

PSYCHOLOGY 2580 - Section A3  
COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY  
Grande Prairie Regional College  
Lecture 3 (3-0-0)  
UT to all Alberta Universities  
Winter 2001

FEB. 07 2001

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Texts: Cognitive Psychology (6<sup>th</sup> Edition) by Robert Solso

Course Description: The course surveys theoretical and empirical approaches to issues in human cognition. Topics include: nature of mental representation, influence of knowledge on perception, comprehension and memory, information processing, psycholinguistics and artificial intelligence.

Prerequisite: PY 1050 and PY 2110 or ST 1410 or ST 1510

Requirements: Evaluations will be based on <sup>3</sup> ~~two~~ exams and a paper as follows:

Exam #1	25%	January 31	Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4
Exam #2	25%	March 14	Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Paper	25%	March 21	
Final Exam	25%	TBA	Chapters 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, And 16

Please note that the exam dates listed on this handout are tentative and are subject to change. For the final examination students must be available between April 16 and April 25. The date and time of the final exam will be announced by the Student Services Office. This information is also subject to change so students should continue checking the posted schedules as they are updated.

Exams will consist of written questions such as short answer, paragraph and essay questions. Several choices will be available for the essays and they will be fairly short (i.e., one to two pages in length). Normally requests to write a missed exam or a deferred exam will not be granted except under the most extreme of circumstances and then evidence must be provided to the instructor before a makeup exam can be arranged. Thus, students should ensure they will be available to write the schedule exams.

Please bear in mind that exam marks are FINAL. This means you cannot rewrite an exam because of a poor grade and there are NO written assignments you can do to make up for a poor exam grade except for the already assigned paper.

Cheating on an exam or any other form of academic misconduct is taken very seriously and is punishable in a variety of ways. For more information on the penalties that can be imposed please see page 33 of the college calendar.

The paper must cover an issue within the scope of Cognitive Psychology. Please meet with the instructor regarding your topic BEFORE you begin writing it or if you are having trouble finding a suitable topic. The paper should be approximately 5 - 7 pages in length (double-spaced), must be typed, stapled (not in duotang cover) and written in APA format. I will review this format in class and provide a handout for those not familiar with it. Papers must include and will be viewed more favorably if they include at least a couple of recent journal articles. Papers submitted after the due date will receive 10% of its grade removed for each day it is late. Plagiarism will be treated with the same severity as cheating on an exam. Spelling, grammar, and sentence structure will be graded as well.

Please be advised that a lack of planning on your part will not constitute an emergency on the instructor's part. For example, leaving all work on the paper to the last minute and then having a crisis arise will not get you an extension. Be aware that you may be asked to provide evidence of prior work before being granted an extension and that extensions are rarely granted.

Because lectures will not always cover the assigned reading your attendance is expected at all lectures. Learning is an active process that will take effort on your part and so you will be expected to read in advance of class lectures, participate in activities and discussions in the classroom and communicate with the instructor when you encounter difficulties with course material. The instructor does NOT lend out lecture notes. Students are responsible for assigned textbook chapters and other assigned readings as well as material covered in lectures.

It is expected that all students will display a professional attitude and behaviour in the classroom. This includes reliability, respect for and cooperation with your fellow students, attention to fellow student's questions and the instructor's response, determination to achieve first-class work while meeting deadlines, and constructive response to criticism. Students unable to meet these expectations will be asked to leave the classroom in the interest of preserving the learning opportunities of other students.

NOTE: Any changes to the course outline will be made in consultation with the students during class time. Should you not be present in class when such a consultation is made it is your responsibility to acquire the changed information

Grade Schedule:

9	90 – 100	
8	80 – 89	excellent
7	72 – 79	
6	65 – 71	good
5	57 – 64	
4	50 – 56	pass
3	45 – 49	fail
2	26 – 44	
1	0 – 25	

Course Schedule:

January 3 – January 29

Introduction to Cognitive Psychology  
Cognitive Neuroscience  
Perception and Attention  
Pattern Recognition

Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4

February 5 – March 12

Consciousness  
Mnemonics and Experts  
Memory: Structures and Processes  
Memory: Theories and Neurocognition  
General Knowledge

Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Note: February 19, 26 and 28 are holidays

March 19 – April 11

Imagery

Language: Structure and Abstractions

Language: Words and Reading

Thinking: Decision-Making

Thinking: Problem Solving, Creativity and Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence

Chapters 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16