

Cognition

PSYC 135

Fall 2025 Section 01 In Person 3 Unit(s) 08/20/2025 to 12/08/2025 Modified 07/28/2025

Contact Information

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DMH 314

office hours: 10:30-11:00 Mon & Wed

408 924 5674 (should forward to my cell) -- email preferred

Course Description and Requisites

The activity of knowing: acquisition, organization and use of knowledge. Processes involved in that activity, including perception, memory, thinking and language.

Prerequisite: PSYC 001.

Letter Graded

* Classroom Protocols

CLASS IS IN PERSON. (Live / no hybrid option) Mon & Friday every week (see calendar).

most midterms and assignments are done outside of class time (final may be in person).

We are all human. I expect mutual respect for all class interactions. Endeavor to minimize disruptions. If you find yourself falling behind reach and/or encountering life events that impact academic performance reach out to SJSUCares (wide range of services) and/or Peer Connections (tutoring). Be proactive.

If you have to be out of town for your sister's wedding, etc.... note that almost all assignments have a large window for early submissions. After-the-fact allowances require emergency/unanticipated events to have been documented.

Program Information

Program learning outcomes (PLOs) are skills and knowledge that students will have achieved upon completion of the Psychology BA degree. Each course in our curriculum contributes to one or more of these PLOs. The PLOs for the Psychology BA degree are:

1. **Knowledge Base of Psychology.** Students will be able to demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.
 2. **Research Methods in Psychology.** Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations.
 3. **Critical Thinking Skills.** Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.
 4. **Applications of Psychology.** Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.
- Values in Psychology.** Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

Course Goals

Knowledge Base of Psychology: Students will demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.

Research Methods in Psychology: Students will understand basic methodological approaches used in cognitive psychology, including research design, analysis, and interpretation.

Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology: Students will understand and be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.

Application of Psychology: Students will understand and be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.

Values in Psychology: Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

course learning outcomes will be in line with supporting Program Learning Outcomes as they relate to cognitive psychology (critical thinking, research methodology, knowledge, etc.)

Course Materials

Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience

E. Bruce Goldstein, Greg Francis, Ian Neath | 5th Edition | Copyright 2019

Edition:

5TH 19

Publisher:

CENGAGE L

ISBN10:

1337408271

ISBN 13:

9781337408271

✓ Grading Information

the "points" in the course total to 100.

90 to 100: A

80 to 90: B

70 to 80: C

60 to 70: D

less than 60: F

for each bracket, the bottom 2.5% is a "minus"; the top 2.5% is a "plus"

Criteria

Assignments 33% (various, effectively weekly)

Midterms: 56% (12, 14, 12, 14, 4)

Presentations: 4% (2, 2)

Question of the Day: 7% (various)

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9 \(PDF\)](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance,

counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Course Schedule

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	
	AUG 20 C1: introduction	
AUG 25 C1: Introduction	AUG 27 C1: Introduction quiz	A1 (cog): FRI AUG 29
SEPT 1 (labor day) no class	SEPT 3 (travel) no class quiz	
SEPT 8 C2: Neuroscience	SEPT 10 C2: Neuroscience quiz	A2 (neuro): Fri SEPT 12
SEPT 15 C3: Perception	SEPT 17 C3: Perception quiz	A3 (perc): Fri SEPT 19 MID1 (C1-3): FRI SEPT 19
SEPT 22 C4: Attention quiz	SEPT 24 C4: Attention	A4 (Attention): FRI SEPT 26
SEPT 29 C4: Attention	OCT 1 C5: Short-term Memory quiz	A5 (STM): FRI OCT 3

OCT 6 C5: Short-term Memory quiz	OCT 8 C6: LTM structure	A6 (LTM/STM): FRI OCT 10
OCT 13 C6: LTM Structure MID 2 (C4-6): TUE OCT 14 ORAL 1: OCT 13	OCT 15 C7: LTM encoding	A7 (Mnemonics): FRI OCT 17
OCT 20 C7: LTM encoding quiz	OCT 22 C8: Everyday Memory	Loftus Video (watch) A8 (False Memory): FRI OCT 24
OCT 27 C8: Everyday Memory quiz	OCT 29 C9: Concepts	
NOV 3 C9: Concepts	NOV 5 (travel) no class MID3 (C7-9): WED NOV 5	A9 (prototypes): FRI NOV 7
NOV 10 C10: Visual Imagery	NOV 12 C10: Visual Imagery quiz	A10 (Functional Equivalency): FRI NOV 14
NOV 17 C11: Language	NOV 19 C11: Language quiz	A11 (Linguistic Relativity): FRI NOV 21

NOV 24 C12: Problem Solving	NOV 26 C12: Problem Solving quiz	A12 (problem solving): FRI NOV 28 MID4 (C10-12): FRI NOV 28
DEC 1 C13: Judgement & Decision-Making	DEC 3 C13: Judgement & Decision-Making quiz	A13 (biases): FRI DEC 5 ORAL 2: FRI DEC 5
DEC 8 last class C13: Judgement & Decision-Making	xxx	
DEC 15 final exam (8:30AM) MID 5 (C13): MON DEC 15 A14: Values MON DEC 15 Axx: Make-up Assignment (metacognition) MON DEC 15		