San Jose State University  
Department of Psychology  
PSYC 135, Cognition, Sec. 01 (20647)  
Spring 2016

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

**Office Location:** DMH 313

**Telephone:** 408-924-5633

**Email:** laree.huntsman@sjsu.edu

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 1:45-2:30

**Class Days/Time:** Tuesday and Thursday 12:00-1:15

**Classroom:** Clark Building 117 (CL 117)

**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**

**Textbooks** (available at campus 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).

Electronic Policy

Do not use laptops or any electronic devices in class during lecture
Turn off and put away all electronic devices in class during lecture
Do not send or receive text messages or phone calls during class
Do not look at, hold, touch, or think about your phone in class.
Do not make audio or video recordings in class.
Do not take pictures in class
Unless you have a documented medical excuse, there are no laptops in class during lecture.
Unless you have a documented medical excuse, do not record the lectures.
If you have a documented medical excuse, you must provide it in writing, and you must register with me to send me all of the recordings and notes once a week.

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.
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 books, newspapers, etc. 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.
Refrain from asking, "When do we get our scores?" (Return dates listed)
Refrain from asking, "I wasn't in class today, did I miss anything important?"
Refrain from asking, "May I have a copy of your notes and overheads?"
Refrain from saying, "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 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, Spring 2016, the last day to drop or withdraw without a "W" grade is Tuesday, February 9.

**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.

**Course Requirements, Assignments, and Grading Policy**

**EXAMS (400 points):**

There will be four 100-points closed notes exams. The first 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** green book required). Exam 4 will be
administered during the university final examination time period. To prepare for the final reread your lecture notes, study guides, CogLab assignment questions, and the Chapter Summaries for the entire semester.

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 ten 10-point 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. Seven of the quizzes are closed book and three of the quizzes are open book. Quizzes 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9 are closed book quizzes. Quizzes 3, 6, and 10 are open book quizzes. The material covered on the quizzes comes from the textbook and the CogLab assignments. The CogLab assignments are coupled with the textbook chapters and will help you study for the quizzes (see schedule on last page).

MISSED QUIZ:

Each quiz is worth ten points and is **only** given to students that are in attendance, in class, on the day of the scheduled quiz. You must make every effort to take the ten quizzes on the scheduled days because **THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES** given **EVER** 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. So even though they may not be due you are strongly advised to follow a schedule in which you complete the CogLab assignments along with you chapter readings. The ten 10-point CogLab assignments are
as follows: 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. CogLab assignments will be graded on a credit/no credit basis. Using complete sentences provide answers to the Basic Questions portion of the CogLab assignment. Please read and think about but 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 (2 points 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 - 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 - 92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 - 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84 - 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 - 83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 - 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74 - 76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 - 73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 - 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>64 - 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60 - 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 – 59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HOW TO EVALUATE YOUR PERFORMANCE ON A QUIZ:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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).

Extra Credit Options

There is NO extra credit in this course.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>558 - 600</td>
<td>93+ %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>540 - 559</td>
<td>90+ %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>522 - 539</td>
<td>87+ %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>504 - 521</td>
<td>84+ %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

Religious Holidays

If you wish to observe a religious holiday, I will make every effort to honor your request without penalty (http://sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf).

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 Accessible Education Center (http://www.sjsu.edu/aec/). 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 2016, COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1  Course orientation
  1/28

WEEK 2  Lecture
  2/2, 2/4

WEEK 3  Lecture, 2/9
  Lecture and *** Quiz 1 – Chapter 1 *** Thursday, 2/11
  CogLab 1: Brain Asymmetry
  2/9, 2/11

WEEK 4  Lecture, 2/16
  Lecture and *** CogLab 1-4 Due *** Thursday, 2/18
  Lecture and *** Quiz 2 – Chapter 2 *** Thursday, 2/18
  Cog Lab 2: Visual Search
  CogLab 3: Partial Report
  2/16, 2/18

WEEK 5  *** Open Book Quiz 3 - Chapter 3 *** Tuesday, 2/23
  CogLab 4: Stroop Task
  COGLAB 1-4 SCORES RETURNED, 2/23
  QUIZZES 1-2 SCORES RETURNED, 2/23
  *** EXAM 1 *** Thursday, 2/25
  2/23, 2/25

WEEK 6  Lecture, 3/1
  Lecture and *** Quiz 4 – Chapter 4 *** Thursday, 3/3
  CogLab 5: Brown-Peterson Task
  CogLab 6: Memory Span
  CogLab 7: Sternberg Search
  EXAM 1 SCORES RETURNED, 3/3
  3/1, 3/3

WEEK 7  Lecture, 3/8
  Lecture and *** Quiz 5 – Chapter 5 *** Thursday, 3/10
  CogLab 8: Serial Position
  3/8, 3/10

WEEK 8  Lecture
  *** CogLab 5-8 Due *** Thursday, 3/17
  3/15, 3/17

WEEK 9  *** Open Book Quiz 6 – Chapter 6 *** Tuesday, 3/22
QUICKS 4-6 SCORES POSTED, 3/24
COGLAB 5-8 SCORES POSTED, 3/24
CogLab Day (no class), 3/24
3/22, 3/24

WEEK 10  *** SPRING BREAK ***
3/29, 3/31

WEEK 11  CogLab Day (no class), 4/5
*** EXAM 2 *** Thursday, 4/7
4/5, 4/7

WEEK 12  Lecture, 4/12
*** CogLab 9-10 Due *** Tuesday, 4/12
Lecture and *** Quiz 7 – Chapter 7 *** Thursday, 4/14
CogLab 9: Mental Rotation
COGLAB 9-10 SCORES RETURNED, 4/14
EXAM 2 SCORES RETURNED, 4/14
4/12, 4/14

WEEK 13  Lecture, 4/19
Lecture and *** Quiz 8 – Chapter 9 *** Thursday, 4/21
CogLab 10: Lexical Decision
4/19, 4/21

WEEK 14  Lecture, 4/26
Lecture and *** Quiz 9 – Chapter 10 *** Thursday, 4/28
4/26, 4/28

WEEK 15  Lecture, 5/3
*** Open Book Quiz 10 – Chapter 11 *** Thursday, 5/5
5/3, 5/5

WEEK 16  *** EXAM 3 *** Tuesday, 5/10
Last Class Lecture (final review), 5/12
QUIZZES 7-10 SCORES RETURNED, 5/12
EXAM 3 SCORES RETURNED, 5/12
5/10, 5/12

WEEK 17  *** FINAL *** Friday, 5/20
9:45-12:00
5/20