

PSY 317: Cognitive Psychology, Section DL3
Spring 2018
Distance Learning

Instructor: Carryl L. Baldwin, Ph.D.

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Office hours: Wednesdays 2:00-3:00 pm, and by appointment

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Course Description: An in-depth overview of important topics in cognitive psychology, including memory, attention, pattern recognition, problem solving, reasoning, psycholinguistics. We will also cover contemporary issues such as the influence of culture and the impact of adverse conditions (e.g., sleep deprivation & stress) on cognition.

Required text and other Materials:

The materials required for this course are the textbook- Goldstein, E. B. (2018). Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience, 5th edition. Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning and the accompanying Mindtap and CogLab. The text and other required materials are included in **Cengage Unlimited**, a subscription that gives you access to all your Cengage access codes and online textbooks for \$119.99 per term, \$179.99 per year or \$239.99 for two years. (Note: No matter how many Cengage products you use, they are included in Cengage Unlimited, and the price stays the same. **You can purchase access to Cengage Unlimited in the bookstore, or at cengage.com**).

For additional support, please visit:

- Getting started materials: cengage.com/start-strong
- Training site for Cengage platforms: cengage.com/training
- FAQs: cengage.com/faq
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You may also get a hardcopy textbook rental when you activate your MindTap through Cengage Unlimited for \$7.99 + free shipping. You also have the option to purchase a looseleaf version of your textbook, which you can keep. View this **[tutorial video](#) to see how to access and obtain your print options**. You can purchase access to Cengage Unlimited in the bookstore or at cengage.com.

Course Requirements

- 1) Complete all assigned readings.
- 2) Complete all assignments and examinations by on assigned due dates.

Grading System:

Examinations:

Chapter Exams: 10 @ 30 = 300

Examination

total = 300

Assignments:

CogLab assignments 10 @ 10 = 100

Mindtap Chapter Quizzes 10 @ 10 = 100

Assignment Total = 200

TOTAL POINTS = 500

Grading Policy¹:

Grades are based on a point system as indicated above. You may determine your standing in the course at any time by adding up the number of points you have received and dividing this number by the total number of points you could have earned for those items. The percentage score will be translated into a letter grade based on the following scale:

Grading Scale:

A = 94- 100%	A- = 90- 93 %	
B+ = 87-89	B = 84-86 %	B- = 80-83
C+ = 77-79	C = 74-76 %	C- = 70-73
D+ = 67-69	D = 64-66 %	D- = 60-63; < 60 % = Failing

Policies and Procedures

Academic Honesty Policy:

Adherence to the GMU Honor Code is expected. Academic dishonesty, including cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the honor council. Plagiarism can be defined as attempting to pass off as one's own or submitting in any way (whether intentional or otherwise) all or a portion of someone else's writings or ideas without properly crediting and citing the original author/owner. Anyone engaging in this or other forms of academic dishonesty – copying or cheating on assignments or exams – should expect to receive a **“0” for assignment or exam, a grade of “F” for the course**, and to have the matter turned over to the GMU Student Honor Council, which may result in documentation of the misconduct on ones' **permanent academic record** and potentially expulsion from the university. In other words, plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious offenses – don't engage in them.

Communications:

Official Communications via GMU E-mail: Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

Disability Statement:

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Services (DRS) at [703-993-2474](tel:703-993-2474).

Add/Drop deadlines:

Note that the last day to add classes is January 29, 2018. The last day to drop with a 33% tuition penalty is February 12, 2018 and the final drop date (with 67% tuition penalty) is February 23, 2018.

Brief Course Outline & Calendar

Note: You are expected to have completed the assigned readings, activities, and chapter test by the date listed below. Note that no makeup exams will be given. However, I will be using the best 10 of 13 test scores for your final grade to allow for a few missed or poor test grades. Likewise, you are encouraged to complete all MindTap chapter quizzes and CogLab demonstrations to promote mastery of the material. However, only 10 of each will count towards your final grade.

Major Topics and Assigned Readings		Chapter test & Assignments due by:
Getting Started with MindTap		January 24 th
Chapter 1 -Intro to Cognitive Psychology		January 31 st
Chapter 2- Cognitive Neuroscience		February 7 th
Chapter. 3 - Perception		February 14 th
Chapter 4 - Attention		February 21 st
Chapter 5 - STM & WM		February 28 th
Chapter 6 – Longterm memory (LTM) Structure		March 7 th
Spring Break – No Class		March 14th
Chapter 7 – LTM: Encoding, Retrieval, and Consolidation		March 21 st
Chapter 8 – Everyday Memory and Memory Errors		March 28 th
Chapter 9 – Conceptual Knowledge		April 4 th
Chapter 10 – Visual Imagery		April 11 th
Chapter 11 - Language		April 18 th
Chapter 12 – Problem Solving		April 25 th
Chapter 13 – Judgement, Decision, & Reasoning		May 2 nd

ⁱ The instructor reserves the right to give additional assignments and readings.