



PSY 260 Cognitive Psychology

Winter 2024

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 56 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course offers an introduction to the theories and methodologies in the study of cognitive psychology. The topics include cognitive neuroscience, perception, memory, language, problem-solving and creativity, decision-making and reasoning, cognitive development, and intelligence. Students will not only learn to explore how human cognitive processes work and how these processes impact each other but also manage to apply them to solve related psychological issues in real life.

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand fundamental principles and theories in cognitive psychology.
2. Analyze and evaluate research in cognitive neuroscience, perception, memory, language, and problem-solving.
3. Apply scientific methods in data collection and analysis.
4. Connect psychological assumptions to personal experiences and social life.
5. Develop critical thinking skills through the integration of theory, lab and field research, and practical applications.

PREREQUISITES

PSY 100 Introduction to Psychology

GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM

POINTS



Assignments	40 Points
Midterm 1	15 Points
Midterm 2	15 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F$.

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Robert J. Sternberg, Karin Sternberg, *Cognitive Psychology*, 6th Edition, Cengage Learning, 2011.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

Supplemental materials might be included to illustrate or expand on textbook readings.

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	Topics: Topic 1: Introduction to Cognitive Psychology Topic 2: Research Methods in Cognitive Psychology Topic 3: Key Themes in Cognitive Psychology Topic 4: Cognition in the Brain: The Anatomy and Mechanisms of the Brain Assessments: Assignment#1
Module 2	Topics: Topic 5: Structures and Functions of the Brain Topic 6: Intelligence and Neuroscience Topic 7: Visual Perception: From Sensation to Representation Topic 8: Approaches to Perception: How Do We Make Sense of What We See? Assessments: Assignment#2



Module 3	Topics: Topic 9: Attention Topic 10: Consciousness Topic 11: Memory: Models and Research Methods Topic 12: Exceptional Memory and Neuropsychology Assessments: Assignment#3 Midterm#1
Module 4	Topics: Topic 13: Memory Processes Topic 14: The Landscape of Memory: Mental Images, Maps, and Propositions Topic 15: The Landscape of Memory: Mental Images, Maps, and Propositions (Cont.) Topic 16: The Organization of Knowledge in the Mind Assessments: Assignment#4 Midterm#2
Module 5	Topics: Topic 17: Language Topic 18: Language in Context Topic 19: Problem Solving and Creativity Topic 20: Decision Making and Reasoning Assessments: Final Exam

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share



with fellow colleagues.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (e.g., note taking, reading course documents).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.



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Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.