San José State University
Department of Psychology
PSYC 158-01 (48771), Perception (Lecture)

Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. Martine Godfroy-Cooper
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Office Hours: Wednesday 4:00pm-4:30pm. You are welcome to schedule an appointment with me for a different time, if these times don’t fit your schedule.

Class Days/Time: Monday-Wednesday 1:30pm-2:45pm
Classroom: DMH 149A
Prerequisites: PSYC 1 (Introductory Psychology)

Course Description
“Empirical and theoretical approaches to the psychology of perception in the different sensory modalities. The different levels of processing, the effects of attention and experience will be discussed. Topics include integration of information from the different senses, perception and action as well as pain perception”.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

• CLO1: develop an understanding of the issues related to making a meaningful distinction between sensation and perception.
• CLO2: Understand the physiological and cognitive aspects of perception.
• CLO3: Understand the limitations of the senses and the constraints of the organization of the brain on perception.
• CLO4: Read and understand journal articles in perception.
• CLO5: Synthesize several research studies and draw conclusions, in written format.
Course Requirements

Exams: There will be two mid-terms and a final exam. These exams will be a mix of multiple choice and short-answer essay questions. A study guide will be given out the week preceding the exams. See Table 1 for more details.

Research Paper: You will have to write a research paper in relation with one of the topics discussed in the classroom. Requirements for the paper are as follows: (1) the paper should focus on a specific topic within sensation and perception (2) the paper should follow the APA style format (3) the paper should discuss at least 4 references, at least 3 of which must be articles from scientific research journals (3) the paper should be free of spelling and grammatical errors (4) papers that are not typed or that contain an unacceptable amount of spelling and grammatical errors will be returned for rewriting. Late papers will be penalized at 10% per calendar day.

Quizzes and assignments:
There will be several quizzes and assignments covering lecture material. The quizzes will be mostly multiple-choice, but may also include short-answer and diagrams. The quizzes are closed-book and closed-notes.

Extra Credit Opportunity:
You may choose to participate to an experiment at NASA Ames or to write a research review paper (4-6 pages) on a topic of interest to you for extra credit. Requirements for the paper are as follows: (1) the paper should focus on a specific topic within sensation and perception (2) the paper should follow the APA style format (3) the paper should discuss at least 4 references, at least 3 of which must be articles from scientific research journals (3) the paper should be free of spelling and grammatical errors (4) papers that are not typed or that contain an unacceptable amount of spelling and grammatical errors will be returned for rewriting. If you choose to write a paper, you need to have your topic approved by me no later than Friday November 16. You will receive up to 25 bonus points. The paper may be turned in at any time during the semester, but not later than the start of the final exam period.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)

Upon successful completion of the psychology major requirements…

PLO1 – Knowledge Base of Psychology – Students will be able to identify, describe, and communicate the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.

PLO2 – Research Methods in Psychology – Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations.

PLO3 – Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology – Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.

PLO4 – Application of Psychology – Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.
PLO5 – Values in Psychology – Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook


Other Readings

http://thebrain.mcgill.ca/

Other equipment / material requirements

Desire2Learn (D2L):

Lecture slides, quizzes and assignment grades, article readings, and other materials will be posted on the course D2L website (sjsu.desire2learn.com). Please email me at martine.godfroy@sjsu.edu rather than through the D2L – email.

Definition of a Credit Hour

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus. As an example, the expectation of work for a 3-credit course is 150-minutes of direct faculty instruction and six hours of out-of-class student work each week.

Classroom Protocol

Attendance:

Class content is not to consider as a “remake” of the textbook and I greatly encourage you to attend it, although attendance per se will not be used as a criterion for grading according to Academic Policy F-69-24.

Missed Classes. If you are absent, you should consult a classmate to get the lecture notes and to find out about any announcements made in class.

Missed Exams. No make-up exam will be given unless the student presents a valid excuse. I reserve the right to decide if the excuse is valid.
Note:

The procedures and schedule in this course syllabus are subject to change at the instructor’s discretion. I will announce any changes of lecture topic or quizzes/assignments dates in class and via D2L.

Additional Points:

- Please be certain to turn off all cell phones, pagers, and any other devices that produce distraction prior to entering the classroom. Computer use is restricted to activity pertinent to the classroom.
- If you must arrive late or leave early, please do so quietly and with a minimum of distraction.
- You are responsible for understanding the dates, policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, fee payment, withdrawal and so forth. These are listed under: http://info.sjsu.edu/home/schedules.html (see Dropping and Adding section below).

Recording of Class Lectures

Common courtesy and professional behavior dictates that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. This permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.

Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor-generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic calendar web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Assignments and Grading Policy

There are 400 attainable points in this course: 50 points for the quizzes, 50 points for the assignments, two 50 points mid-term exam, a 100 points final exam and a 100 points paper.
Final course grades will be based on the scale below:

- **A+** ≥ 97%
- **A**  93-96%
- **A-**  90-92%
- **B+**  87-89%
- **B**  83-86%
- **B-**  80-82%
- **C+**  77-79%
- **C**  73-76%
- **C-**  70-72%
- **D+**  67-69%
- **D**  63-66%
- **D-**  60-62%
- **F**  < 60%

**University Policies**

**Academic Integrity**

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University’s Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/ to establish a record of their disability.

**Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.
Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to inspire them to become independent learners. The Center's tutors are trained and nationally certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). They provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills assistance. Small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring are available. Please visit the LARC website for more information at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/.

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/

Student Success and Wellness

Attending to your wellness is critical to your success at SJSU. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of the workshops and programs offered through various Student Affairs Departments on campus such as Counseling Services, the SJSU Student Health Center/Wellness & Health Promotion Dept., and Career Center. See http://www.sjsu.edu/wellness or http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling/Workshops/ for workshop/events schedule and links to many other services on campus that support your wellness! You may go to http://events.sjsu.edu to register for any one of the workshops.
Psyc 158 / Perception, Fall 2012, Monday-Wednesday
1:30pm-2:45pm

The schedule is subject to change with fair notice available in class and on D2L.

Table 1 Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>08/22/2012</td>
<td>Introduction to Perception (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>08/27/2012</td>
<td>Introduction to Perception (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>08/29/2012</td>
<td>Physiology of perception: The Brain</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>09/03/2012</td>
<td><em>Labor Day - Campus Closed</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09/05/2012</td>
<td>Physiology of perception: The Peripheral Nervous System</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>09/10/2012</td>
<td>Vision (1)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>09/12/2012</td>
<td>Vision (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>09/17/2012</td>
<td>Perceiving Objects and Scenes (1)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>09/19/2012</td>
<td>Perceiving Objects and Scenes (2)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>09/24/2012</td>
<td>Perception for Action</td>
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<td>09/26/2012</td>
<td>Perceiving Motion</td>
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<td>10/01/2012</td>
<td>Perceiving Color</td>
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<td>10/03/2012</td>
<td>Perceiving Depth and Size/ Study guide 1</td>
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<td>10/08/2012</td>
<td>Mid-Term 1</td>
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<td>10/10/2012</td>
<td>Audition (1)</td>
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<td>Localization and Auditory Scene (1)</td>
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<td>10/24/2012</td>
<td>Speech perception</td>
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<td>10/31/2012</td>
<td>The Cutaneous Senses</td>
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<td>11/05/2012</td>
<td>Pain Perception</td>
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<td>11/07/2012</td>
<td>Study Guide 2</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>11/12/2012</td>
<td><em>Veteran’s Day Observed – Campus Closed</em></td>
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<td>11/14/2012</td>
<td>Mid-Term2</td>
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<td>The chemical senses (1)</td>
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<td>The chemical senses (2)</td>
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<td>11/26/2012</td>
<td>Perceiving Objects and Scenes (1)</td>
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<td>Week</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>12/10/2012</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>12/10/2012 to 12/14/2012</td>
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