Course Outline

PSYC2071

Perception and Cognition

School of Psychology

Faculty of Science

T3, 2019

Last updated: 06/09/2019

1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations
Course Convenor	Damien Mannion	psyc2071@unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Lecturer	Branka Spehar	b.spehar@unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Lecturer	Damien Mannion	d.mannion@unsw.edu.au	By appointment
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Tutor	Lindsay Peterson	lindsay.peterson@student.unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Tutor	Kevin Tsang	kevin.tsang@student.unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Tutor	Yonatan Vanunu	y.vanunu@student.unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Tutor	Tanya Wayne	t.wayne@unsw.edu.au	By appointment

2. Course information

Units of credit: 6

Pre-requisite(s): PSYC1001, PSYC1011

Teaching times and locations: PSYC2071 Timetable

2.1 Course summary

This course introduces fundamental principles in human perception and cognition, such as sensory coding, perceptual organisation, attention, and memory. Tutorials provide an introduction to

psychophysical methods, experimental approaches to the study of cognitive processes, and the application of findings in society.

2.2 Course aims

The overall aims of this course are to gain knowledge of key concepts in human perception and cognition and to obtain an understanding of research methods and applications in the context of perception and cognition.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

At the successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings and historical trends in perception, cognition, information processing and language.
2. Demonstrate understanding of research methods in perception and cognition.
3. Develop and apply critical thinking skills in the context of perception and cognition.
4. Understand and demonstrate appropriate research and professional values and the ethical use of information.
5. Develop effective communication skills in a variety of formats.
6. Come to understand and apply psychological principles derived from understanding of perception and cognition in a broader framework including everyday life, society and technology.

2.4 Relationship between course and program learning outcomes and assessments

	Program Learning Outcomes						
CLO	1. Knowledge	2. Research Methods	3. Critical Thinking Skills	4. Values and Ethics	5. Communication, Interpersonal and Teamwork	6. Application	**Assessment**
1.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities	Lectures, tutorials, online activities				Lectures, tutorials, online activities	Perception assignment, mid-session exam, cognition assignment, Final exam.
2.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities	Lectures, tutorials, online activities				Lectures, tutorials, online activities	Perception assignment, mid-session exam, cognition assignment, Final exam.
3.			Lectures, tutorials, online activities				Perception assignment, mid-session exam, cognition assignment, Final exam.
4.				Lectures, tutorials, online activities			Perception assignment, cognition assignment.
5.					Lectures, tutorials, online activities		Perception assignment, mid-session exam, cognition assignment, Final exam.
6.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities			Lectures, tutorials, online activities		Lectures, tutorials, online activities	Perception assignment, mid-session exam, cognition assignment, Final exam.

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

In addition to the traditional lecture format, the smaller group tutorials will include interactive exercises, hands on experience in measuring perceptual and cognitive functioning like perceptual illusions, visual search efficiency, memory, and decision making.

The assignments for the course should not be seen only as a form of assessment. They are also meant to be provide an opportunity for developing important skills. The assignments are designed to tap into a range of skills, and the preparation required to carry them out should be seen as a learning experience. Feedback is provided not only to justify the mark, but also, and importantly, for the purposes of optimising an understanding of the issues underlying the assignment.

The Discussion Forum provides students with an opportunity to question and clarify the concepts and ideas mentioned in the lectures. Students are strongly encouraged to engage with this forum by posting questions or comments, and reading, answering, or replying to other student's posts to enhance understanding of the content, critical thinking, and written communication skills.

Formative topic revision quizzes are available for students that provide an opportunity to evaluate understanding of course material on a weekly basis. Timely completion of the weekly quizzes will assist students in gaining a proper understanding of each topic so that this knowledge can be built on in future content.

3.2 Expectations of students

It is expected that students are aware of UNSW Assessment policy and understand how to apply for special consideration if they are unable to complete an assignment/exam due to illness and/or misadventure.

It is expected that students have read through the School of Psychology Student Guide.

All news updates and announcements will be made on the 'Announcements' forum on the Moodle page and/or by email. It is the student's responsibility to check Moodle and their student emails regularly to keep up to date.

Tutorial attendance is compulsory to ensure students are consistently working towards achieving the foundational graduate competencies required by the APAC Accreditation Standards. These Accreditation Standards are incorporated in Program and Course Learning Outcomes. Attendance is monitored for tutorials and labs. You should make sure your name has been marked on the class roll for each class you attend. Failure to meet these specified attendance requirements may result in course failure. Explanations for an occasional absence from a class or requests for permission to be absent from a class should be discussed with the lecturer/tutor, and where applicable, accompanied by a medical certificate.

The final exam for this course will take place on campus during the UNSW examinations period. Students should not arrange travel during the UNSW exam period until the date of the final exam has been released. Students who arrange travel prior to the release of the final exam date will not be granted consideration in the event they are scheduled to be out of country when the final exam is to occur. This is especially important for study abroad students – do not arrange travel home until the final exam date has been released.

Students registered with Disability Support Services must contact the course co-ordinator immediately if they intend to request any special arrangements for later in the course, or if any special arrangements need to be made regarding access to the course material. Letters of support must be emailed to the course coordinator as soon as they are made available.

4. Course schedule and structure

Each week this course typically consists of 2 hours of lecture material, 0-2 hours of face to face tutorials, and 1-3 hours of online modules. Students are expected to take an additional 6-8 hours each week of self-determined study to complete assessments, readings, and exam preparation.

Week	Lecture topic/s	Tutorial/lab topics	Online modules	Self-determined activities
Week 1 16/09/2019	First steps in vision (Spehar) From retina to cortex (Spehar)	No tutorial	Online lecture: Course welcome Interactive module: Retinal processing Revision quiz: Week 1	Course readings; tutorial preparation; lecture revision.
Week 2 23/09/2019	Cortical visual processing (Spehar) Colour perception (1) (Spehar)	Neural processing	Interactive module: Cortical processing Revision quiz: Week 2	Course readings; tutorial preparation; lecture revision.
Week 3 30/09/2019	Space perception (Mannion) Space perception (Mannion)	Lightness & colour	Online lecture: Colour perception (2) (Spehar) Revision quiz: Week 3	Course readings; lecture revision; Spehar component revision.
Week 4 07/10/2019	No lecture (public holiday) Motion perception (Mannion)	Online tutorial	Online tutorial: Motion & measuring perception Online lecture: Scene perception (Mannion) Revision quiz: Week 4	Course readings; tutorial preparation; lecture revision; assignment.
Week 5 14/10/2019	Motion perception (Mannion) Introduction to cognition (Li)	Spatial vision (1)	Revision quiz: Week 5	Course readings; tutorial preparation; lecture revision; assignment; Mannion component revision.
Week 6 21/10/2019	Attention (Li) Similarity (Li)	Spatial vision (2)	Revision quiz: Week 6	Course readings; lecture revision; perception component revision.

Week 7 28/10/2019	Mid-session exam Reasoning (Li)	Online tutorial	Online tutorial: Decision making Revision quiz: Week 7	Course readings; tutorial preparation; lecture revision; assignment.
Week 8 04/11/2019	Case study (Li) Semantic memory (Taft)	Measuring the mind	Revision quiz: Week 8	Course readings; tutorial preparation; lecture revision; Li component revision; assignment.
Week 9 11/11/2019	Propositions & scripts (Taft) Lexical memory (Taft)	Attention	Online lecture: Imagery (Taft) Revision quiz: Week 9	Course readings; tutorial preparation; lecture revision.
Week 10 18/11/2019	Working memory (Taft) Long-term episodic memory (Taft)	Propositional networks	Revision quiz: Week 10	Course readings; lecture revision; Taft component revision; Cognition component revision.
Study period 26/11/2019				Exam preparation.
Exam period 29/11/2019				Exam preparation.

5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks

All assessments in this course have been designed and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment task	Length	Weight	Mark	Due date
Assessment 1: Perception assignment	Varied	20%	/20	Week 5 Oct 18
Assessment 2: Mid-session exam	30 minutes	15%	/15	Week 7 (lecture 1)
Assessment 3: Cognition assignment	Varied	20%	/20	Week 8 Nov 8
Assessment 4: Final exam	2 hours	45%	/45	Exam period

Assessment 1: You will be given a task that can be answered on the basis of material covered in lectures, tutorials, and in provided supplementary material.

Assessment 2: This exam is based on the perception material (lectures and tutorials in Weeks 1 to 5, inclusive) and will be completed during the first lecture in Week 7.

Assessment 3: You will be given a task that can be answered on the basis of material covered in lectures, tutorials, and in provided supplementary material.

Assessment 4: This 2 hour exam is based on all of the material covered in the course (lectures and tutorials in Weeks 1 to 10, inclusive).

UNSW grading system: https://student.unsw.edu.au/grades

UNSW assessment policy: https://student.unsw.edu.au/assessment

5.2 Assessment criteria and standards

Further details and marking criteria for each assessment will be provided to students closer to the assessment release date (see 4.1: UNSW Assessment Design Procedure).

5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

Written assessments: In accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy written pieces of assessment must be submitted online via Turnitin. No paper or emailed copies will be accepted.

Late penalties: deduction of marks for late submissions will be in accordance with School policy (see: Psychology Student Guide).

Special Consideration: Students who are unable to complete an assessment task by the assigned due date can apply for special consideration. Students should also note that UNSW has a Fit to Sit/Submit rule for all assessments. If a student wishes to submit an application for special consideration for an exam or assessment, the application must be submitted prior to the start of the exam or before an assessment is submitted. If a student sits the exam/submits an assignment, they are declaring themselves well enough to do so and are unable to subsequently apply for special

consideration. If a student becomes ill on the day of the exam, they must provide evidence dated within 24 hours of the exam, with their application.

Special consideration applications must be submitted to the online portal along with Third Party supporting documentation. Students who have experienced significant illness or misadventure during the assessment period may be eligible. Only circumstances deemed to be outside of the student's control are eligible for special consideration. Except in unusual circumstances, the duration of circumstances impacting academic work must be more than 3 consecutive days, or a total of 5 days within the teaching period. If the special consideration application is approved, students may be given an extended due date, or an alternative assessment/supplementary examination may be set. For more information see https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration.

Alternative assessments: will be subject to approval and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure.

Supplementary examinations: will be made available for students with approved special consideration application and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

5.4. Feedback on assessment

Feedback on all pieces of assessment in this course will be provided in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment	When	Who	Where	How
Perception assignment	Nov 1	Tutors	Online	Moodle
Mid-session exam	Nov 15	Lecturers	Online	Moodle
Cognition assignment	Nov 22	Tutors	Online	Moodle
Final exam	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

The APA (6th edition) referencing style is to be adopted in this course. Students should consult the publication manual itself (rather than third party interpretations of it) in order to properly adhere to APA style conventions. Students do not need to purchase a copy of the manual, it is available in the library or online. This resource is used by assessment markers and should be the only resource used by students to ensure they adopt this style appropriately:

APA 6th edition.

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Further information about referencing styles can be located at https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing

Academic integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits**:** honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage.[1] At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others'

[1] International Center for Academic Integrity, 'The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity', T. Fishman (ed), Clemson University, 2013.

ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.

Further information about academic integrity and **plagiarism** can be located at:

- The *Current Students* site https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism**,** and
- The *ELISE* training site http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/presenting

The *Conduct and Integrity Unit* provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct.

7. Readings and resources

Textbook	Wolfe, J.M. et al. (2017). Sensation & perception (5th ed.). Oxford University Press. Eysenck, M.W., & Keane, M.T. (2015). Cognitive psychology: A student's handbook (7th ed.). Hove, UK: Psychology Press. Note that earlier editions of both textbooks are acceptable and that many copies of the textbooks are available in the library.
Course information	Available on Moodle
Required readings	School of Psychology Student Guide.
Recommended internet sites	UNSW Library UNSW Learning centre ELISE Turnitin Student Code of Conduct Policy concerning academic honesty Email policy UNSW Anti-racism policy statement UNSW Equity and Diversity policy statement UNSW Equal opportunity in education policy statement

8. Administrative matters

The School of Psychology Student 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
- Student code of conduct
- Student complaints and grievances

- Disability Support Services
- Health and safety

It is expected that students familiarise themselves with the information contained in this guide.

9. Additional support for students

- The Current Students Gateway: https://student.unsw.edu.au/
- Academic Skills and Support: https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing
- Disability Support Services: https://student.unsw.edu.au/disability-services
- UNSW IT Service Centre: https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html