30.0%*
Other Exam	50	25.0%
Other Exam	50	25.0%
Quiz 1	10	5.0%
Quiz 2	10	5.0%
Quiz 3	10	5.0%
Class Attendance	5	2.5%
Subject Pool	5	2.5%
Course total	200 points	100%

*Each exam has 50 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. 25 out of 50 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	Lectures	Recommended book chapter accompanying lectures	Recommended CogLab experiments to do this week	Tests this week (see Test schedule for exact day and time)
Week of 1/18/21	1. Introduction to the course 2. History of cognitive psychology 1	Ch 1	1. Signal detection	
Week of 1/25/21	3. History of cognitive psychology 2 4. Cognitive neuroscience 1	Ch 2	2. Simple detection 22. Sternberg search	
Week of 2/1/21	5. Cognitive neuroscience 2 6. Cognitive neuroscience 3 + Methods 1	Ch 2	6. Müller-Lyer illusion 7. Visual search	
Week of 2/8/21	7. Methods 2 8. Review for Midterm 1			Quiz 1: CogLab experiments 1, 2, 22, 6, and 7.
Week of 2/15/21	(Midterm exam 1) 9. Perception 1	Ch 3	14. Blind spot	Midterm 1: all lectures till this point.
Week of 2/22/21	10. Perception 2 11. Perception 3	Ch 3	3. Apparent motion 9. Change detection	
Week of 3/1/21	(Scheduled break day) 12. Perception 4 + Attention 1	Ch 4	12. Spatial cueing 13. Stroop effect	
Week of 3/8/21	13. Attention 2 14. Attention 3 + Memory 1	Ch 5 and 6		Quiz 2: CogLab experiments 14, 3, 9, 12, and 13.

Week of 3/15/21	15. Memory 2 16. Memory 3	Ch 7 and 8	18. Partial report 24. Memory span	
Week of 3/22/21	17. Review for Midterm 2 *(Midterm exam 2)*		28. Encoding specificity	Midterm 2: all lectures since previous exam.
Week of 3/29/21	18. Imagery 1 19. Imagery 2	Ch 9 Ch 10	31. Serial position 48. Prototypes	
Week of 4/5/21	20. Language 1 21. Language 2	Ch 10 and 11		Quiz 3: CogLab experiments 18, 24, 28, 31, and 48.
Week of 4/12/21	22. Language 3 + Problem solving 1 23. Problem solving 2	Ch 11		
Week of 4/19/21	24. Judgment, decisions and reasoning 25. Review for Final exam	Ch 12 Ch 13		
Exam week				Non-cumulative final exam: all lectures since previous exam.

Test schedule: Please note: for all tests there is a 10-minute window during which the test can be started on D2L. This window is listed below under 'Starting time window'. Once started, the clock starts ticking toward the time limit, which is listed under 'Test duration'. Also note that, because of the asynchronous nature of this class, there are no university-ordained class times and exam times (apart from the final exam). So it is possible that the dates and times listed in the test schedule below don't work for you. Please check your availability now and let me know if you need an alternative day/time for any of these tests.

Date	Starting time window	Test duration	Test
2/11/2021	4:00-4:10 pm	20 minutes	Quiz 1
2/18/2021	4:00-4:10 pm	80 minutes	Midterm exam 1
3/11/2021	4:00-4:10 pm	20 minutes	Quiz 2
3/25/2021	4:00-4:10 pm	80 minutes	Midterm exam 2
4/8/2021	4:00-4:10 pm	20 minutes	Quiz 3
4/29/2021	5:45-5:55 pm	80 minutes	Final exam

Distributing 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 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.
2. Any student violating the conditions described above may face academic disciplinary sanctions.

Academic Honesty: Article 2.III.B.2 of the Student Rights and Responsibilites (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.)