# **PSYC 221**

# Cognitive Psychology

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(office hour: TBA)

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**Lectures:** Etherington Auditorium

Tuesday 8:30 – 10:00

Friday 10:00 – 11:30

**Office Hour:** Tuesday 10:00 – 11:00 in HUM343

Course Summary: An introduction to the science of mind and thought, with emphasis on philosophical issues, empirical studies, and theoretical models. Topics will include information theory, attention, pattern recognition, working memory, long-term memory, skill acquisition, problem solving, language, and consciousness.

Text: (a copy is on reserve)
Cognitive Psychology:
Connecting Mind,
Research and Everyday



Experience, 3rd Edition

E. Bruce Goldstein

#### **Web Site**

Course notes and other course information will be available through a Moodle course web page. This site can be reached at this URL:

https://moodle.queensu.ca/

If you have never used Moodle before you can get some online help at

http://www.queensu.ca/its/moodle/studentfaqs.html

## Special needs

If you have special needs please contact me as soon as you can and we can work out the working/learning strategy that suits you best.

#### **Course Evaluation:**

Laboratories	10%
Midterm 1 (Feb. 12)	20%
Midterm 2 (March 12)	25%
FINAL EXAM (to be scheduled)	45%

#### Midterms and Final

Both the midterms and the final exam will have a similar format. The first section (A) of the tests and exam will consist of multiple questions based largely on the text. This will be followed by one or two sections of questions requiring short and longer answers drawn from the lecture material, laboratories and text.

#### Laboratories



For this part of the course you are required to use Coglab and act as a subject in the studies. I will ask you to do this a number of times in the term to help you understand the experiments that we will talk about in class but on two (2) occasions you will be required to participate in an experiment and hand in a one-page summary for marks (1 inch margins, Times New Roman 12 pt. font). In your course text package, there is a lab manual and a web access key to Coglab 2.0 Online.

Go to http://coglab.wadsworth.com/ The first time you login you will be asked to:

Enter your Group ID: Queens2013 [note that this is case sensitive]

Enter your access password: cognitive

Enter your registration code: [from your text package]

You will be asked for some User Information including a unique password and a Security Question. When you submit this you will be assigned a Login ID of the form: Queens2013-# The # will be assigned to you when you sign up. You will use this and your unique password to sign in to CogLab for the rest of the term.

The two assignments and due dates are as follows:

Lab assignment 1 **Suffix Effect** Feb. 5, 2013 Lab assignment 2 **Implicit Learning** March 26, 2013

The handouts for the two labs will be posted on the lab website. The assignments are due at the lecture on the due date. Late submission will be penalized 1 mark a day (out of the 5 marks the lab is worth) beginning after the lecture. These labs are individual projects and your text should be your own writing. Presenting someone else's ideas or phrasings as your own without proper acknowledgement is plagiarism.

I will request that you perform other labs over the term and will announce which ones and when to do them by e-mail. For this course I will use your Queen's e-mail address. These labs are voluntary and will not be marked. However, you are responsible for the information in these labs for tests and the exam. I can access the group data for the class from CogLab and compare the results to the published results in the lecture. Carrying out these studies will give you insight into the research and help us understand the strengths and weaknesses of studies.

# **Tentative Lecture Schedule**

DATE	TOPIC	READING
Jan. 8, 11	Introduction	Ch. 1 (2,3)
Jan. 15, 18	Attention	Ch. 4
Jan. 22, 25	Short Term & Working Memory	Ch. 5
Jan. 29, Feb. 1	LTM: Structure	Ch. 6
Feb. 5, 8	LTM: Encoding & Retrieval	Ch. 7
Feb. 12	Midterm 1	
Feb. 15	Everyday Memory	Ch. 8
Feb. 19, 22	Reading Week	
Feb. 26	Knowledge	Ch. 9
March 1	Cognitive Maps	
March 5, 8	Language	Ch. 11
March 12	Midterm 2	
March 15	Conversation	
March 19, 22	Problem Solving	Ch. 12
March 26	Decision Making	Ch. 13
March 29	No Class	
Apr. 2	Decision Making	
Apr. 5	Review	

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the "freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas" essential to the intellectual life of the University (see the Senate Report on Principles and Priorities

http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senateandtrustees/principlespriorities.html).

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information on academic integrity is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see Academic Regulation 1 http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academic-calendars/2011-2012-calendar/academic-regulations/regulation-1), on the Arts and Science website (see

http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academics/undergraduate/academic-integrity), and from the instructor of this course. Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

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#### Grades

All components of this course will receive numerical percentage marks. The final grade you receive for the course will be derived by converting your numerical course average to a letter grade according to Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale. This conversion scale and the Department of Psychology's policy on grades can be found at:

http://www.queensu.ca/psychology/Undergraduate/psycdepartmentalpolicies/psycgradingpolicy.html