



FACULTY OF SCIENCE
SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC3221 VISION AND BRAIN
SESSION 1 2016

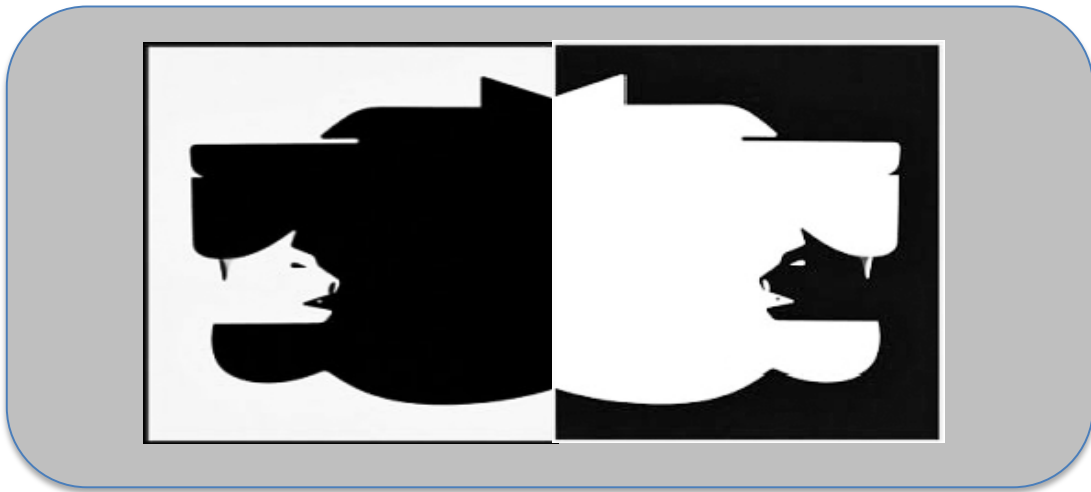
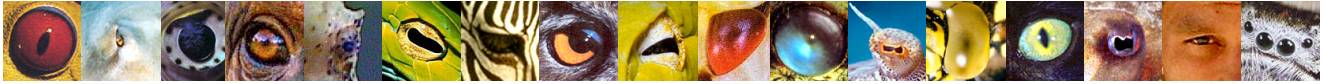


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1. Information about the Course

FACULTY	Science		
SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT	Psychology		
COURSE CODE	PSYC3221		
COURSE NAME	Vision and Brain		
SEMESTER	Semester 1	YEAR	2016
UNITS OF CREDIT	6	LEVEL OF COURSE	Stage 3 elective
ASSUMED KNOWLEDGE, PREREQUISITES OR CO-REQUISITES	PSYC2071 Perception and Cognition PSYC2001 Research Methods 2		
SUMMARY OF THE COURSE	<p><i>“Attempts to construct computer models for the recognition and interpretation of arbitrary scenes have resulted in such poor performance, limited range of abilities and inflexibility that, were it not for the human existence proof, we may have been tempted long ago to conclude that high performance, general purpose vision is impossible.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Barrow & Tannenbaum, 1971)</i></p> <p>Although written over 40 years ago, the above statement is still pertinent and relevant today: while seemingly effortless, human visual perception is a complex achievement taking up 40% of the entire cortex. In this course, the problem of visual processing will be considered from ecological, physiological, philosophical, and computational perspectives. The general orientation of the course is a theoretical one but applied aspects such as the role of basic perceptual processes in disorders such as autism and schizophrenia, and the implications for the design of effective visual displays will be discussed as well.</p>		

2. Staff Involved in the Course

Course Coordinator:	Contact Details	Consultation Times
Prof Colin Clifford	Mathews 1013 9385-1050 colin.clifford@unsw.edu.au	<i>Email or phone for questions or appointments, or consult immediately following lectures.</i>

Lecturers	Contact Details	Consultation Times
Prof Colin Clifford	Mathews 1013 9385-1050 colin.clifford@unsw.edu.au	<i>Email or phone for questions or appointments, or consult immediately following lectures.</i>
Dr Damien Mannion	Mathews 1014 9385-0372 d.mannion@unsw.edu.au	<i>Email or phone for questions or appointments, or consult immediately following lectures.</i>
A/Prof Branka Spehar	Mathews 715 9385-1463 b.spehar@unsw.edu.au	<i>Email or phone for questions or appointments, or consult immediately following lectures.</i>

Tutor	Contact Details	Consultation Times
Nathan Mifsud	Mathews 1402 nathan.mifsud@unsw.edu.au	<i>Email for questions or appointments, or consult immediately following laboratory classes.</i>

3. Course Timetable

Component	Class Number	Day	Time	Location
Lectures	3656	Monday	16:00-17:00	Central Lecture Block 2
		Thursday	11:00-12:00	Central Lecture Block 3
Tutorials/Labs	3657	Monday	11:00-13:00	Mathews 203
	3659	Wednesday	9:00-11:00	Mathews 203
	3660	Wednesday	13:00-15:00	Mathews 203

Lectures start in Week 1 (first lecture on Monday 29/2/2016), finish in Week 12.
Laboratory classes start in Week 2, finish in Week 13

NB. Course timetables are subject to change without notice and students are advised to check regularly for updates on the Moodle course site.

4. Course Aims

The main objectives of this course are to:

- 1) Provide an advanced-level coverage of theoretical issues and research in visual perception through lectures and tutorials with an emphasis on the interdisciplinary nature of the scientific study of perceptual processes;
- 2) Encourage you to critically evaluate theoretical claims and empirical evidence about perceptual processes;
- 3) Develop skills in the design and conduct of empirical research in this area;
- 4) Develop skills in the oral and written presentation of scientific information

5. Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course you will be able to demonstrate:

<p>1. An advanced knowledge and understanding of:</p>	<p>1.1. Vision and visual perception as a discipline and its major objectives</p> <p>1.2. Major classical and contemporary theoretical views in the area of perception and visual neuroscience</p> <p>1.3. Major contemporary advances in studying visual perception from psychophysical, physiological and computational approaches</p> <p>1.4. The ability to explain psychological phenomena using concepts and principles drawn from vision and perceptual processing in general.</p>
<p>2. An advanced knowledge of research methods in visual perception, enabling you to:</p>	<p>2.1. Perform literature searches; Locate, evaluate and use information appropriately in the research process</p> <p>2.2. Use basic web-search, spreadsheet and data analysis programs</p> <p>2.3. Describe and implement major psychophysical methods for measuring perceptual performance (for example, signal detection approach, method of constant stimuli, method of paired comparison, rating scales etc.)</p> <p>2.4. Design and implement computer-based experimental procedure for measuring various aspects of visual processing (for example, absolute and differential sensitivity, search efficiency; visual appearance etc.)</p> <p>2.5. Design and conduct basic studies in the area of perceptual processing: frame research questions; and formulate testable hypotheses; operationalize variables; choose an appropriate methodology, make valid and reliable measurements; analyse data and interpret results</p>

<p>3. Developed advanced critical thinking skills, enabling you to:</p>	<p>3.1. Apply knowledge of the scientific method in thinking about perceptual problems</p> <p>3.2. Question claims that arise from myth, stereotype, pseudo-science or untested assumptions</p> <p>3.3. Evaluate the quality of information, including differentiating between different types of empirical evidence and differentiating evidence from speculation</p> <p>3.4. Critically analyse theoretical and empirical studies</p> <p>3.5. Identify and evaluate the source and context of a wide range of visual perception phenomena (for example, visual illusions, aftereffects, adaptation, crowding, seeing the forest before the trees, etc.)</p> <p>3.6. Evaluate phenomena in visual perception using a range of different theoretical and methodological approaches.</p> <p>3.7. Demonstrate creative and pragmatic problem-solving</p> <p>3.8. Use reasoning and evidence to recognise, develop, defend, and criticise arguments and persuasive appeals</p>
<p>4. Developed an advanced appreciation of values, research and professional ethics, including the ability to:</p>	<p>4.1. Use information in an ethical manner</p> <p>4.2. Exhibit a scientific attitude in critically thinking about phenomena in visual perception.</p> <p>4.3. Evaluate psychologists' behaviour in psychological research in relation to the Australian Psychological Society Code of Ethics and the complementary Ethical guidelines.</p> <p>4.4. Promote evidence-based approaches to understanding perceptual phenomena and their application</p> <p>4.5. Collaborate effectively in small groups: an ability to work with others productively; to manage conflicts appropriately and ethically</p>
<p>5. Developed effective communication skills, including the ability to:</p>	<p>5.1. Demonstrate effective oral communication skills</p> <p>5.2. Write a standard research report using American Psychological Association (APA) structure and formatting conventions</p> <p>5.3. Write effectively in a variety of other formats (e.g., essays, research proposals, summary presentations)</p> <p>5.4. Demonstrate effective interpersonal communication skills including listening accurately and actively; provide constructive feedback to others; adopt flexible techniques to communicate sensitively and effectively with diverse ethnic and cultural partners, including in the context of team-work</p> <p>5.5. Collaborate effectively within groups to complete projects within reasonable timeframes</p>
<p>6. Learning and application of psychology</p>	<p>6.1. Apply knowledge of the visual processing in thinking about problems related to the creation of efficient visual designs and optimal human factors interfaces.</p> <p>6.2. Demonstrate understanding of and the ability to apply basic research methods for measuring various aspects of processing of visual stimuli outside of laboratory</p> <p>6.3. Demonstrate understanding of the role of visual processing in a range of developmental disorders such as autism and schizophrenia</p> <p>6.4. Apply the principle of visual processing to the production and appreciation of art</p>

6. Summary of Graduate Attributes Developed and Assessed in this Course

School of Psychology Graduate Attributes ¹	Level of Focus 0 = No focus 1 = Minimal 2 = Minor 3 = Major	Activities/Assessment
1. Core knowledge and understanding	3	Activities: Lectures, Laboratory classes Assessment: Mid-session and Final examination, Research Article Critical Review Assignment
2. Research methods in psychology	3	Activities: Lectures, Group research project Assessment: Mid-session and Final examination, Group presentation, Individual written report
3. Critical thinking skills	3	Activities: Lectures, Laboratory classes Assessment: Mid-session and Final examination, Research Article Critical Review Assignment; Individual Research Report
4. Values, research and professional ethics	2	Activities: Group research project (research ethics)
5. Communication skills	3	Activities: Laboratory classes; Group research project Assessment: Research Article Critical Review; Oral presentation; Research project poster presentation; Individual Research Report
6. Learning and application of psychology	2	Activities: Lectures, Research Article Critical Review Assignment; Laboratory classes

7. Rationale for the Inclusion of Content and Teaching Approach

This course provides an advanced treatment of theoretical, physiological and computational approaches in the study of visual perception. It follows on, and assumes knowledge, from PSYC2071 Perception and Cognition.

The two, one-hour lectures each week will be used to provide students with an advanced coverage of a selected number of topics within the fields of perception and visual neuroscience as well as implications for a number of diverse areas ranging from design to advertising and human factors interaction. The laboratory classes are designed to allow opportunities for in-depth and active learning of research methods in perception and development of oral and written presentation skills. All lectures and tutorials encourage an interactive style with questions being asked, and expected, in order to promote reflective and active learning. The teaching employs a variety of different methods and encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning and to work cooperatively.

The design of the structure, content and assessment of this course has been informed by the policy document "Guidelines on learning that inform teaching at UNSW" (see www.guidelinesonlearning.unsw.edu.au).

¹ The *Graduate Attributes of the Australian Undergraduate Psychology Program* was produced as part of the Carrick Associate Fellowship project, "Sustainable and evidence-based learning and teaching approaches to the undergraduate psychology curriculum", and "Designing a diverse and future-oriented vision for undergraduate psychology in Australia", a Discipline-based Initiative funded by the Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education (see Appendix II), and supported by the Australian Psychological Society, and the University of New South Wales (School of Psychology; Learning and Teaching @UNSW).

8. Course Schedule

8.1. Lecture Schedule

Week/Date		Lecture Topic & Lecturer	Suggested Readings
1	Mon, 29/02 Thur, 03/03	Introduction/ Theoretical Approaches (Branka)	Mather, G. (2011) Perceptual Inference (ch.7), In Essentials of Sensation and Perception, Routledge, London and New York, pp--109-128. van Tonder G J, Ejima Y, 2000, "Bottom - up clues in target finding: Why a Dalmatian may be mistaken for an elephant" <i>Perception</i> 29 (2) 149 – 157
2	Mon 07/03 Thur 10/03	Vision and the Coding of Natural images (Branka)	Olshausen & Field (2003) Vision and the coding of natural images, <i>American Scientist</i> , 88, 238-245. Gilchrist, A. (2006) Seeing in Black and White. <i>Scientific American (Mind)</i> 42-49.
3	Mon 14/03 Thur 17/03	Scale-specific visual processing (Branka)	Snowden, P. & Schyns, P. (2006) Channel surfing in the visual brain. <i>Trends in Cognitive Sciences</i> , 10, 12, 538-545. Bar, M. (2004) Visual Objects in Context. <i>Nature Reviews Neuroscience</i> , 5, 617-629.
4	Mon, 21/03 Thur 24/03	Vision in Autism and Schizophrenia (Branka)	Berhmann, Thomas & Humphreys (2006) Seeing it differently: visual processing in autism. <i>Trends in Cognitive Sciences</i> , 10, 6, 258-264. Yang, E., Tadin, D., Glasser, D.M., Hong, S.W., Blake, R., & Park, S. (2013) Visual context processing in schizophrenia. <i>Clinical Psychological Science</i> , 1, 5-15.
UNIVERSITY HOLIDAYS			
5	Mon 04/04	Mid- Session Exam Mid-session exam will be based on lecture and tutorial material from Weeks 1-4	
	Thur 07/04	The visual brain and its investigation 1 (Damien)	Ward, J. (2006) <i>The Student's Guide to Cognitive Neuroscience</i> . Psychology Press. (Chapters 3-5)
6	Mon, 11/04 Thur 14/04	The visual brain and its investigation 2 Low-level visual cortex 1 (Damien)	Van Essen, D.C. (2004) Organisation of visual areas in macaque and human cerebral cortex. In L.M. Chalupa & J.S. Werner (Eds.) <i>The Visual Neurosciences</i> . MIT Press. Barlow, H. (1982) David Hubel and Torsten Wiesel: Their contributions towards understanding the primary visual cortex. <i>Trends in Neurosciences</i> , 5, 145 - 152.
7	Mon 18/04 Thur 21/04	Low-level visual cortex 2 Mid-level processing streams 1 (Damien)	Issa, N. P., Rosenberg, A. & Husson, T. R. (2008) Models and measurements of functional maps in V1. <i>J Neurophysiol</i> , 99, 2745-2754. Ungerleider, L. & Pasternak, T. (2004) Ventral and dorsal cortical processing streams. In L.M. Chalupa & J.S. Werner (Eds.) <i>The Visual Neurosciences</i> . MIT Press.

	Mon 25/04	No lecture – Public holiday	
8	Thur 28/04	Mid-level processing streams 2 (Damien)	Epstein, R. A. & MacEvoy, S. P. (2011) Making a scene in the brain. In L.R. Harris & M.R.M. Jenkin (Eds.) Vision in 3D Environments, Cambridge University Press.
9	Mon 02/05	Functional specialisation (Damien 7)	Kanwisher, N. (2010) Functional specificity in the human brain: A window into the functional architecture of the mind. PNAS, 107, 11163-11170.
	Thur 05/05	Binocular rivalry (Colin)	Clifford, C.W.G. (2009) Binocular rivalry. Current Biology 19(22) R1022-R1023.
10	Mon 09/05 Thur 12/05	Adaptation and contextual modulation (Colin)	Clifford, C.W.G. (2014) The Tilt Illusion: phenomenology and functional implications. Vision Research 104, 3-11. Webster, M.A. (2011) Adaptation and visual coding. Journal of Vision, 11(5):3, 1-23.
11	Mon 16/05 Thur 19/05	Fundamental mechanisms of motion processing (Colin)	Mather, G. (2009) Foundations of Sensation and Perception, 2 nd Ed.: Chapter 11, Psychology Press, Taylor & Francis Group, UK Movshon, J. A. et al. (1985). The analysis of moving visual patterns. In C. Chagas et al. (Eds.) Pattern Recognition Mechanisms, pp. 117-151. Springer-Verlag, New York.
12	Mon 23/05 Thur 26/05	Higher-level motion processing (Colin)	Salzman, C. D., Britten, K. H. & Newsome, W. T. (1990). Cortical microstimulation influences perceptual judgements of motion direction. Nature 346, 174-177. Snowden, R. J. & Milne, A. B. (1997). Phantom motion after effects - evidence of detectors for the analysis of optic flow. Current Biology 7, 717-722. Treue S. (2001) Neural correlates of attention in primate visual cortex. Trends in Neuroscience 24(5): 295-300.

8.2 Tutorial Schedule

	Tutorial Content	Assessment
Week 1	NO TUTORIALS	
Week 2	Tutorial Overview & Psychophysics	
Week 3	Introduction to Spatial Vision	
Week 4	Research Strategies Workshop	
UNIVERSITY HOLIDAYS		
Week 5	NO TUTORIALS Mid-session exam – Monday 4 April 2016 lecture (4pm, CLB 2)	
Week 6	Proposal Tips, Python & Consultation	Critical Review – Video Presentation Submit by Monday 11 April, 11:59pm
Week 7	Group Research Project – Proposal Presentations Held in tutorials	
Week 8	NO TUTORIALS Complete Python material and reflect on proposal feedback	
Week 9	Group Research Project Consultations <i>Must attend at least one tutorial per week as a group, can attend extra as desired</i>	<i>Checkpoint:</i> Experiment Deployment
Week 10		<i>Checkpoint:</i> Data Collection
Week 11		<i>Checkpoint:</i> Analysis & Interpretation
Week 12		<i>Checkpoint:</i> Poster Design & Preparation
Week 13	Vision & Brain Student Conference – Poster Presentations Thursday 2 June, 11am to 2pm Location: TBA	

9. Assessment Details

Brief Summary

Assessment Type	Weight	Due date
Mid-session Exam:	15% (or 25%)	Week 5: Monday, 4 April 2016
Critical Review – Video Presentation:	15 %	Week 6: Monday 11 April April 2016
Group Research Project:	30%	Week 7 (5%) and Week 13 (10%, 15%)
Final Exam:	40% (or 30%)	UNSW exam period

Detailed Assessment Information

<u>Mid-session Exam</u>	
Weight	The performance on this exam will count towards 15% of your final grade. However, if you perform better on the midterm exam than on your final exam, midterm exam will count 25% and the final exam will count only 30% toward your final grade. The performance comparison on these two exams will be based on the standardized z-scores (not the raw scores).
Description	Mid-session exam will consist of 20 multiple-choice questions and three short essay questions. The exam will be based on Weeks 1-4 material covered in lectures and tutorials. Practice questions will be provided in weeks leading up to the exam.
Date	16:00-17:00pm Monday 4 April 2016 CLB2
Results returned	Week 6 tutorials
Feedback	Marked exam scripts returned to students
Graduate Attributes and Learning Outcomes Assessed	GA 1: Core knowledge and understanding (LO 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; and 1.4) GA 3: Critical thinking skills (LO 3.1; 3.2; 3.3; 3.4; 3.5; and 3.8) GA 4: Values and research ethics (LO 4.2) GA 5: Developing effective communication skills (LO 5.3)

<u>Critical Review – Video Presentation</u>	
Weight	The Critical Review – Video Presentation is worth 15% of the final grade.
Description	In this assignment you will be required to select one visual perception phenomenon and produce a short video (max 5 minutes) regarding (1) its significance for understanding vision; (2) at least two competing explanations of that phenomenon (in the case where you cannot find numerous competing explanations, summarize the original explanation and at least one subsequent refinement); (3) summarize the methodology and findings of the chosen research article; (4) provide one research question that can extend and further refine the findings in this area. <i>More detailed instructions will be handed closer to the assignment date.</i>
Date Due	Before midnight on Monday April 11 2016
Results returned	Week 9 tutorials
Feedback	Marked written assignments returned to students via Moodle
Graduate Attributes and Learning Outcomes Assessed	GA 1: Core knowledge and understanding (LO 1.2; and 1.3) GA 2: Research methods (LO 2.1; and 2.2) GA 3: Critical thinking skills (LO 3.1; 3.2; 3.3; 3.4; and 3.5) GA 4: Values and research ethics (LO 4.1; and 4.2) GA 5: Developing effective communication skills (LO 5.3)

<u>Group Research Project</u>	
Weight	The Group Research Project's combined worth is 30% of the final grade.
Description	<p>As part of this course you will be required to design and conduct a small-scale empirical research project in the area of visual perception. First you will be asked to present a brief proposal of your project in Week 8 (worth 5%). After the completion of your project, you will be asked to make a poster summary of your research projects with a short oral presentation (15-20 minutes) on your project (worth 10%). All members of the research group are required to take part in these presentations, as you will be awarded a single mark as a group. However, written research reports on this project are expected to be individually written and submitted and will receive individual mark worth 15%. The report should be formatted as a research report for the journal Psychological Science and should be approximately 2000 words in length.</p> <p>Your tutor and lecturers will be available to advise you during all stages of your project.</p>
Date Due	Research proposal – Week 7 tutorials Conference poster presentation- Week 13: Thursday 2 June 11:00-14:00pm Individual research report – Monday, June 6 2016 (via Moodle)
Results returned	In tutorials or via Moodle.
Feedback	Marked written assignments returned to students via Moodle
Graduate Attributes and Learning Outcomes Assessed	GA 2: Research methods (LO 2.1; 2.2; 2.3; 2.4 and 2.5) GA 3: Critical thinking skills (LO 3.1; 3.2; 3.3; 3.4; 3.5; 3.6; 3.7 and 3.8) GA 4: Values and research ethics (LO 4.2; 4.3; 4.4 and 4.5) GA 5: Developing effective communication skills (LO 5.1; 5.2; 5.3; 5.4; and 5.5) GA 6: Applications of knowledge (LO 6.1; and 6.2)

<u>Final Exam</u>	
Weight	The final exam performance will be worth 40% of the final grade (but see above Mid-Session Exam section).
Description	<p>The final exam will contain approximately 9 short essay questions: each lecturer will write approximately 5 questions out of which you will choose 3 questions. The final exam questions will be drawn from the lectures, tutorials, and the readings. The exam will be based on the entire content covered in lectures and tutorials throughout the course.</p>
Date	University Final Examination Period (TBA)
Results returned	The final exam results are not directly returned to students.
Feedback	Can be arranged individually.
Graduate Attributes and Learning Outcomes Assessed	GA 1: Core knowledge and understanding (LO 1.1; 1.2; 1.3; and 1.4) GA 3: Critical thinking skills (LO 3.1; 3.2; 3.3; 3.4; 3.5; and 3.8) GA 5: Developing effective communication skills (LO 5.3) GA 6: Applications of knowledge (LO 6.3; and 6.4)
Important Note Regarding Deferred Examinations	<p>Students can attend the final examination only once, either in the regularly scheduled or deferred examination period. As you will not be permitted to attend both the regularly scheduled and deferred examinations, you are advised not to attend the exam as originally scheduled if sick on that day. Instead, ensure that you have the appropriate medical certificate to support your case for deferred medical exam. In such a case, a formal application for special consideration must be submitted to Student Central within three working days of the assessment to which it refers.</p>

	<p>Deferred examination opportunity for each course will be offered only once. Deferred and alternative assessment materials may be in a different format from the original (i.e. short answers instead of MC questions, oral examination instead of written examination etc). In addition, the original and deferred assessment materials may also differ in the specific content, although overall both will be sampled for the same relevant course material.</p>
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10. Additional Resources and Support

Textbook and readings:

There is no textbook set for this course. The course is organized around review articles taken from journals such as Trends in Neuroscience, Trends in Cognitive Science, Annual Review of Neuroscience, Vision Research, Current Biology, Nature, Nature Neuroscience or similar. These articles can be downloaded via the UNSW Library holdings or from the course Moodle website.

Course Website and Recordings

Lecture notes will be made available on the course website located at the UNSW Moodle server (moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au), but this should not be seen as being a substitute for the lecture itself because important details may be given in the lecture that are not found in these notes. Please note that due to copyright restrictions it is not always possible to post copies of all of the materials covered in lectures.

Recorded version of the lectures will be posted there as well. Please note that due to unforeseen errors in the central Echo recording system, some lectures never get recorded or are recorded badly. Consequently, do not rely on these as your main source of information regarding lecture material.

For help with technical problems in accessing UNSW Moodle, contact the [IT Service Desk](https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/support/index.html).
(<https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/support/index.html>)

Other course-relevant information: Throughout the session, the course-relevant information and announcement will be posted at the Moodle PSYC3221 Vision and Brain site. Students should regularly log into this site for any updated information on the course.

11. Course Evaluation & Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means including UNSW's Course and Teaching Evaluation and Improvement (CATEI) process.

12. Plagiarism & Academic Integrity

What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- **Copying:** using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.
- **Inappropriate paraphrasing:** changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit. It also applies to piecing together quotes

and paraphrases into a new whole, without referencing and a student's own analysis to bring the material together.

- **Collusion:** working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- **Duplication:** submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Where can I find out more information?

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism. The first place you can look is the section about referencing and plagiarism in each Course Guide, as this will also include information specific to the discipline the course is from. There are also other sources of assistance at UNSW:

- **How can the Learning Centre help me?**

The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how to not plagiarise. Information is available on their website: www.lc.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

- **How can Elise help me?**

ELISE (Enabling Library & Information Skills for Everyone) is an online tutorial to help you understand how to find and use information for your assignments or research. It will help you to search databases, identify good quality information and write assignments. It will also help you understand plagiarism and how to avoid it. All undergraduate students have to review the ELISE tutorial in their first semester and complete the quiz, but any student can review it to improve their knowledge: <http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise>.

- **What is Turnitin?**

Turnitin is a checking database which reviews your work and compares it to an international collection of books, journals, Internet pages and other student's assignments. The database checks referencing and whether you have copied something from another student, resource, or off the Internet. Sometimes students submit their work into Turnitin when they hand it in, but academics can also use it to check a student's work when they are marking it. You can find out more about Turnitin here: <http://telt.unsw.edu.au/turnitin>.

What if plagiarism is found in my work?

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in a honours thesis) even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here

www.unsw.edu.au/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf

Examples of plagiarism

Using the internet appropriately

A first year student handed in an assignment where she had copied from a website. Her lecturer realised she didn't understand you have to reference websites in the same way you reference books and journal articles. The lecturer explained how to reference and sent her to a workshop at the Learning Centre to help her improve her skills.

Working together on a math assignment

A group of Mathematics students worked together on an assignment when they had been told this was not allowed. All questions where the students had worked together were given zero, and this led to some student failing the assessment.

No referencing in an assessment

A third year student submitted a major assessment that included material from a journal article published in Canada. When his essay was submitted into Turnitin, it let the academic know that the student didn't reference the material. The student was given zero for the essay, and because it was worth 50 per cent he failed the course.

Copying design work

A final year design student used images of someone else's designs in her work and he said the designs were his own. The matter was formally investigated by his Faculty and he was found to have committed academic misconduct and failed the course.

Further information and assistance

If you would like further information or assistance with avoiding plagiarism, you can contact the Learning Centre. The Learning Centre at The University of New South Wales has two locations:

UNSW Learning Centre

Lower Ground Floor, North Wing, Chancellery Building
(C22 Kensington Campus – near Student Central)

www.lc.unsw.edu.au

Phone: 9385 2060

Email: learningcentre@unsw.edu.au

Opening Hours:

Monday to Thursday: 9am - 5pm and

Friday: 9am - 2.30pm

COFA Campus Learning Centre

Email: cofalearningcentre@unsw.edu.au

Phone: 9385 0739

13. Administrative Matters

The *School of Psychology Student Guide*, available on http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/sites/all/files/page_file_attachment/2015%20S1%20Psychology%20Student%20Guide%20-%202020150217.pdf, contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- Attendance requirements;
- Assignment submissions and returns;
- Assessments;
- Special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Student Code of Conduct;
- Student complaints and grievances;
- Student Equity and Disability Unit; and
- Occupational Health & Safety.

Students should familiarise themselves with the information contained in this *Guide*.

Attendance at lectures and laboratory classes

Attendance at both lectures and tutorials is an essential part of the course and both lecture and tutorial material/activities will be assessed. Tutors will keep a record of student attendance at tutorials and students who are absent from three or more practicals without a satisfactory explanation may be failed in the subject.

Assessment submissions:

We do not require any hard copies of your written assignments. All submissions are to be uploaded electronically in the designated Moodle course area.

Keep your tutor or a course coordinator informed of any problems that you are having in completing assignments and of any extenuating circumstances that might warrant an extension.

In addition to this Course Guide it is a course requirement that ALL STUDENTS DOWNLOAD AND BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE 2015 PSYCHOLOGY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GUIDE WHICH CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM

http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/sites/all/files/page_file_attachment/2015%20S1%20Psychology%20Student%20Guide%20-%202020150217.pdf.

This guide contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- Attendance requirements;
- Assignment submissions and returns;
- Assessments;
- Special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Student Code of Conduct;
- Student complaints and grievances;
- Student Equity and Disability Unit; and
- Occupational Health & Safety.

Students should familiarise themselves with the information contained in this *Guide*. ***You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with this information. This means you cannot say “I didn’t know” if you violate any regulations set out in this document.***

