

Huron University College
Department of Psychology

Psychology 2180E – Method and Theory in Cognition
Fall/Winter 2018-2019

1.0 BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

1.1 Course Number: Psychology 2180E

1.2 Course Name: Method and Theory in Cognition

1.3 Class Times: Tuesdays 9:30-10:30 and Thursdays 9:30-11:30, W103

1.4 Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Sandra Hessels
Office: A215
Phone: (519) 438-7224 ext.257
E-mail: shessel@uwo.ca
Office hours: Tuesdays 11:30-12:30 and Fridays 9:30-10:30 or by appointment
Course website: <http://owl.uwo.ca> {*login & password = UWO login ID and password*}

2.0. CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

An introduction to method and theory in the study of human cognitive processes. Topics covered may include: perception, attention, memory, concept formation, language, thinking, problem solving, and comparative cognition. The course will involve both theory and hands-on experience with the research methods used by cognitive psychologists.

Antirequisite(s): Psychology 2135A/B

Prerequisite(s): Psychology 1100E and Psychology 2830A/B. A minimum of 60% is required in Psychology 1100E. May be taken concurrently with Psychology 2830A/B.

3.0 COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students should have:

- Knowledge of the fundamental concepts in human cognition.
- Extensive exposure to human cognition research paradigms.
- Hands-on experience in designing research projects, data collection and analysis, and preparing research reports.

4.0 DESCRIPTION OF CLASS METHODS

This course has two components:

- (1) lectures are designed to help students become acquainted with the content knowledge of the field of Cognitive Psychology.
- (2) lab time will give students first-hand experience in the research methodologies used in research in Cognitive Psychology.

5.0 REQUIRED TEXTS

Sinnett, S., Smilek, D., & Kingstone, A. (2016). *Cognition, Sixth Canadian Edition*. Oxford University Press.

Student Resources Website (practice tests, etc.):

http://www.oupcanada.com/higher_education/companion/psychology/9780199019700/student_resources.html

There will be additional required readings (journal articles, book chapters) assigned throughout the course.

Suggested text: *The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (2009). (6th Ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association

6.0 EVALUATION

1. Midterms (40%): There will be 4 midterm tests. They will be held through the year (see schedule for dates). Each midterm will be worth 10% of the final grade for the course. Midterm tests may cover any and all material (lectures, readings, activities, and discussion) covered since the last midterm.
2. Pop Quizzes/Mini-Assignments (4%): Each term, there will be a minimum of 3 pop quizzes and/or short take-home assignments. Each will be worth 1% of the final grade (you may earn a maximum of 2% per term up to 4%). Quizzes and mini-assignments will be based on readings or activities scheduled.
3. Lab Projects (31%): There will be two lab projects, one per term. The first research project will be worth 14% of the final grade, and the second research project will be worth 17% of the final grade for the course. Details to be provided.
4. Final Exam (25%): The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office. The final exam will include what will essentially be the 5th midterm test as well as a cumulative (covering material over the entire course) essay question.

7.0 Huron Psychology Department Grading Policy

Students at Huron University College should consider a grade in the range from 70-74 to be evidence of satisfactory performance in a 2100-level Psychology course. Grades in the B+ (75-79) or A (80-89%) ranges will only be awarded for performance that is demonstrably superior to the second-year standard associated with the Major or Minor modules. A grade of A+ (90-100%) will only be awarded very rarely and only for work that is truly exceptional.

8.0 Late Penalties, Extensions, and Make-up Tests

Make-up tests will not be allowed. If a test is missed for a legitimate reason appropriate documentation must be submitted in a timely fashion. For further details, see FASS Course Outline Appendix posted on OWL. If accommodation is granted, the remaining components of the evaluation will be re-weighted based on the remaining midterms. If more than 2 midterms are missed over the course, re-weighting will be at the discretion of the instructor.

All lab reports to be handed in are due at the *beginning* of class on the due date (both electronic and hardcopy versions). Any items handed in after this time will be considered late. The penalty for lateness is 2% of the grade per day late (including weekends) up to 14 days late, after which the grade will be zero. Any extensions for legitimate reasons (see Appendix below) must be requested *before* the due date, and appropriate documentation submitted in a timely fashion. If accommodation is granted, an extension will be granted at the discretion of the instructor.

Note that due date extensions and re-weighting of a missed test will not be granted in order to facilitate travel arrangements (other than on compassionate grounds).

9.0 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

NOTE: Lab activities and reading discussions will be interspersed among lectures.

		Chapter
Sept 6	First Day	
Sept 11/13	Introduction	1
Sept 18/20	Cognitive Neuroscience	2
Sept 25/27	Cognitive Neuroscience	
Oct 2/4	Perception	3
Oct 9/11	FALL READING WEEK	
Oct 16	Perception	
Oct 18	Midterm #1	

Oct 23/25	Attention	4
Oct 30	Attention	
Nov 1	Memory Systems	5
Nov 6/8	Memory Systems	
Nov 13/15	Memory Traces and Memory Schemas	6
Nov 20	Memory Traces and Memory Schemas	
Nov 22	Midterm #2	
Nov 27/29	Memory Traces and Memory Schemas	

Dec 4

Dec 6

Lab Project 1 APA-Style Report Due

EXAMS December 10 – December 21, 2018

****Note that there is no December examination in this course****

Jan 8/10	Imagery	7
Jan 15/17	Imagery	
Jan 22/24	Concepts	8
Jan 29/31	Language	9
Feb 5	Language	
Feb 7	Midterm #3	
Feb 12/14	Language	
Feb 19/21	WINTER READING WEEK	
Feb 26/28	Language	
Mar 5/7	Problem Solving	10
Mar 12	Problem Solving	
Mar 14	Midterm #4	
Mar 19/21	Reasoning, Judgment, and Choice	11

Mar 26/28 Intelligence and Creativity 12

Apr 2/4 Intelligence and Creativity

Apr 9 Lab Project 2 APA-Style Report Due

EXAMS April 11 – April 30, 2019

****The Final Exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office ****