San Jose State University  
Department of Psychology  
PSYC 135, Cognition, Sec. 02 (22637)  
SPRING 2013

Instructor: Professor Laree A. Huntsman, Ph.D.

Office Location: DMH 313

Telephone: 408-924-5633

Email: laree.huntsman@sjsu.edu

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 3:00-4:00

Class Days/Time: Monday and Wednesday 12:00-1:15

Classroom: DMH 161

Prerequisites: PSYC 1 (General Psychology)

Course Description

This course presents a comprehensive overview of the field of cognitive psychology from the information processing perspective. We will study such topics as sensory memory, selective attention, short-term memory, long-term memory, visual imagery, and psycholinguistics.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook (available at campus bookstore and Roberts Bookstore)


Other Equipment/Material Requirements

Three T & E 200 Scantron Forms along with three sharpened Number 2 pencils. One small bluebook (green).
Definition of a Credit Hour

Success in this 3-credit course is based on the expectation that students will spend 6 hours per week on activities outside of the regular class time (e.g., textbook reading, studying notes, exam and quiz preparation, and CogLab assignments).

Classroom Protocol

Come to class with a positive attitude.
Be respectful to your instructor and to your peers.
Come to class everyday.
Be punctual - late students are to enter the room discreetly and sit in the back.
Do not leave early (if you must leave early sit near the door and leave discreetly).
Unless you have an emergency there are no in and out privileges.
Unless you have a documented medical excuse there are no laptops in class.
Unless you have a documented medical excuse you are not allowed to record the lectures.
Be prepared and have necessary materials with you.
Do assigned homework and readings on time.
Do not interrupt.
Raise your hand if you wish to ask a question or make a comment.
Do not talk/joke or carry on conversations with your peers during lecture.
Cover your mouth when you yawn, burp, cough, or sneeze.
Do not read the newspaper during lecture.
Refrain from obviously looking at the clock or your watch.
Refrain from eating, drinking (water is fine) or chewing gum.
Refrain from wearing perfume, colognes, and/or scented deodorants.
Do not use laptops or any electronic devices in class (only calculators)
Turn off and put away all electronic devices in class (only calculators).
Do not make audio or video recordings in this class
Do not send or receive text messages or phone calls during class.
Do not ask, "When do we get our exam/SPSS scores?" (Return dates listed)
Do not ask, "I wasn't in class today, did I miss anything important?"
Do not ask, "May I have a copy of your notes and overheads?"
Do not say, "I was late to class today so I probably missed this but..."
Do not sleep during class.
When you come to see me after class knock quietly on my door then poke your head in.
When you talk to me after class put away all electronic devices.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies, procedures, current deadlines, and penalties about add/drop, late drop, grade forgiveness, incompletes, etc. Refer to the current semester’s catalog policies section for specific registration information. This semester, the last day to drop or withdraw without a "W" grade is Monday, February 4.
In order to be fair to the entire class, I do not assign extra credit to raise grades.

**Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives (LO)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

LO1: Describe the major tenants of the current major cognitive theories and identify their major strengths and weaknesses.
LO2: Describe the dominant research methodologies in cognitive psychology and identify their major strengths and weaknesses.
LO3: Provide an overview of our current knowledge with respect to the dominant topic areas in cognitive psychology (e.g., attention, concept formation, language).
LO4: Apply the knowledge of cognitive psychology to “real-world” situations including educational, legal, and life challenges contexts.

**Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)**

Upon successful completion of the psychology degree, students will be able to:

*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.

**Assignments and Grading Policy**

**EXAMS (400 points):**

There will be four closed notes exams. The fist three exams consist of multiple choice type questions (Three T & E 200 scantron forms required). Each of these three exams have 40 questions worth 2.5 points each. Therefore, each exam is worth 100 points. The material covered on Exams 1, 2, and 3 comes from the lectures.

Exam 4 is the cumulative closed notes essay exam (small blue book required). Exam 4 will be administered during the university final examination time period. The material covered on the final comes from lecture, textbook, and CogLab assignments.
MISSED EXAM:

You must make every effort to take the four 100-point exams on the scheduled
days because **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP EXAMS** given in this course. If you miss
an exam or elect not to take an exam for any reason, then you will receive the score of
zero for that exam.

QUIZZES (100 Points):

There will be 10 quizzes in this course. The quizzes are multiple-choice/true-
false and have 20 questions worth .5 each. Therefore, each quiz is worth 10 points. Six
of the quizzes are closed book and four of the quizzes are open book. Quizzes 1, 2, 4, 5,
7, and 8 are closed book quizzes. Quizzes 3, 6, 9, and 10 are open book quizzes. The
material covered on the quizzes comes from the textbook and the CogLab assignments.

MISSED QUIZ:

You must make every effort to take the ten 10-point quizzes on the scheduled
days because **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES** given in this course. If you
miss a quiz, or elect not to take a quiz for any reason, then you will receive the score of
zero for that quiz.

MISSED LECTURE:

Although attendance is not taken, perfect attendance is critical for success in this
class, therefore you should never be absent and you should never be late. However, if
you are absent, refer to your classmates for lecture notes. Please also be aware that I do
NOT put any lecture material on the web, nor do I email them to students, nor do I give
private lectures or allow students to copy my notes after class or during office hours. The
only sure way for you to get lecture notes is to attend the lectures and take your own
notes.

CogLab COMPUTER ASSIGNMENTS (100 points):

You will be required to complete 10 CogLab computer assignments (10 at 10
points each = 100 points). The CogLab assignments correspond with your textbook
readings and will help you study for the quizzes (1- Brain Asymmetry, 2- Visual Search,
3- Partial Report, 4- Stroop Task, 5- Brown-Peterson Task, 6- Memory Span, 7–
Sternberg Search, 8– Serial Position, 9- Mental Rotation, and 10- Lexical Decision).
Late assignments will have points deducted (3 points per day). CogLab assignments will
be graded on a credit/no credit basis. Only answer the Basic Questions portion of the
CogLab assignment. Do not answer the Advanced Questions and Discussion Questions.
When turning in your CogLab Assignments, turn in a hard copy/print-out of your data
summary and graph (do not turn in your Trial-by-trial data) and the typed answers to the
Basic Questions. CogLab assignments are due at the beginning of class (see Course
Schedule for specific dates). Late CogLab assignments will have points deducted (1 point per day). Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Copied or plagiarized assignments will result in a score of zero. All CogLab assignments are to be completed by the individual student.

HOW TO EVALUATE YOUR PERFORMANCE ON AN EXAM:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>90 - 92</td>
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<td>87 - 89</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>84 - 86</td>
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<td>B-</td>
<td>80 - 83</td>
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<td>C+</td>
<td>77 - 79</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>74 - 76</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>70 - 73</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>67 - 69</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>D-</td>
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HOW TO EVALUATE YOUR PERFORMANCE ON A QUIZ:

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<td>A</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>5</td>
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COURSE GRADE: Course grade = four exams (100 points each = 400), 10 quizzes (10 points each = 100) and 10 CogLab computer assignments (10 points each = 100).

HOW WILL YOUR COURSE GRADE BE DETERMINED?

Your final grade is determined by the total of all the points you have received. Grades are NOT curved. For example, if you get a score of 88 you earn 88 points for that exam. If you earn a score of 9 you earn 9 points for that quiz. Because grades are never curved, it is easy to keep track of how well you are doing in the course. There is NO extra credit in this course.

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>540 - 559 (90+ %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>522 - 539 (87+ %)</td>
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<td>504 - 521 (84+ %)</td>
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<td>480 - 503 (80+ %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>462 - 479 (77+ %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>444 - 461 (74+ %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>420 - 443 (70+ %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>402 - 419 (67+ %)</td>
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<td>384 - 401 (64+ %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>360 - 383 (60+ %)</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>0 - 359 (59- %)</td>
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University Policies

Academic Integrity

The exchange of any information during an exam is forbidden. Do not ever look at another student’s exam during a test. Additionally, you must not allow other students to look at your exam. Failure to adhere to these rules will result in a score of zero being recorded for any students who are in violation of this rule. According to the University’s Academic Integrity Policy you are required to be honest in all of your coursework. Furthermore, faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations, accommodations, or special arrangements because of a disability, please let me know as soon as possible. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Disability Resource Center (http://www.drc.sjsu.edu). Additionally, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please let me know as soon as possible.

Unless you have a documented medical excuse that you are willing to provide me, electronic devices (laptops, recording devices, cellular telephones, etc.) are NOT allowed to be operated during class.

PSYCH 135/ COGNITION, SPRING 2013, COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 Course orientation
1/23

WEEK 2 Lecture
1/28, 1/30

WEEK 3 Lecture, 2/4
Lecture and *** Quiz 1 – Chapter 1 *** 2/6
CogLab 1: Brain Asymmetry
2/4, 2/6

WEEK 4 Lecture, 2/11
Lecture and *** Quiz 2 – Chapter 2 *** 2/13
Cog Lab 2: Visual Search
CogLab 3: Partial Report
2/11, 2/13
| WEEK 5 | Lecture, 2/18  
*** Open Book Quiz 3 - Chapter 3 *** 2/20  
CogLab 4: Stroop Task  
2/18, 2/20 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------|
| WEEK 6 | *** EXAM 1 *** 2/25  
*** CogLab 1-4 Due *** 2/25  
Lecture, 2/27  
2/25, 2/27 |
| WEEK 7 | Lecture, 3/4  
Lecture and *** Quiz 4 – Chapter 4 *** 3/6  
CogLab 5: Brown-Peterson Task  
CogLab 6: Memory Span  
CogLab 7: Sternberg Search  
EXAM 1 SCORES RETURNED, 3/4  
QUIZZES 1-3 SCORES RETURNED, 3/4  
COGLAB 1-4 SCORES RETURNED, 3/4  
3/4, 3/6 |
| WEEK 8 | Lecture, 3/11  
Lecture and *** Quiz 5 – Chapter 5 *** 3/13  
CogLab 8: Serial Position  
3/11, 3/13 |
| WEEK 9 | Lecture, 3/18  
CogLab Day, 3/20  
3/18, 3/20 |
| WEEK 10 | *** SPRING BREAK ***  
3/25, 3/27 |
| WEEK 11 | *** CESAR CHAVEZ DAY HOLIDAY ***, 4/1  
Lecture, 4/3  
4/1, 4/3 |
| WEEK 12 | *** Open Book Quiz 6 *** Monday, 4/8  
*** EXAM 2 *** Wednesday, 4/10  
*** CogLab 5-8 Due *** Wednesday, 4/10  
4/8, 4/10 |
<table>
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<th>WEEK 13</th>
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<tr>
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<td>CogLab 9: Mental Rotation</td>
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<td>EXAM 2 SCORES RETURNED, 4/17</td>
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<tr>
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<td>CogLab 10: Lexical Decision</td>
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<th>WEEK 15</th>
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<tr>
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<td>*** Open Book Quiz 9 *** Wednesday, 5/1</td>
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<td>*** CogLab 9-10 Due *** Wednesday, 5/1</td>
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| WEEK 16 | *** Open Book Quiz 10 *** 5/6 |
|---------| *** EXAM 3 *** 5/8 |
|         | 5/6, 5/8 |

| WEEK 17 | CogLab Study Day 5/13 |
|---------| EXAM 3 SCORES RETURNED, 5/15 |
|         | QUIZZES 7-10 SCORES RETURNED, 5/15 |
|         | COGLAB 9-10 SCORES RETURNED, 5/15 |
|         | *** FINAL *** Wednesday, 5/15 9:45-12:00 |
|         | 5/13, 5/15 |