

PSYC 221 Course Syllabus

Sections 001/700

Fall 2020

Instructor: Dr. Daryl Wilson

Course Description

Cognitive psychology is the study of the mind. By employing the scientific method, cognitive psychologists develop an understanding of the processes involved in all aspects of thinking, including attention, perception, memory, reasoning, language, and problem-solving. With the human brain considered to be the most complex object known to exist, and maybe the most powerful learning system known to exist, the study of the thinking processes it produces is immensely challenging. With this complexity and the challenge of using our own thinking to study human thinking, cognitive psychology represents a rich and fascinating research domain.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

- Identify and explain classic and current issues within cognitive psychology (including but not limited to perception, attention, memory, knowledge, language, problem solving, and reasoning and decision making)
- Identify and explain standard methodological approaches used in the study of human cognition and cognitive neuroscience.
- Engage in critical reading of empirical evidence used to examine theories of cognition.
- Explain how experimental findings inform theories of cognition.
- Collaborate with peers to analyze experimental designs and theories and effectively communicate the results.

Course Materials

- Goldstein, E. B. (2019). Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience, 5th Cengage Learning. Textbook + MindTap + COGLAB 5 bundle. ISBN: 9781337763424

Timeline

The link to the Course Timeline is located in the navigation bar below the course banner. It shows all relevant course dates, including assessments, as well as links to other important course information. As dates may change, you should consult the Timeline each time you login to the course.

If there are discrepancies between dates in the course onQ site, the Timeline will be considered accurate.

All times are in Kingston Local Time.

Suggested Time Commitment

Students can expect to spend approximately 10-12 hours a week in study/practice and online activity for this course.

Assessments

Assessments	Weights	Alignment to Learning Outcomes
Discussions (4 total)	16%	1,2,5
Quizzes (highest 8 of 10)	12%	1,2
Cognitive Lab Assignments (4 total)	24%	1,2,3,4,5
Final Exam (proctored)* *In order to receive a passing grade in PSYC 221, you must score 50% or higher on the final exam.	48%	1,2,3,4

Proctored Exams

Once the exam schedule has been finalized the exam date will be posted on your SOLUS account. **Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19, there will be no in-person proctored exams. All exams will be written online using OnQ or Examity.**

The ASO Exams team will contact you with more information regarding the use of Examity and the technical requirements that you will need to meet. You will also be asked to provide the time zone in which you will be located at the time of your exam.

When you registered for the course, you indicated the exam centre location. This does not need to be updated.

Location and Timing of Final Examinations

The exam dates for each Term are listed on the Faculty of Arts and Science webpage under "[Important Dates](#)." Student exam schedules for the Fall Term are posted via SOLUS immediately prior to the Thanksgiving holiday; for the Winter Term they are posted on the Friday before Reading Week, and for the Summer Term they are individually noted on the Arts and Science

Online syllabi. **Students should delay finalizing any travel plans until *after* the examination schedule has been posted. Exams will *not* be moved or deferred to accommodate employment, travel/holiday plans or flight reservations.**

Remote Exams

For exams being offered remotely, Regulation 7.2.3. Restrictions on Assessment is waived. Remote exams will be allowed in the last two weeks of classes and in the study period designated by Senate prior to the examination period in order to accommodate the limited number of online proctoring seats available.

Remote Proctoring

The final exam will use remote proctoring provided by a third-party, cloud-based service that enables the completion of a proctored exam or test from an off-campus location, through onQ. This online proctoring solution was chosen as part of the approach to maintaining academic integrity in online assessment. Precise details about how remote proctoring will be used in this course can be found in the “Getting Started with Remote Proctoring” content module in onQ.

When writing tests/exams using remote proctoring, you are connecting to the third-party service. Queen’s has conducted a privacy and security review of the service and has entered into a binding agreement with terms that address the appropriate collection, use and disclosure of personal information in accordance with Ontario’s privacy legislation.

You should also take measures yourself to protect your information by keeping your NetID password and challenge questions private, closing all applications prior to starting an exam/test, and ensuring your device is updated and safeguarded against malware.

For more information about remote proctoring, see the Student FAQs on the OUR Exams resource page for remote proctoring: <http://www.queensu.ca/registrar/students/examinations/exams-office-services/remote-proctoring>

Calculator Policy

As noted in Academic Regulation 9.2, "Calculators acceptable for use during quizzes, tests and examinations are intended to support the basic calculating functions required by most Arts and Science courses. For this purpose, the use of the Casio 991 series calculator is permitted and is the only approved calculator for Arts and Science students."

Online Quizzes

There are 10 quizzes. The quizzes will consist of 10 multiple-choice questions based on the weekly material from weekly videos and textbook readings. Your final grade will be based on your highest 8 quizzes.

Online Discussions

- **Week 1:**
 - You will participate in an unmarked discussion assignment meant to familiarize you with the discussion forum.
- **Weeks 3, 5, 8, and 9:**

- You will be randomly assigned to small groups and have a TA or the instructor assigned to your group to facilitate your discussion. There will be three components to each discussion assignment:
 - **Initial post:** Each student will first provide a response to the discussion question,
 - **Participation:** Each student will participate in discussion forum by responding to other students' posts.
 - **Final submission:** Your discussion group will provide a single final submission.
- You will be marked on the quality of your initial post, your contribution to the discussion forum, and the quality of the group's final submission.
- Each discussion will be worth 10 points (2 points for your individual initial post, 2 points for participating in the discussion forum, and 6 points for a group final submission).
- The initial post must be completed by the deadline as stated in the course timeline, otherwise you will receive a grade of zero on the initial post. If you do not complete the individual initial post and don't participate in the discussion forum, then you will also get zero on the group final submission.
- This is a group report, and everyone in the group should contribute in a timely and meaningful manner.
- Your final discussion grade will be based on all 4 discussions.

Cognitive Lab Assignments

- **During Week 2:**
 - You will participate in an unmarked cognitive lab assignment meant to familiarize you with the structure of the cognitive labs.
- **Weeks 4, 6, 10, and 12:**
 - You will complete a cognitive lab, and submit a written assignment (maximum 2 pages in length). Each written assignment is designed to demonstrate your understanding of that week's cognitive lab.
 - Each cognitive lab will be worth 10 points (rubric provided for each individual lab)

Final Exam

The Final Exam is three hours in length and includes multiple-choice and short answer questions based on the material from the entire term. The specific date for the final exam will be announced later in the term.

Late Policy

- The initial discussion post must be completed by the deadline as stated in the course timeline, otherwise you will receive a grade of zero on the initial post.
- Participation in the forum for the discussion assignments must be completed within the open discussion period as outlined in the course timeline, otherwise the participation grade will be assigned a zero.

- Late group final discussion submissions will be penalized 10% per day late including weekend days.
- Online discussions must be completed within the open discussion period of 5 days, otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned.
- Online quizzes must be completed during the 48-hour testing window, otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned.
- Late cognitive lab assignments will be penalized 10% per day late including weekend days.

Grading

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:

Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale

Grade	Numerical Course Average (Range)
A+	90-100
A	85-89
A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52

Contacting the Teaching Team

The teaching team contact information is located on the Homepage of the course (see “Teaching Team”).

For general questions about the course, please post to the Course Questions Forum, (located under Help in the navigation bar). Feel free to help answer your peers’ questions on this forum. Most questions are answered within 24 hours.

Please use your Queen’s email for inquiries that are more personal in nature, or for issues such as academic accommodations or marking. If you need to have a more detailed conversation, please contact your instructor.

Course Feedback

At various points during the course, students may be asked to take part in a variety of feedback activities (such as questionnaires and exit tickets).

This feedback enables the team to make any adjustments necessary to improve the online learning environment. Additional student feedback will be sought throughout the course. All surveys are anonymous, and directly related to activities, assessments, and other course material.

Netiquette

In an online course you often communicate with your peers and teaching team through electronic communication. You are expected to use the utmost respect in your dealings with your colleagues or when participating in activities, discussions and online communication.

Here is a list of netiquette guidelines. Please read them carefully and use them to guide your communication in this course and beyond.

1. Make a personal commitment to learn about, understand, and support your peers.
2. Assume the best of others and expect the best of them.
3. Acknowledge the impact of oppression on the lives of other people and make sure your writing is respectful and inclusive.
4. Recognize and value the experiences, abilities, and knowledge each person brings.
5. Pay close attention to what your peers write before you respond. Think through and re-read your writings before you post or send them to others.
6. It’s ok to disagree with ideas, but do not make personal attacks.
7. Be open to be challenged or confronted on your ideas and challenge others with the intent of facilitating growth. Do not demean or embarrass others.
8. Encourage others to develop and share their ideas.

Queen's Email

The university communicates with students via Queen's email. Please check your email regularly to ensure you do not miss important information related to your course.

Third Party Policy

This course makes use of Coglab for some activities. Be aware that by logging into the site, you will be leaving onQ, and accessing the Coglab website. Your independent use of that site, *beyond what is required for the course (for example, purchasing the company's products)*, is subject to Cengage Learning's terms of use and privacy policy. You are encouraged to review these documents, using the link(s) below, before using the site.

<https://coglab.cengage.com/info/privacy.shtml>

Accessibility/Accommodations

To submit a Request for Academic Consideration, go to: <https://www.queensu.ca/artsci/undergrad-students/academic-consideration-for-students>.

After you submit your request, it is essential that you contact your instructor(s) to discuss arrangements for completing the academic requirements that you have missed.

Academic consideration is meant to help you manage a **short-term extenuating circumstance** that is beyond your control and could affect your academics. This might be a sudden physical or mental illness, a serious injury or required treatment for yourself or a significant other, bereavement (e.g., death of a family member or close friend), or a traumatic event (e.g., sexual assault, divorce). Another example is an absence due to a significant event, such as participating in a varsity championship or performing at a national or international event.

Academic consideration for an extenuating circumstance may include but is not limited to:

- an excused absence
- a deferral
- an extension
- a modified schedule for assignments, projects, labs, or placements
- an alternative assignment
- a re-weighting of term marks
- permission for an incomplete grade
- course withdrawal without penalty (this requires an appeal to the Associate Dean of Studies)

Your instructor will determine what academic consideration is appropriate for your course based on the academic requirement(s) you may miss and the essential requirements/learning outcomes of the course. All students who receive academic consideration must meet all essential academic requirements/learning outcomes and standards of the course. Academic consideration does not guarantee academic achievement in a course/program.

Situation 1: Requests for academic consideration up to 3 days:

- Each student can make one request for academic consideration for up to 3 days without [supporting documentation](#) per academic term (i.e., Fall, Winter, Summer). Any additional requests for academic consideration for up to 3 days will require supporting documentation.
- Requests for academic consideration under 3 days must be submitted as soon as you require academic consideration and no later than 1 day after the 3 day consideration period has ended. (eg. if you are requesting academic consideration for September 10-12, you must have your request submitted into this system by September 13 at the latest).
- Delegates submitting a Request for Academic Consideration for Extenuating Circumstances form and supporting documentation on behalf of a student should contact the Faculty Office at asc.consideration@queensu.ca or 613-533-6000, ext. 75413 to arrange to complete the proper forms.

Situation 2: Requests for academic consideration between 4 days and 3 months:

- Requests for academic consideration between 4 days and 3 months should be made as soon as you require academic consideration.
- All requests for academic consideration between 4 days and 3 months require [supporting documentation](#), which should be submitted within 5 business days of submitting the request or it will be withdrawn.
- All requests for academic consideration for extenuating circumstances between 4 days and 3 months must be submitted before the course has closed/ended.
- Delegates submitting a Request for Academic Consideration for Extenuating Circumstances form and supporting documentation on behalf of a student should contact the Faculty Office to arrange to complete the proper forms.
- If you have questions, please contact the Academic Consideration Team in the Faculty Office at: asc.consideration@queensu.ca or 613-533-6000, ext. 75413.

Situation 3: Requests for academic consideration during final exam periods:

- **All requests** (up to 3 days and between 4 days and 3 months) for academic consideration made during exam periods require supporting documentation.

Situation 4: Request for Excused Absence for Significant Event:

Students who are making a request for academic consideration related to a significant event must follow these steps outlined below. If you are participating in an event at the provincial, national, or international level that is either a Queen's Varsity Athletics event or an event to which you were invited as a distinguished guest, you can complete this form. Please submit requests a minimum of 2 weeks before the sanctioned events or as soon as the event is scheduled.

1. Gather the following information:
 - A personal statement about why participation in the event is significant to you/Queen's
 - Specific details about what is being missed (i.e., exactly what courses, what tests, what assignments, etc.)

- A copy of the invitation to participate/details about the competitions that determine who is invited
 - Any other relevant details about the event (i.e., tournament information, schedules, team details, who is participating)
2. A minimum of two weeks before the sanctioned event, or as soon as the event is scheduled, complete and submit a [Request for Excused Absence for Significant Event Form](#) to either:
 - Queen's Athletics and Recreation senior management team/Athletics Services Coordinator – Retention (athletics and Recreation Centre, 284 Earl Street), for varsity athletic events OR
 - the Vice-Provost and Dean of Student Affairs (Gordon Hall, Room 300, 74 Union Street) for all other significant events
 - BISC Students should submit their requests to the Student Services office at the Bader International Student Centre (BISC).
 3. Upload your signed form to the Arts & Science Academic Consideration Portal. If you encounter technical difficulties please reach out to asc.consideration@queensu.ca

As soon as possible, follow-up with your instructor(s) either by email or in-person to discuss how you will be making up for the missed academic requirements. This may require you to complete academic requirements prior to being absent for the event.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is constituted by the [six core fundamental values](#) of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage.

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.

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](#)), on the [Arts and Science website](#), 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.

Computer Requirements

Please note that mobile devices are not recommended for the course as they cause several known issues in onQ.

Computer Specifications

- Windows 8.1 or newer
- OS X 10.13 (High Sierra) or newer
- Dual Core 2 GHz processor
- 4 GB RAM
- Soundcard
- USB headset
- Webcam

Supported Browsers

- Chrome (preferred - latest version)
- Firefox (latest version)
- *Safari is not recommended as it causes several known issues in onQ*
- *Edge is not recommended as it causes several known issues in onQ*

Internet Connection

- Wired high speed access: Cable or better
- *Wifi is not recommended*

Java

- Latest version

Media Player

- Flash (latest version)

Adobe Reader

- Latest Version

Students Travelling Abroad

If you plan to travel, we strongly recommend that you confirm Internet availability in your host country prior to departure. In the past, students in other countries have been blocked from accessing certain websites relevant to their courses, as well as onQ. It is the responsibility of all students to book travel around course work, as we cannot change the format or timing on assessments or assignments as a result of travel plans.

Copyright

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shall not be distributed or disseminated to anyone other than students registered in PSYC 221. Failure to abide by these conditions is a breach of copyright, and may also constitute a breach of academic integrity under the University Senate's Academic Integrity Policy Statement.