Human Cognition: Theory and Applications

PSY3522

Day & Time  TBA
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Textbook with on-line companion site:
Student companions site address:  http://coglab.wadsworth.com

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Course Description

The course "Human Cognition: Theory and Applications" is designed to engage the student in three content areas: (a) models and processes involved in human cognition (b) relevant empirical research and (c) implications of basic research for daily cognition. Topics included in the course are information processing, attention, short- and long-term memory, memory codes, visualization and imagery, forgetting, semantic organization, problem solving, decision making, language, multilingualism, music cognition and cognitive development.

Attendance

Attendance is required.

Academic honesty

In this course, the penalty for any kind of academic dishonesty will consist of a final course grade of "F".

Examples of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to):

Academic Cheating

1. Intentionally giving or receiving help on written assignments, examinations, or any work without prior permission of the instructor.
2. Looking at another’s test paper or other material (i.e., texts, notes or papers) with intent to gain or give unfair academic advantage, without permission of the instructor.
3. Walking or signaling to a person while taking a quiz or examination with intent to gain or give unfair academic advantage, without permission of the instructor.
4. Collaborating with another person with the intent to give or gain unfair academic advantage, without prior permission of the instructor, in preparing written work.
5. Substituting for another person or permitting another person to substitute for oneself during an examination.
6. Turning in a paper or other work that has been previously written for another class or for another purpose, without prior permission from the instructor.

Plagiarism

1. Handing in, as one’s own a paper or assignment, a document purchased from a term paper service or any other source.
2. Copying another’s paper or work and handing it in as one’s own.
3. Taking a paper or work from a file not one’s own and handing it in as one’s own.
4. Intentionally footnoting an incorrect source.
5. Appropriating passages or ideas from another and using them as one’s own without
proper documentation.
6. Quoting a written source on an exam test paper or homework without citation when it is requested by the instructor to present one’s own work.
7. Plagiarism of papers using Internet sources is becoming increasingly common. The most frequent method is to copy blocks of text from topical Internet sites and create a paper that is a "collage" of others' material. Students sometimes claim to believe that this is an appropriate method for writing a paper, but the University's stated policy (in various documents and on the web) clearly indicates that this is not true. You should make a statement in your class concerning these policies. Methods for detecting this and other types of plagiarism are available on the Internet (use a Google search).

**Cheating by Using Computers**

1. Engaging in computer fraud, trespass, theft, embezzlement, changing of information or invasion of privacy.
2. Tampering with computer files or information that belongs to someone else.
3. Using the computer to examine, modify or copy programs or data other than one’s own without proper authorization. This includes violations of vendor copyright agreements.
4. Attempting to degrade computer hardware or software performance or to circumvent its security.
5. Depriving or attempting to deprive other users of resources or access to a computer.

**Eight Rules of Academic Integrity**

1. Know your rights—Do not let other students in your class diminish the value of your achievement by taking unfair advantage. Report any academic dishonesty you see.
2. Acknowledge your sources—Whenever you use words or ideas that are not your own when writing a paper, use quotation marks where appropriate and cite your source in a footnote, backing it up at the end with a list of sources consulted. See section on plagiarism.
3. Protect your work—In examinations, do not allow your neighbors to see what you have written; you are the only one who should receive credit for what you know.
4. Avoid suspicion—Do not put yourself in a position where you can be suspected of having copied another person’s work, or having used unauthorized notes in an examination. Even the appearance of dishonesty may undermine your instructor’s confidence in your work.
5. Do your own work—The purpose of assignments is to develop your skills and measure your progress. Letting someone else do your work defeats the purpose of your education and may lead to serious charges against you.
6. Never falsify a record or permit another person to do so—Academic records are regularly audited and students whose grades have been altered put their entire transcript at risk.
7. Never fabricate data, citations or experimental results—Many professional careers have ended in disgrace, even years after the fabrication first took place.
8. Always tell the truth when discussing your work with your instructor—Any attempt to to deceive may destroy the relationship of teacher and student.

*For more information on academic dishonesty, please go to [www.fit.edu/current/plagiarism.pdf](http://www.fit.edu/current/plagiarism.pdf); For information on procedures for handling suspected student violation (Undergraduate) see FIT Student Handbook pp. 33-34*
Final Grade Scoring

In this course, the penalty for any kind of academic dishonesty will consist of a final course grade of "F".

A = 90 - 100 (PTS) total score at the end of the semester
B = <90 - 80 PTS total score at the end of the semester
C = <80 - 70 PTS total score at the end of the semester
D = <70 - 60 PTS total score at the end of the semester
F < 60 PTS total score at the end of the semester

Final Grade Components

100 points (PTS) maximum total score =

25 PTS Midterm
25 PTS Final Exam
10 PTS Quizzes
25 PTS Paper
15 PTS Project
Exams:
The exams (mid-term and final) will be multiple choice exams: Each exam will contain 50 questions.
Each exam contributes 25% of your final grade.

Quizzes:
The quizzes will be given after each chapter at the end of the respective class period. The formats of the quizzes will vary. Of all the quizzes taken, your 10 quizzes with the highest scores will count towards the final grade. The quizzes contribute 10% to your final grade (1 point per quiz; 10 points max).

Paper:
The topics of your paper and projects can be in the same conceptual area. Choose your topic by identifying a topic or concept in cognition from your textbook. Observe the due dates for paper topic, paper outline and paper. (See semester at a glance = last page.)
Requirements for paper:
• minimum of 3000 words of main body text (about 11 pages in Times/12 font)
• minimum of 10 references from formal sources (primary references). Secondary references, references from magazines, newspapers, internet sites, etc. do not count towards the minimum 10 references).
• strict abidance by APA style rules; Students are encouraged to obtain a copy of the APA Publications Manual (newest edition).
• Paper must be submitted to "TurnItIn.com" for a plagiarism screen. Each students must print out the report generated by "TurnItIn.com" on his/her paper. The report must be turned in with the paper. Any Paper without a "TurnItIn.com" report will not be graded. Observe the following steps:
a. Create a personal account at "TurnItIn.com"
b. Your course name: Human Cognition
c. Your course ID: TBA
d. Your password: TBA
In addition to the satisfying the requirements above, your paper grade will be based on content, clarity, completeness and content accuracy.
The Paper contributes 25% of your final grade.

Project:
The topics of your paper and projects can be in the same conceptual area. Choose your topic by identifying a topic or concept in in cognitive psychology from your textbook.
For the project, choose one of the following:
(a) Develop and document a game that illustrates and explains your topic.
(b) Develop and document an experiment that explores your topic.
(c) Develop or storyboard in detail a website that documents and explores your topic.
Your project grade will be based on effort, clarity and content accuracy.
Examples of (a), (b) and (c) will be shown in class.
The Project contributes 15% to your final grade.
### Semester at a Glance: Human Cognition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Exam/Quiz at End of Class</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>quiz 1</td>
<td>Introduction to Human Cognition &amp; Historical Overview</td>
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<td>Information Processing Stages</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>quiz 2</td>
<td>Pattern Recognition</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>quiz 3</td>
<td>Attention</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>quiz 4</td>
<td>Short Term Working Memory</td>
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<td>quiz 5</td>
<td>Long Term Memory</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>paper topic due</td>
<td>Memory Codes</td>
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<td>quiz 6</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>quiz 7</td>
<td>Visualization and Imagery</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>EXAM</td>
<td>Review for Midterm Exam</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>(grades posted on BlackBoard by Friday COB)</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>quiz 8</td>
<td>Categorization &amp; Concept Formation</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
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<td>paper outline due</td>
<td>Semantic Organization &amp; Forgetting</td>
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<td>quiz 9</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>quiz 10</td>
<td>Language &amp; Multilingualism</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>Quiz 11</td>
<td>Problem Solving &amp; Decision Making</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<td>Paper due</td>
<td>Cognitive Development</td>
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<td>quiz 12</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>quiz 13</td>
<td>Music Cognition</td>
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<td>Project Due</td>
<td>Day 1 project presentations (sign up for date of presentation)</td>
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<td>Day 2 project presentations (sign up for date of presentation)</td>
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<td>Review for Final Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
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<td>EXAM</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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