

PSYC 365	Cognitive Psychology	Winter 2021
<b>Instructor:</b> Julia Kam	<b>Lecture Location:</b> Online	
<b>Phone:</b> 403-220-5954	<b>Lecture Day/Time:</b> TR 4:00-5:15pm	
<b>Email:</b> julia.kam@ucalgary.ca*	<b>TA Name:</b> TBA	
<b>Office:</b> Online (via zoom)	<b>TA Email:</b> TBA	
<b>Office Hours:</b> By Appointment		

\*Email: please enter "**Psych 365**" in the subject line.

### Course Description

Cognitive Psychology is the study of the mind and its operations. This course will provide a general introduction to the theoretical and empirical approaches to the study of human cognitive processes. Major topics covered will include: perception, attention, memory, concepts, language, problem-solving, and decision making. Together, we will use our own minds to understand processes involved in all aspects of our thinking.

### Course Website

The course website is on D2L at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca>. This website contains all lecture videos and slides, important links to other resources, discussion platform, and more. You will also hand in your assignments via D2L. Please check it often.

### Course Format

This course will use a hybrid format. In particular, four classes will be delivered live via Zoom during the scheduled class as marked by asterisks in the course schedule below (Jan 12<sup>th</sup>, Feb 9<sup>th</sup>, Mar 16<sup>th</sup>, Apr 15<sup>th</sup>). They will be recorded and posted to D2L after class. Class materials for the remaining lectures will be posted to the course D2L page by the day/time of each scheduled class as per the course schedule.

### Course Learning Outcomes

The Department of Psychology is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate (see <https://live-arts.ucalgary.ca/psychology/about#program-learning-outcomes>), and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Methods	PLO(s)	Level(s)
Establish an understanding of the basic terminology, concepts, and theories of cognitive psychology.	Exams and Assignments	1, 5	C
Identify, evaluate, and apply relevant theories or concepts of cognitive psychology to explain mental or behavioral phenomena or processes related to human cognition – from empirical findings, to everyday behavior, to issues of social and societal importance.	Exams and Assignments	1, 2, 5, 7	C

Accurately interpret statistical results and figures, and summarize research findings.	Exams and Assignments	3, 4, 5, 7	C
Describe research methods used in studying cognition, as well as their advantages and disadvantages. Identify the most optimal method for addressing any cognition-related research question.	Exams and Assignments	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C
Critically evaluate and communicate research findings and ideas effectively, using clear and concise arguments.	Assignments	2, 3, 4, 5	C

Notes. PLOs = Program-Learning Outcomes: 1 = demonstrate knowledge of psychological sciences, 2 = think critically and solve problems, 3 = conduct research and analyze data, 4 = communicate effectively, 5 = demonstrate information literacy, 6 = understand and implement ethical principles in a diverse world, 7 = apply psychological knowledge and skills, 8 = Demonstrate multicultural competence and awareness of issues related to equity, diversity,\* and inclusion. Level of PLO achievement facilitated by this course: I = introductory, C = competency, A = advanced.

### Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

### Prerequisites

Psych 200 and 201 – Principles of Psychology I and II.

### Required Text

Goldstein, E.B. (2019). *Cognitive psychology: Connecting mind, research, and everyday experience* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston, MA: Cengage.

**Note:** When purchasing this book from the university bookstore, you can choose to purchase the textbook bundled with a *MindTap Access Code*. In this course, we will be completing a number of assignments that draw on the material from the class. If you choose to purchase MindTap, then you will be asked to complete assignments using their CogLab experiments, which will give you an appreciation for some of the classic experiments in Cognitive Psychology. If you go this route, please note that each Access Code will only work once - so if you choose to buy the textbook from another retailer, please ensure that you are getting the bundle with MindTap. Or, if you choose to purchase a previous edition or used copy, and would like MindTap access, you would need to purchase a CogLab Access Code directly from the publisher (it costs about \$50 on its own, but does not include the rest of the MindTap content). The link is here: <https://www.nelsonbrain.com/shop/isbn/9781285461083>.

If you would prefer not to purchase MindTap (or CogLab), you have the option to complete an alternative assignment on the topic (for each of the six assignments). See below for details.

### Assessment Methods

Course component	Weighting	Due date
<b>Midterm exam 1</b> <i>Covers all lecture materials from Jan 12 to Feb 9</i>	20%	February 11

<b>Midterm exam 2</b> <i>Covers all lecture materials from Feb 23 to Mar 16</i>	25%	March 18
<b>Final exam</b> <i>Covers all lecture materials from Mar 23 to Apr 15</i>	30%	TBD
<b>Assignments (25% total)</b>		
Assignment 1 – Sensory and Perception	5%	January 28
Assignment 2 – Attention	5%	February 4
Assignment 3 – Long Term Memory	5%	March 4
Assignment 4 – Everyday Memory	5%	March 11
Assignment 5 – Imagery	5%	April 6

### **Midterm and Final Exams**

Midterm 1 (worth 20% of the final grade; February 11), Midterm 2 (worth 25% of the final grade; March 18) and final exam (worth 30% of the final grade; date TBD) will be based on lecture material, textbook and assignments. Midterms will take the entire class time, and no lectures will be given. All exams will consist of multiple-choice questions. Exams will be non-cumulative (i.e., material covered on midterms will not be explicitly covered in the final exam) but knowledge from earlier sections of the course may be necessary to answer certain questions on later exams. Refer to *Absence from an exam* section in case of absence from midterms or final exam.

Exams in this course are open book. For this course, an open book exam means that the use of class notes and the textbook is permitted. The use of online resources is prohibited. Students may not communicate with others about course material or the exam either in person or electronically during exams. All exams are timed, and will be available on D2L starting at 4pm MT on the day of the exam for 24 hours. Students can begin the exam at a time that best suits their situation. Students have a 24 hour period to start a test or timed assessment. The test will be designed to be completed within class time, but students will also be provided with an additional 50% time to account for any technological issues (75min exam would be set up to allow 113 min to be completed once it is started within the 24 hour period). Accordingly, students will be given two hours to complete the midterms and three hours to complete the final exam. Technology requirements for exam completion include a computer and internet access.

### **Assignments**

CogLab Assignments: CogLab is an online learning platform. It can be purchased as a standalone product (if you purchase used/older versions of the textbook), or it comes included in MindTap (if you purchase a brand new textbook). Coglabs allow students to experience important classic and current experiments in cognitive psychology. They help demonstrate some of the concepts via experiments that we will discuss in the course. There are two parts to each assignment. First, students will complete a specific experiment (or two) on CogLab for each assignment. The experiments are all fairly brief (10-25 minutes). Second, students will complete three to five short answer questions. The questions for the assignment typically include one or two factual questions about the material, a question that requires interpretation of your data relative to predictions, and one or two questions that require application of the concepts outside of the typical cognitive psychology lab or classroom and into everyday life. You will be graded primarily on the content of your responses (e.g. were the interpretations of your data correct), as well as

your communication – including the correct use of relevant terminology.

Alternative Assignments: Students will be asked to read an original research article, and answer questions based on their reading. The topics of these articles will be the same as those for the CogLab assignments, and the length and depth of questions will be as similar as possible.

Each assignment is worth 5% of your final grade. All assignments must be submitted on D2L in the appropriate dropbox folder by 11:59pm (MT) on the due date indicated on the Tentative Schedule. Without instructor approval, late assignments will be penalized 10% per day (including weekend days), up to a maximum of 7 days late. After this time, the assignment will receive a grade of 0.

### **Course Credits for Research Participation (maximum 2% of final grade)**

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation. The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is April 15, 2021.

### **University of Calgary Academic Integrity Policy**

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. Research integrity, ethics, and principles of conduct are key to academic integrity. Members of our campus community are required to abide by our institutional code of conduct and promote academic integrity in upholding the University of Calgary's reputation of excellence. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have read and are familiar with the student academic misconduct policy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

### **Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades**

Psychology course instructors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

**A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance.*** An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

**A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance.*** Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.

**B Range: *Good Performance.*** Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

**C Range: *Satisfactory Performance.*** Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential

requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

D range: *Marginally meets standards.* Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

F grade: *Course standards not met.* Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

**Grading Scale**

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor’s discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

**Tentative Lecture Schedule**

Date	Topic/Activity/Due Date	Chapter Reading
<b>T Jan 12*</b>	Introductions (*via Zoom) Winter Lectures begin.	
R Jan 14	Lecture 1 (L1): Cognitive Psychology	Chapter 1
T Jan 19	L2: Cognitive Neuroscience	Chapter 2
R Jan 21	L3: Cognitive Neuroscience Last day to drop a class without financial penalty	Chapter 2
F Jan 22	Last day to add or swap a course	
T Jan 26	L4: Sensation and Perception	Chapter 3
R Jan 28	L5: Sensation and Perception <b>*Assignment 1 due</b>	Chapter 3
F Jan 29	Tuition fee deadline	
T Feb 2	L6: Attention	Chapter 4
R Feb 4	L7: Attention <b>*Assignment 2 due</b>	Chapter 4
<b>T Feb 9*</b>	Review Session for L1-L7 (*via Zoom)	
R Feb 11	<b>Midterm 1 (L1-L7)</b>	<b>Chapters 1-4</b>
Feb 14-20	Reading Week. No lectures. University open (except Family Day). Alberta Family Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.	

M Feb 15	Alberta Family Day, University closed (except Taylor Family Digital Library, Law, Medical, Gallagher and Business Libraries). No lectures.	
T Feb 23	L8: Sensory, Short-Term & Working Memory	Chapter 5
R Feb 25	L9: Sensory, Short-Term & Working Memory	Chapter 5
T Mar 2	L10: Long-Term Memory	Chapters 6 & 7
R Mar 4	L11: Long-Term Memory <b>*Assignment 3 due</b>	Chapters 6 & 7
T Mar 9	L12: Everyday Memory & Memory Errors	Chapter 8
R Mar 11	L13: Everyday Memory & Memory Errors <b>*Assignment 4 due</b>	Chapter 8
<b>T Mar 16*</b>	Review Session for L8-13 (*via Zoom)	
R Mar 18	<b>Midterm 2 (L8-13)</b>	<b>Chapters 5-8</b>
T Mar 23	L14: Conceptual Knowledge	Chapter 9
R Mar 25	L15: Conceptual Knowledge	Chapter 9
T Mar 30	L16: Language	Chapter 11
R Apr 1	L17: Language	Chapter 11
F Apr 2	Good Friday	
M Apr 5	Non-Instructional Day, University Open	
T Apr 6	L18: Imagery <b>*Assignment 5 due</b>	Chapter 10
R Apr 8	L19: Problem Solving	Chapter 12
T Apr 13	L20: Decision Making	Chapter 13
<b>R Apr 15*</b>	Review Session for L14-20 (*via Zoom)	
R Apr 15	Last day of classes	
<b>Apr 19-29</b>	<b>Final Exam (L14-20; Date TBD)</b>	<b>Chapters 9-13</b>

**\* dates indicate synchronous lectures (on zoom)**

### **Absence From an Exam**

Makeup exams are **NOT** an option without the approval of the instructor. Students who miss an exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor to ask for a makeup exam. It's the instructor's discretion if they will allow a make-up exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Once approved by the instructor a makeup exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed exam on a day/time scheduled by the instructor. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

### **Travel During Exams**

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making

any travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>. Students with an exceptional extenuating circumstance (e.g., a family emergency) should contact the Department of Psychology (psyugrd@ucalgary.ca).

### **Reappraisal of Term Work or Final Grade**

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

### **Academic Accommodations**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

### **Academic Misconduct**

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **Copyright Legislation**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ([www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf)) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

### **Student Support and Resources**

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>

### **Important Dates**

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Thursday, January 21, 2021**. Last day add/swap a course is **Friday, January 22, 2021**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Thursday, April 15, 2021** <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>