

YORK UNIVERSITY

HH/PSYC 3260, Section B, 3.0 Cognition

Time: Tue 2:30 – 5:30

Place: CLH E

Course Director: Dr. Norman Park

Office: Room 213 Behavioral Sciences Building

Office Hour: By appointment

Phone Messages: (416) 736-2100, X 22159

email: npark@yorku.ca

TAs: Ms Tina Weston (email: westont@yorku.ca)

Note: All questions concerning the course should *first* be directed to a TA. If he or she cannot answer the question he or she will forward your email to the course director.

Required Text:

Smith, E. E., & Kosslyn, S. M. (2007). Cognitive psychology: Mind and brain. Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey (or current edition).

Recommended Text:

Ashcraft, M. H. & Klein, R. (2010). Cognition, Canadian edition, Prentice Hall, New Jersey (or current edition).

This book is not required, but it does provide interesting and useful supplementary information, some of which will be presented in class.

Course website: http://www.yorku.ca/npark/cognition_f_11/

Course Description and Objectives:

This course will examine a range of cognitive processes and will consider the experimental evidence that has helped to guide the development of theoretical formulations of how people perceive, understand, store, retrieve, and act on information. We will examine different conceptualizations of cognition and review experimental evidence from cognitively unimpaired and patient populations. Laboratory and/or classroom demonstrations will be conducted in order to clarify the methods, findings, and theories under discussion. During these demonstrations, students will act as research participants and may provide data for analysis.

The 3-hour class period will encompass some combination of lecture, activities, and

breaks. Depending on the number of topics covered in a given lecture and the mood of the class, we will sometimes have a single 15-minute break in the middle; other times, there will be two 10-minute breaks.

Each class is intended to be interesting and enjoyable. Class attendance is important. The material in the lectures is challenging and your understanding of it will be made easier if you are there. Every two weeks, provided there is time, I will lead a review of material covered in the two most recent lectures. This review will help you prepare for the quiz that will be held in the following week. Questions regarding material from the text book should be directed to the TA. If you miss a class it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and borrow notes from a fellow student.

Material presented in class--from lectures, films, and research demonstrations--will be included on the exams as will material from the required text and selected readings.

Course Evaluation:

There will be five quizzes held during the scheduled class sessions and a final exam held during the scheduled exam period. The quizzes and the final exam will consist of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. The five quizzes together count for 60% and the final counts for 40% of your final grade. Each quiz will last about 30 minutes and will test lecture material and readings from the previous two weeks. The final exam will cover all the course material. Your quiz grade will be calculated by determining the average of your three best scores from your quizzes (e.g., 60%, 80%, 70%, 0%, 55%); quiz grade = 70%). There will be no opportunity to write a makeup quiz. If you miss a quiz your grade for that quiz will be 0% so it is in your best interest to write all the quizzes. Please note that if you do not write any quizzes prior to the drop date, you will have waived your right to receive feedback on your performance in this course prior to the drop date.

Your grade for this course will be based on the following scale:

<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
90 - 100	A+	60 - 64	C
80 - 89	A	55 - 59	D+
75 - 79	B+	50 - 54	D
70 - 74	B	40 - 49	E
65 - 69	C+	0 - 39	F

note: E and F are both failing grades.

MISSING THE FINAL EXAM:

If you have a legitimate excuse (e.g., death in the family, severe illness, etc.) for being excused from the final exam, you must provide me with a **copy** of the

documentation as soon as you can. You need to keep the original. If you miss the final exam with no legitimate excuse, you will receive a grade of zero. No individualized testing is available unless arranged formally through one of the offices at the University (e.g., Counseling and Development Centre, Faculty of Arts).

Important note:

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that courses are selected in accordance with current degree/certificate and program requirements. Candidates are required to satisfy all the co-and prerequisite(s) for courses selected for enrolment.

Cheating:

DON'T DO IT!! The University does not look favourably on cheating of any kind, and the penalties are very harsh for doing so. Become familiar with the rules and regulations regarding cheating/plagiarism . These are published in the Undergraduate Programme Calendar.

COURSE OUTLINE: FALL TERM

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
Sep 13	Introduction to cognitive psychology	Ch. 1
Sep 20	Cognitive neuroscience, Rev*	Ch. 1
Sep 27	Attention, Quiz 1	Ch. 3
Oct 4	Semantic memory, Rev*	Ch. 4
Oct 11	Reading week	
Oct 18	Working memory, Quiz 2	Ch. 6
Oct 25	Executive processes, Rev*	Ch. 7
Nov 1	Encoding and retrieval from LTM, Quiz 3	Ch. 5
Nov 8	Neuroscience of memory, Rev*	Ch. 5
Nov 15	Emotion and cognition, Quiz 4	Ch. 8
Nov 22	Cognition and memory for purposeful action, Rev*	Ch. 11
Nov 29	Language, Quiz 5	Ch. 12
Dec 6	Review	

Rev* = Review