Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Patrick F. Cravalho, PhD
Email: patrick.cravalho@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: By Zoom appointment only.
Class Days/Time: N/A, class is asynchronous
Classroom: N/A, class is asynchronous
Prerequisite: Psyc 001 General Psychology

Course Description

The activity of knowing: acquisition, organization and use of knowledge. Processes involved in that activity, including perception, memory, thinking and language.

Course Goal

The goal of this course is to provide you with an accurate understanding of basic cognitive psychology concepts. This goal will be achieved through experiences with cognitive psychology research questions and experiments, opportunities to research a topic in cognitive psychology and to explain an experiment based on that topic to the teacher and your classmates in your own words.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

- CLO 1 – Display knowledge of the relevant cognitive psychology concepts and theories.
- CLO 2 – Describe, in writing, various concepts within the field of cognitive psychology.
- CLO 3 – Design an experiment that displays knowledge of a specific topic in cognitive psychology.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)

Upon successful completion of the psychology major requirements, the following are expected…

1. *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.  
   *Psyc 135 meets this PLO*

2. *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.  
   *Psyc 135 meets this PLO*
3. **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. **Psyc 135 meets this PLO**

4. **PLO4 – Application of Psychology** – Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues. **Psyc 135 meets this PLO**

5. **PLO5 – Values in Psychology** – Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society. **Psyc 135 meets this PLO**

### Equipment / material requirements

1. Computer, Internet, and SJSU library access.
2. Access to Google documents, sheets, and slides and/or access to Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. SJSU students can utilize Microsoft Online (which includes Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) for free (see [http://itsdev2.sjsu.edu/services/software/microsoft-students/index.html#instructions](http://itsdev2.sjsu.edu/services/software/microsoft-students/index.html#instructions)).

### Library Liaison

Christa Bailey ([christa.bailey@sjsu.edu](mailto:christa.bailey@sjsu.edu)). Libguide: [http://libguides.sjsu.edu/psychology](http://libguides.sjsu.edu/psychology).

### Office Hours

You need to contact me at [patrick.cravalho@sjsu.edu](mailto:patrick.cravalho@sjsu.edu) to make an appointment being that this course will be taken asynchronously online. For any schedule appointment with me, you to generate a specific agenda and/or questions to guide the appointment.

### Email Communication

All email communications need to be addressed to my sjsu.edu email address (listed above) and include “Psyc 135” in the subject line. **Please DO NOT email me through Canvas EVER.** As a rule of thumb, write separate emails for communicating different topics, rather than writing about multiple topics under one email subject line. This helps me to avoid missing any important information that you wish to share.

### Checking Canvas regularly

I will regularly post materials, information, etc. on the follow links on our Psyc 135 Canvas webpage: Announcements, Assignments, Grades, Pages, and Files. Therefore, you need to regularly check our Psyc 135 Canvas webpage (all of the links listed above are on the left side of our Psyc 135 Canvas webpage).

### Checking your SJSU email regularly

If I need to contact you or send you feedback on an assignment, but I have not received any prior email communication from another one of your email accounts, I will contact you via your sjsu.edu email address. Therefore, you need to regularly check your sjsu.edu email address.

### Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus. More details about student workload can be found in [University Policy S16-9](#).
Quizzes

There will be six quizzes, worth a total of 130 points. All quizzes will include multiple-choice questions and will be taken through Canvas. There is no comprehensive midterm or final.

Self-tests and Quiz Reviews

A self-test (I used to call these study guides) will be available for each quiz (except for the first quiz covering the syllabus) beginning about a week before the quiz date. You will be able to review every quiz during the week following the quiz via a video posted on the Pages link.

Make-up Quizzes

If you do not complete a quiz by the specified due date, you will receive zero points for that quiz. If you have a legitimate reason for missing the quiz, a make-up quiz may be permitted. However, you will need to contact me via my SJSU email (listed above) as soon as you can to alert me that you will miss the quiz and let me know your legitimate reason for missing the quiz. You will also need to email me documentation (e.g., doctor’s note) verifying the legitimate reason, so that we can schedule the make-up quiz as quickly as possible and not delay the posting of the quiz review video. Make-up quizzes must be completed before the next quiz is taken. Check the schedule before classes start and if you know you will have to miss a quiz now, contact me well before the quiz is scheduled so we can figure out the best way for you to make it up ahead of time.

Research Description & Design Assignments

You will complete four assignments, worth a total of 34 points, associated with the psychological research description and design process based on a topic of interest within cognitive psychology. First you will submit your **Topic Choice (3 points)** via Canvas. Next you will submit a **PDF (5 points)** of the peer-reviewed article detailing a cognitive psychology experiment (i.e., an experiment that manipulated an independent variable and measured the impact of that variable on a dependent variable) via Canvas submission. You may NOT use a literature review article or article discussing a non-experiment. (NOTE: the experiment detailed in the article must be related to the topic you chose.) Then you will submit an **Outline of the Article (12 points)**, that is you will design your own experiment related to the topic you chose, as a Word document via Canvas. Finally, you will submit an **Outline of an original Experiment (14 points)**, that is you will design your own experiment related to the topic you chose, as a Word document via Canvas. You will be given examples/templates for each of the outlines. I will provide you with feedback on each of these assignments. Be sure to check your SJSU email as I will send your feedback to that email if I have not received any prior email communications from you. All of these assignments need to be turned by the given due date/time. You are NOT allowed to change your topic without asking Patrick for permission, if you do points may be subtracted from your grades on the research description and design assignments. I will NOT accept any other format than the ones I have specified above for the research description and design assignments. If you submit an assignment in any other format than the ones I have specified above, I will ask you to resubmit the assignment in the correct format and will automatically subtract a point from your point total on that assignment.

Late Research Description & Design Assignment Submission Policy

For each 24-hour period that you submit an assignment after the due date/time, I will subtract 25% off of your grade. No assignment will be accepted 48 hours after the due date/time. If you fail to turn in the topic choice and/or article PDF assignments within the parameters outlined in the “Research Description & Design Assignments” and the “Late Article Research Description & Design Assignment Submission Policy” sections of
this syllabus, you will receive a zero on that assignment(s), but still must complete it/them in order to be eligible to turn in the two outline assignments.

**Online Participation (OP) Assignments**

You will complete twelve online participation assignments via Canvas submission, worth a total of 36 points (3 points each). You will only receive credit for an online assignment if you submit your work on the assignment before the scheduled due date.

**Online Participation Assignment Make-up Policy**

If you have a legitimate reason for missing an online assignment, you may be permitted to make up the online assignment. However, you will need to contact me as early as you can, let me know your legitimate reason for missing the assignment, and provide documentation verifying the legitimate reason you missed the assignment. If you miss the assignment due to an unanticipated reason, contact me as soon as you can to explain your reason and to provide documentation of why. If you don’t contact me at least 24 hours after the assignment took place, you will not be allowed a make-up, regardless of whether you have a legitimate excuse.

**Extra Credit Opportunities**

A total of ten extra credit points may be added to your final point total if you take advantage of the following opportunities. This is a substantial amount, but the points must be earned and are being made available to encourage specific behaviors.

The first opportunity will be to earn five points for downloading and completely filling out ALL FIVE self-tests and submitting a copy (via Canvas) of each self-test two days before the corresponding quiz is taken. For example, Quiz 1 is scheduled for Tuesday (6/9), so you must turn in the Quiz 1 self-test by 11:59pm on Sunday (6/7). You may submit your self-tests as typed in Word docs or as attached pictures of written-on self-tests via Canvas. I will tier these points (i.e., if you submit 4/5 self-tests, you receive 4 extra credit points, if you submit 3/5, you receive 3 extra credit points, etc.). This opportunity is meant to encourage you to use the self-tests in preparing for each quiz and to begin studying early rather than cramming the night before the quiz.

The second opportunity will be to earn four points for turning in ALL FOUR research description and design assignments early. Specifically, you must submit each assignment a day early. For example, your topic choice is due by 11:59pm on Friday (6/5), so you must turn it in before 11:59pm on Thursday (6/4) for it to count as submitting your topic choice a day early. This opportunity is meant to encourage you to complete assignments early rather than procrastinate in completing your assignments.

The final opportunity is to earn a point for completing all 12 of the online participation assignments. This opportunity is meant to encourage you to fully participate in our online course and learn as much as you can.

**Grading Policy**

Your grade will be based on the total amount of points (200 possible points) you receive from quizzes (130 possible points), research description and design assignments (34 possible points), and online participation assignments (36 possible points). Below is a breakdown of the amount of points needed to earn the specified letter grades. (*NOTE:* Individual quiz and assignment totals may change over the course of the semester causing a change in the total amount of points.) All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the
determination of their course grades. See University Policy F13-1 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf for more details.

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>200+</td>
<td>A+ (100%)</td>
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<td>175-178</td>
<td>B+ (~88-89%)</td>
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<td>155-158</td>
<td>C+ (~78-79%)</td>
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<td>135-138</td>
<td>D+ (~68–69%)</td>
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<td>185-199</td>
<td>A (~93-99%)</td>
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<td>165-174</td>
<td>B (~83-87%)</td>
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<td>145-154</td>
<td>C (~73-77%)</td>
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<td>125-134</td>
<td>D (~63–67%)</td>
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<td>179-184</td>
<td>A- (~90-92%)</td>
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<td>159-164</td>
<td>B- (~80-82%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>139-144</td>
<td>C- (~70-72%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>120-124</td>
<td>D- (~60–62%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less than 117</td>
<td>F (~59% or less)</td>
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Diversity Statement

As the instructor of this course, it is my goal to create a safe and diversity-sensitive learning environment that respects the rights, dignity, and welfare of all students, faculty, and staff. Diversity means the fair representation of all groups of individuals, the inclusion of minority perspectives and voices, and appreciation of different cultural and socioeconomic group practices. I aspire to foster and maintain an atmosphere that is free from discrimination, harassment, exploitation, or intimidation.

Student Athletes

If you are a student athlete, please inform me at the beginning of the semester of any team obligations. If there are any conflicts between your obligations and class participation/assignment, we may need to figure out alternative arrangements for you to participate or complete an assignment.

Links to University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU’s policies and practices via University Policy S90–5 (http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf). More detailed information on a variety of related topics is also available in the SJSU catalog (http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html).

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness (http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html). Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document (http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course. Therefore, neither recording of class lectures or discussions nor distribution of course materials are allowed. Failure to follow this policy will be considered a violation of course academic integrity policy and will result in immediate expulsion from the class, a grade of F in the course, and reporting the student to the University and proper authorities for further sanctions.

Academic integrity

The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf 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 (http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/).
**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

Presidential Directive 97-03 ([http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf)) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/aec](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) to establish a record of their disability.

**Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays**

According to University Policy S14-7 ([http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf)), SJSU shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class.

**Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center ([http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/)) located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union.

**SJSU Peer Connections**

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at [http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) for more information.

**SJSU Writing Center & SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. To make an appointment or to refer to the online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit their website at [http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter).

SJSU Counseling Services in the Administration Building, Room 201. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit the Counseling Services website at [http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling).

**Course Schedule**

We will follow the schedule below to the greatest extent possible, but the schedule is subject to change. You will be given fair notice of any schedule changes via Canvas announcements & emails to the address associated with your MySJSU account.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Tasks broken down by Day</th>
<th>Additional Tasks &amp; Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong>: M 6/1 – Sun 6/7</td>
<td><strong>Mon (6/1)</strong>: Read Psyc 135 Syllabus (download from Canvas Files link) &amp; watch Course Overview video on Canvas Pages link</td>
<td>Topic Choice (3 points) due by 11:59pm on Friday (6/5); early deadline is 11:59pm on Thursday (6/4)</td>
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<td><strong>Tue (6/2)</strong>: Take Syllabus Quiz on Canvas Quizzes link by 11:59pm</td>
<td>Quiz 1 Self-test due by 11:59pm on Sunday (6/7)</td>
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<td><strong>Wed (6/3)</strong>: Watch Syllabus Quiz Review video and Introduction to Cognitive Psychology video on Canvas Pages link</td>
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<td><strong>Thu (6/4)</strong>: Watch Perception video on Canvas Pages link</td>
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<td><strong>Fri (6/5)</strong>: Complete Perception OP Assignment on Canvas Assignments link by 11:59pm</td>
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<td><strong>Sat (6/6)</strong>: Watch Attention video on Canvas Pages link</td>
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<td><strong>Sun (6/7)</strong>: Complete Attention OP Assignment on Canvas Assignments link by 11:59pm</td>
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<td>Week</td>
<td>Tasks broken down by Day</td>
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<td>Week 2: M 6/8 – Sun 6/14</td>
<td>Mon (6/8): Complete <strong>Stroop Test OP Assignment</strong> Canvas Assignments link by 11:59pm Tue (6/9): Take <strong>Quiz 1 (Perception &amp; Attention)</strong> on Canvas Quizzes link by 11:59pm Wed (6/10): Watch Quiz 1 (P &amp; A) Review video on Canvas Pages link Thu (6/11): Watch <strong>Everyday Memory &amp; Memory Errors</strong> video on Canvas Pages link Fri (6/12): Complete <strong>Everyday Memory &amp; Memory Errors OP Assignment</strong> on Canvas Assignments link by 11:59pm Sat (6/13): Watch <strong>Short-term &amp; Working Memory</strong> video on Canvas Pages link Sun (6/14): Complete <strong>Short-term &amp; Working Memory OP Assignment</strong> on Canvas Assignments link by 11:59pm</td>
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<td>Article PDF (5 points) due by 11:59pm on Friday (6/12); early deadline is 11:59pm on Thursday (6/11) Quiz 2 Self-test due by 11:59pm on Saturday (6/13)</td>
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<td>Outline of the Article (12 points) due by 11:59pm on Friday (6/19); early deadline is 11:59pm on Thursday (6/18) Quiz 3 Self-test due by 11:59pm on Friday (6/19)</td>
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<td>Outline of an original Experiment (14 points) due by 11:59pm on Friday (6/26); early deadline is 11:59pm on Thursday (6/25) Quiz 4 Self-test due by 11:59pm on Friday (6/26)</td>
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<td>Week 5: M 6/29 – Sun 7/5</td>
<td>Mon (6/29): Watch <strong>Quiz 4 (VI &amp; L) Review</strong> video on Canvas Pages linkTue (6/30): Watch <strong>Conceptual Knowledge</strong> video on Canvas Pages link Wed (7/1): Complete <strong>Conceptual Knowledge OP Assignment</strong> on Canvas Assignments link by 11:59pm Thu (7/2): Watch <strong>Problem Solving &amp; Creativity</strong> video on Canvas Pages link Fri (7/3): Complete <strong>Problem Solving &amp; Creativity OP Assignment</strong> on Canvas Assignments link by 11:59pm Sat (7/4): Take <strong>Quiz 5 (Conceptual Knowledge &amp; Problem Solving &amp; Creativity)</strong> via Canvas Quizzes link by 11:59pm Sun (7/5): Watch <strong>Quiz 5 (CK &amp; PSC) Review</strong> video on Canvas Pages link</td>
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<td>Quiz 5 Self-test due by 11:59pm on Thursday (7/2)</td>
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