

PSYCHOLOGY 2580 - Section A3
 COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY
 Grande Prairie Regional College
 Lecture 3 (3-0-0)
 UT to all Alberta Universities
 Winter 2002

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 Office Hours: Monday 1 – 2:20 p.m. and Friday 11:30 – 12:50 p.m. or by appointment

Required Text: Cognitive Psychology (6th 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 1040 and PY 2110 or ST 1410 or ST 1510

Requirements: Evaluations will be based on:

Library Assignment	5%	January 23	
Exam #1	25%	February 1	Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4
Exam #2	25%	March 13	Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Paper	20%	March 22	
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 15 and April 24. The Student Services Office will announce the date and time of the final exam. 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 and paragraph questions and possibly a few multiple choice questions. Exams are not comprehensive. 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 38 of the college calendar.

The library assignment will be done individually following a library tour and information session on January 16 to show you how to use the Psych Info and NEOS systems for finding relevant articles for the paper. The assignment is due at the beginning of class on the due date assigned and the late penalty will be 10% of its grade removed for each day it is late including weekend days.

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 no more than 7 pages in length (typed and double-spaced). These seven pages would include a title page, abstract page, and reference page with no more than four pages of written text. Papers must be stapled (not in duotang cover) and written in APA format (5th edition). Papers generally should consist of at least five recent references (generally peer reviewed journal articles or book chapters in a pinch) on a particular topic and your paper should strive to integrate and review the information in those references. You must also include after the reference page a photocopy of the first or title page of each reference you use in the paper. Sources not accompanied by a photocopy will be considered to be plagiarized. I will review APA format in class and provide a handout for those not familiar with it and provide you with a handout on APA style. Papers are due at the beginning of class on the due date assigned and papers submitted after the due date will receive 10% of its grade removed for each day it is late including weekend days. 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 4 – January 30

Introduction to Cognitive Psychology
Cognitive Neuroscience
Perception and Attention
Pattern Recognition

Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4
Assignment: Library

February 6 – March 8

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

Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Note: February 27 and March 1 are holidays.

March 15 – April 12

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

Assignment: Paper

Note: March 29 is a holiday