

## Brief Course Outline

**Course Title:** **Method and Theory in Cognition**

**Course Number and Section:**

PSYCHOL

2180E 550

**Instructor Name(s):** Melissa Meade

**Instructor Email(s):** MMEADE3@UWO.CA

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

### Course 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.

### Learning Outcomes:

- Understanding of the fundamental concepts in human cognition.
- Extensive exposure to human cognition research paradigms.
- Hands-on experience in executing a research project, including formulating a research question, designing an experiment, collecting and analyzing data, creating data visualizations, and effective communication of research findings.

### Textbooks and Course Materials:

Required textbook: Goldstein, E. B. (2026). Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience (6th ed.). Cengage. The textbook costs \$77.95 for eText or \$199.95 for hardcopy, the supplemental MindTap study tools cost extra and are NOT required. Students are also welcome to purchase a copy of the 5th edition of this textbook but be aware that some information will differ from the most recent 6th edition of the textbook.

Required software: PsychoPy (<https://www.psychopy.org/>) is a free, open-source tool for programming experiments. JASP (<https://jasp-stats.org/>) is a free, open-source tool for statistical analysis of data.

Supplementary reading and other important information can be found on OWL, so please check it regularly. On OWL you can access a copy of this Syllabus, pdf copies of supplementary readings, class announcements, and a place to submit assignments.

There are no additional in-course costs requirements for this course.

**Methods Of Evaluation:**

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Participation & Reflection	Throughout	5
Fall Midterm	10/23/2025	10
Fall Final Exam	TBA	15
Winter Midterm	02/26/2026	10
Winter Final Exam	TBA	15
Group Contract	09/25/2025	1
Topic Proposal	10/30/2025	5
Ethics Submission	11/27/2025	5
Data Visualizations	02/12/2026	5
Academic Poster	03/26/2026	15
Poster Presentation Recording	04/09/2026	10
Peer & Self Evaluation	12/04/2025; 04/09/2026	4

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Monday, August 18, 2025