
Course Syllabus
Psychology 3303 (section 2)
Thinking and Cognitive Processes
Fall 2014

Lecture: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:40 to 11:05
230 Psychology Building

Instructor:	Dr. Roger Kreuz
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Office hours:	Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9:00 to 9:30 (Psychology office), and by appointment
E-mail address:	rkreuz@memphis.edu
Online syllabus:	http://umdrive.memphis.edu/rkreuz/3303F14.pdf

Text: Matlin, M. W. (2013). *Cognition, eighth edition*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
ISBN-13: 978-1118148969

Objectives: This course is a comprehensive survey of the field of cognitive psychology. The topics to be covered appear below in the class schedule.

Evaluation: There will be two tests during the term, and one on the final examination day. Each test will count as 33% of the course grade. The tests will cover three to five chapters in the text, and seven to eight class lectures. The test dates are fixed, and make-up tests will not be given for any reason.

Class Schedule, Assignments, and Test Dates

August 26	Introduction
August 28, September 02	History and overview (ch. 1)
September 04, 09, 11	Perception, pattern recognition, and attention (chs. 2 & 3)
September 16, 18, 23	Short-term memory (ch. 4)
September 25	First test
September 30, October 02	Long-term memory (ch. 5)
October 07	Imagery (ch. 7)
October 09, 16	Semantic memory (ch. 8)
October 14	No class — Fall Break
October 21, 23, 28	Language (chs. 9 & 10)
October 30	Second test
November 04, 06	Problem solving and intelligence (ch. 11)
November 11	Logical reasoning and concept formation (ch.12, pp. 394-405)
November 13, 18	Decision making (ch. 12, pp. 405-438)
November 20	No class
November 25	Developmental cognition (ch. 13)
November 27	No class — Thanksgiving
December 02	Artificial intelligence
December 09	Third test (10:30 – 12:30)

General Information and Policies

Thinking and Cognitive Processes, Fall 2014

Grading

The grades on the tests will be curved, relative to the performance of the entire class. In most cases, the mean score of the class will become the break point between B and C grades. The addition of a "+" or "-" will be added to a letter grade if that grade is near the break point for a different grade (e.g., a B+ is the highest B, and one point below the A range; a C- is the lowest C, and one point above the D range).

Non-students

As a courtesy to your classmates, please do not bring any infants, children, stray dogs, or other non-students to class, no matter how cute and well-behaved you believe them to be.

Anti-Noise Warning

Before entering the classroom, *please* silence all noise-making devices (cell phones, laptops, etc.). Students who violate this policy will have to deal with the wrath of the instructor.

Plagiarism and Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism or cheating may result in your case being referred to the University's Academic Integrity Committee that addresses academic misconduct. This decision is up to the discretion of the instructor. Students are expected at all times to behave in accordance with the university's Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students should be familiar with the academic regulations outlined in the Student Bulletin of the University of Memphis and to observe policies regarding student conduct at the University.

Diversity

Diversity means the fair representation of all groups of individuals, the inclusion of minority perspectives and voices, and the appreciation of different cultural and socioeconomic group practices. We aspire to foster and maintain an atmosphere that is free from discrimination, harassment, exploitation, or intimidation. The University of Memphis has adopted policies prohibiting discrimination based upon race, sex, disability, or sexual orientation. In addition, the American Psychological Association has explicit policies regarding the issues of and writing about race, gender, class, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, and religion. You may find information on these standards in the APA Publication Manual or on the APA webpage: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/>.

Disabilities

If you have a disability that interferes with completion of any coursework, please let the instructor know privately at the beginning of the course, and s/he will determine how best to adapt course materials or instruction. Students with disabilities should contact Disability Resources for Students (DRS), 110 Wilder Tower, 678-2880.

Electronic Communication

Course announcements as well as consultation with the instructor may occur via e-mail. You are required to activate your university e-mail account in order to be a student at the University. The University considers this account to be your official university e-mail address and will use it to disseminate information. You must either check your university e-mail account regularly or forward your university e-mail to a personal e-mail account that you will check regularly. After you have established your university e-mail account, you can use iAM, the University's identity management service, to forward your university e-mail to a personal e-mail account.

Attendance Policy

The Department of Psychology now has a required attendance policy for all of its undergraduate courses, including this one. After the first week of class, attendance will be taken at every class meeting. In this course, attendance will be taken using a sign-in sheet that will be passed around at the beginning of class. If you are more than **ten minutes** late to class, you will not be able to sign in, and this will count as an unexcused absence.

In this course, attendance will be recorded starting on September 2nd. After attendance monitoring begins, a student may accumulate one week of unexcused absences without it affecting his or her grade. In this course, this means a student may miss up to **two** 85-minute class sessions without penalty.

Excused absences may be granted by the instructor if the absence is the result of University-sanctioned activities or legitimate religious observances, but the instructor must be notified by the student **in advance**. To obtain an excused absence **after** the fact, a student must meet with the instructor to explain the reason for the absence. If a legitimate reason is provided, the absence will be excused.

If a student cannot supply a legitimate reason or fails to meet with the instructor, the absence will be considered unexcused, and will negatively impact the student's course grade. Specifically, **there will be a deduction of 2% of total course points for each unexcused absence.**

Any attempt to falsify attendance records is a violation of the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, and will result in an **additional penalty**. Falsification includes entering attendance information for someone else; having someone else report that you attended when you did not; or using a fabricated story in an attempt to obtain an excused absence.
