



蘇州大學
Soochow University

Soochow University

PSY 390 Introduction to Biological and Cognitive Psychology

Summer 2021

Course information

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 55 hours

Class Time: 8:30 - 10:20

Instructor: TBA

Course Description

This course provides an introduction of psychology from the cognitive and biological perspectives. In this course, sections on the neural mechanisms underlying psychological processes; the core areas in experimental psychology, perception, attention, learning, and memory; the multiple aspects of psychological health; the interaction between cognitive and emotional processes and higher cognitive processes will be included to help students get a clearer perception of biological and cognitive psychology.

Prerequisite(s)

PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology Part I

PSY 102 Introduction to Psychology Part II



Learning Objectives

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

1. Understand the relevant theories of biological and cognitive psychology;
2. Explain basic psychological behaviors from cognitive and biological perspectives;
3. Understand and explain basic research methods currently employed by psychologists;
4. Recognize, recall, connect, and evaluate psychological concepts and theories from specific subfields (e.g., biological and cognitive psychology);
5. Demonstrate the interaction between cognitive and emotional processes and higher cognitive processes.

Methodology

Methodology	Hours	Hours of work Face-to-face	Hours of work Non Face-to-face
Lectures	50	88 hours (60%)	
Practice teaching	8		
Assessment	30		
Personal study	30		68 hours (40%)
Tasks	22		
Practical teaching preparation	10		
Bibliographic search	6		
Total	156	88	68

Textbook(s)

Psychology at the Turn of the Millennium, Cognitive, Biological and Health Perspectives, by
Lars Backman, Claes von Hofsten , ISBN 13: 9780203989418



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Tasks and Evaluation

Participation	10%
3 Quizzes	30%(10% each one)
Midterm Test	20%
Final Exam	40%

According to the Soochow University Classroom Attendance Policy, class attendance is required. Students who miss the class for more than 2 times will get a penalty as 15% deduction from the cumulative 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.

Assignments and quizzes are based on the course contents and questions discussed in class. Assignments should be completed in a T-account format. Every quiz is around 20-minute long. All quizzes must be completed before the due day. There will not be make-up quizzes.

Tentatively, midterm test will cover lec 1-10. The final exam will be in the last class. Every test is around 2-hour long. Note that there will be NO make-up tests and exams. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use electronic devices like cellphone, iPad, iWatch, laptops, ect. will be seemed as cheating.



Rating system:

1. Assessment

ASSESSMENT ITEM	PERCENT OF FINAL GRADE
Participation	10%
3Quizzes	30%(10% per essay)
Midterm	20%
Final exam	40%

2. Grading Scale

A+ 96-100	A 90-95	A- 85-89
B+ 82-84	B 78-81	B- 75-77
C+ 71-74	C 66-70	C- 62-65
D 60-61	F < 60	

Course Content

Week	Lesson	Content
1	1	Declarative and procedural memory in animals with simple nervous systems
	2	Neural processing of visual and auditory information
	3	Epigenesis of the cognitive brain: A task for the 21st century
	4	Brain asymmetry and cognition
	5	Musica, maestro! Quiz 1
2	6	The mind at the crossroad of multiple ongoing activities: A challenge to



		cognitive psychology
	7	A general theory of visual attention
	8	Face perception
	9	Extinction
	10	Nonvisual navigation based on information about self-motion
		Quiz 2
3	11	Human memory and aging
	12	Multidimensional interactionism: Stress, anxiety, and coping
	13	Midterm Test
	14	Ancient humans in the newborn millennium: Stress and gender perspectives
	15	Disability as behaviour: Models of measurement and explanation
4	16	Psychology and the risk for cardiovascular disorder: A developmental perspective
	17	Prefrontal cortex and amygdala contributions to emotion and affective style
	18	Fear and anxiety: Animal models and human cognitive psychophysiology
	19	Cardiac defense and emotion: Psychophysiological and clinical implications
	20	Emotional processing biases: Nature and modification
		Quiz 3
5	21	Feeling and thinking: The influence of affect on social cognition and behavior
	22	The adaptive toolbox: Towards a Darwinian rationality
	23	Literacy effects on language and cognition
	24	Final Exam Reviews
	25	Final Exam



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University Regulations and Services

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.

Soochow University also highly respects students' accommodation for disabilities and religions. You might contact the Student Accessibility Office if you have any questions, concerns or if you would like to report any offensive behaviors.

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.