**PSYC 530-001 and 530-003: Cognitive Engineering**

**(Fall 2021)**

**Online Asynchronous (meaning you can do the work at your own time)**

**Instructor:** Prof. William “Deak” Helton

**Office:** 2063 David King Hall

**Office Hours (online):** Scheduled Tuesday 1:30PM-3:30PM or by appointment

**Email:** [whelton@gmu.edu](mailto:whelton@gmu.edu) - note if you email **please use PSY530 in the subject line and which section you are in (001 or 002)** otherwise it may get screened out as spam.

**Text:** The text book is provided as chapter links (in Course Content at the bottom) –papers will also be distributed or links provided.

**Objective:** The course will provide you with an understanding of contemporary theories and research on Cognitive Engineering.

**Technology:** Powerpoint, computers, internet

**Honor Code:** GMU has an honor code. Follow it or the instructor may have to turn you in for violating it. This could have severe consequences, like failing this course, etc.

**Disabilities:**  If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please contact me and contact the Disability Resource Services (DRS) at 703-993-2474. Accommodations have to be made officially through the Disability Resource Services office.

**Attendance Policy:** Online so there is no attendance, however, there are graded discussion posts which you must respond to for a grade (this is the equivalent of in class participation).

**Cancellation or Change Policy:** If anything needs to be cancelled, then the class will be emailed as soon as possible and alternative arrangements will be made.

**Grades:** Your grade will consist of marks from discussion posts, a chapter topic review paper (pick one of the chapters and write an updated review for a specific application), and a self-project.

**Discussion Board Responses (20%):** There are five discussion board topics. You need to respond to each item. You are being graded on participation; this is the part of the course replacing in-class participation. You can respond to others comments in your comment but remember to keep all comments professional and respectful. Each one is worth 4%. These are due by December 4, however, I strongly encourage you to start early with them. Most of them refer to one of the videos in the Course Content (there are a number of “lectures” there along with some associated papers).

**Review Paper (40%):** You will pick one of the chapters of the core text in the field: Engineering Psychology and Human Performance. This book is provided in Course Content at the bottom (under Book – the figure files are above; I can provide this because I am working on a new edition with the main author Chris Wickens). Your assignment will be to pick the chapter topic that interests you the most and write up a report about how you apply the chapter to a real world problem area. For example, let’s say I am interested in Chapter 7 (Memory and Training) and would like to consider how the chapter could be applied to virtual reality training systems that are deployed remotely (due to social distancing). I would then write a report about that topic. This may require looking for information beyond the chapter itself (like via Google Scholar). The report will be between 8-10 pages Times New Roman 12pt font and double spaced. This will be due electronically by December 4.

**Self-Project (40%).** You will conduct a self-experiment and a brief write-up of your findings. The information about this assignment is under the Assignments tab in Blackboard. It should be fairly self-explanatory if you read all the files in the Self Report link in the Assignments tab (read them all before emailing me questions). This will be due electronically by December 4.

**Grading Scale**

A+ 97+

A 93-96

A- 90-92

B+ 87-89

B 83-86

B- 80-82

C+ 77-79

C 73-76

C- 70-72

D 60-69

F 0-59

Important Dates

| Top of Form  **Search**    Bottom of Form | | | |
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| **Description** | **Full Semester** | **7.5 Week: Session I** | **7.5 Week: Session II** |
| Schedule of Classes Available in PatriotWeb | Thur. Apr 1 | Thur. Apr 1 | Thur. Apr 1 |
| Priority Dates Begin | Tue. Apr 20 | Tue. Apr 20 | Tue. Apr 20 |
| Consortium Registration Deadline | TBD | N/A | N/A |
| **First Day of Fall Classes:** | Mon. Aug 23 | Mon. Aug 23 | Mon. Oct 18 |
| Last Day to Submit Domicile Reclassification Application | Mon. Aug 23 | Mon. Aug 23 | Mon. Aug 23 |
| **Last Day to Add:** All Individual Sections Forms Due | Mon. Aug 30 | Wed. Aug 25 | Wed. Oct 20 |
| Labor Day : University Closed | Mon. Sept 6 | Mon. Sept 6 | N/A |
| **Last Day to Drop: With 100% Tuition Refund** | Tues. Sept 7 | Fri. Aug 27 (Final Drop) | Fri. Oct 22 (Final Drop) |
| **Last Day to Drop: With 50% Tuition Refund** | Tue. Sept 14 | N/A | N/A |
| **Unrestricted Withdrawal Period: 100% Tuition Liability** | Wed. Sept 15 - Mon. Sept 27 | Sat. Aug 28 - Fri. Sept 10 | Sat. Oct 23 – Fri. Nov 5 |
| Fall Break (Classes Do Not Meet) | Mon. Oct 11 | N/A | N/A |
| Monday Classes/Labs Meet (Tuesday Classes Do Not Meet This Week) | Tue. Oct 12 | N/A | N/A |
| **Mid-term Evaluation Period:** 100-200 level classes - Grades Available via PatriotWeb | Mon. Sept 20 - Fri. Oct 15 | N/A | N/A |
| [**Selective Withdrawal Period**](https://registrar.gmu.edu/topics/selective-withdrawal/) - Undergraduate Students Only**(100% Tuition Liability)** | Tue. Sept 28 - Wed. Oct 27 | Sat. Sept 11 - Fri. Sept 17 | Sat. Nov 6 – Fri. Nov 12 |
| **Incomplete Work** from Spring/Summer 2021 Due to Instructor | Friday, October 22 | N/A | N/A |
| **Incomplete Grade Changes** from Spring/Summer 2021 Due to Registrar | Friday, October 29 | N/A | N/A |
| **Thanksgiving Recess: No Classes (University Closed Nov. 24-28)** | Wed. Nov 24 - Sun. Nov 28 | N/A | Wed. Nov 24 - Sun. Nov 28 |
| **Dissertation/Thesis Deadline** | Fri. Dec 3 | N/A | N/A |
| **Last Day of Class** | Sat. Dec 4 | Mon. Oct 11 | Wed. Dec 8 |
| **Reading Day(s):** Reading days provide students with additional study time for final examinations. Faculty may schedule optional study sessions, but regular classes or exams may not be held. | Mon. Dec 6 -Tue. Dec 7 | N/A | N/A |
| * [«](https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/fall_2021/) * [‹](https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/fall_2021/) * [1](https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/fall_2021/) * [2](https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/fall_2021/) * [›](https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/fall_2021/) * [»](https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/fall_2021/) | | | |

Part of Term and Tuition Liability Dates

There are standard Part-of-Term codes designated for courses that meet for the full semester **(1)**,the first half of the semester **(1F),** or the last half of the semester **(1L).**Some courses meet for less than the full semester and have modified add, drop, and tuition liability dates. The part-of term code for non-standard courses will be listed in the section notes on Patriot Web. *Please refer to the chart below for specific add/drop deadline dates. These dates are subject to change.*

**Please note:** Courses may be assigned to a Part-of-Term code that doesn’t necessarily match the exact start and end date for the section. Students should consult Patriot Web for the exact start and end dates for these non-standard courses.

Refer to the [Student Accounts website](http://studentaccounts.gmu.edu/) for more payment policies information and important tuition deadlines.

| **Part of Term Code** | **Dates** | **Last Day to Add** | **Last Day to Drop with 100% Refund** | **Final Drop Deadline (50% Refund)** | **Unrestricted Withdraw Period (Full Tuition Liability)** | **Selective Withdraw Period (Full Tuition Liability)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Full Semester** (1) | 8/23 - 12/15 | 8/30 | 9/7 | 9/14 | 9/15 - 9/27 | 9/28 - 10/27 |
| **7.5 Week: Session 1** (751) | 8/23 - 10/13 | 8/25 | 8/27 (Final Drop) | N/A | 8/28 - 9/10 | 9/11 - 9/17 |
| **7.5 Week: Session II** (752) | 10/18 - 12/10 | 10/20 | 10/22 (Final Drop) | N/A | 10/23 - 11/5 | 11/6 - 11/12 |
| **8 Week: Session I** (81) | 8/16 - 10/10 | 8/23 | 8/23 | N/A | 8/24 - 9/12 | N/A |
| **8 Week: Session II**(82) | 10/13 - 12/12 | 10/19 | 10/19 | N/A | 10/20 - 11/14 | N/A |
| **First Half** (1F) | 8/23 - 10/10 | 8/30 | 9/2 | N/A | 9/3 - 9/6 | 9/7 - 9/14 |
| **Middle Half** (1M) | 9/13 - 10/30 | 9/20 | 9/23 | N/A | 9/24 - 9/27 | 9/28 - 10/5 |
| **Last Half** (1L) | 10/11 - 11/27 | 10/18 | 10/21 | N/A | 10/22 - 10/25 | 10/26 - 11/2 |
| **Independent Study** (1I) | 8/23 - 12/15 | 8/30 | 9/7 | 9/14 | 9/15 - 9/27 | 9/28 - 10/27 |

**\*As of Fall 2020, the**[**Selective Withdrawal**](https://registrar.gmu.edu/topics/selective-withdrawal/)**Period applies to degree and non-degree seeking undergraduate students only.**