

Psychology 208 (702): Cognitive Psychology  
Fall 2021  
Online, Asynchronous

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Cognitive psychology involves the study of the mental processes that are involved in everyday behaviors. If you have ever wondered why you forget things, how you are able to turn a pattern of ink on a page into War and Peace, how we see the world in 3 dimensions despite the 2d apparatus we have for viewing it (i.e. your eyes), how the neurons in your brain process information, or how you made the last important decision (or the many less important ones) in your life, you've come to the right place. In this class, we will explore the scientific research that has helped us identify these processes, and thus has helped us understand how we think.

**Course Objectives:**

After completing this course, you should have a better understanding of...

- The nature, scope, and history of cognitive psychology
- Humans as information processors (Both *top-down* and *bottom-up*)
- The current major theories of cognition
- Thinking logically about behavior and thought
- The research methods involved in the study of cognition
- How to improve your study habits based on scientific information about how we think and learn

**BASIC CLASS INFORMATION**

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This is an asynchronous, online course. That means that the course does not "meet" as a group at a certain time; however, you will have deadlines for your work. We will use Blackboard for communication, lectures, and assignments.

**Course Description from College Catalog**

Survey in topics related to conditioning, memory, and their integration. Students are recommended to have taken PSYC 208, PSYC 220 and PSYC 221.

**Required Materials**

Gluck, M. A., Mercado, E., & Myers, C. E. (2019). *Learning and Memory: From Brain to Behavior* (5<sup>th</sup> ed). Worth Publishers.

**Required Technology**

Students must have Internet access on a reliable computer. You will need to be able to open Microsoft PowerPoint and Word documents on your computer and have access to both Blackboard and MS Teams. This software is all available for free from SIUE. I cannot accept documents created in Pages or in Google docs (exporting them to PDF tends to introduce errors in formatting).

At a minimum, you will need the following software/hardware to participate in this course:

- Computer with a current operating system (e.g., Windows, Mac, Linux)
- An updated Internet browser (Apple Safari, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox). See [Blackboard's Browser Checker](#) page to see if your browser and operating system are compatible with Blackboard.
- DSL or Cable Internet connection or a connection speed no less than 6 Mbps.
- Media player such as QuickTime or Windows Media Player.
- Adobe or alternative PDF reader (free)

- Java plugin (free)
- Any other specialized software or basic software (e.g., Microsoft Office, Adobe Photoshop). SIUE students can download MS Office and MS Teams at no charge.

Visit these sites to be sure that you are prepared to take an online course:

- <http://www.siu.edu/online/planning-preparation/index.shtml>  
<http://www.siu.edu/online/planning-preparation/is-online-learning-right-for-me.shtml>

### **Getting Tech help:**

Blackboard help pages: <http://www.siu.edu/its/bb/index.shtml>

ITS helpdesk: 618-650-5500, [ftc\\_help@siue.edu](mailto:ftc_help@siue.edu)

### **CLASS WORKLOAD FOR THIS ONLINE COURSE**

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This is a 16-week Fall class, and therefore you can expect to spend 6 to 9 hours *per week* on this course. This time will be spent reading, taking quizzes, watching online lectures, and working on assignments. Make sure that you have the dedicated time and resources to devote to this class. Skipping the lectures will make it difficult to succeed in the class.

### **THE STRUCTURE OF THIS CLASS**

For each week you will have a series of readings/assignments/quizzes/activities to be completed by a given deadline. These are the types of things you'll do:

1. **Watch/listen to a lecture** At the beginning of a new chapter/topic, first watch the lecture I post on BB. Take notes using the provided outline. Stop when needed to write down additional information. Lectures will be posted on the Monday of each week.
2. **Read** the associated chapter/readings. I strongly suggest that you first skim the chapter, then reread the chapter, and while doing so rewrite your lecture notes and integrate the new information (from the text) into them. *This is vital to performing well on the quizzes.* Also, pay CAREFUL attention to the directions on BB, as sometimes I tell you that some portions of the chapter do not need to be read.
3. **Take quiz** You will complete a quiz on each week's materials. The quizzes will be timed (20 minutes), so you may use your readings themselves, but you won't have unlimited time to look up the answers. Brief lecture/book notes, however, will be very helpful. You can take a quiz three times, so I recommend you do the readings, watch the videos, and then take the quiz. Note what you missed the 1<sup>st</sup> time (BB will tell you incorrect questions but not the correct answers), then study that material. Then, take the quiz a second time. If you need a third attempt, study again and take it one more time. Repeated testing has been shown to increase learning and retention of material. Quizzes will be posted on the Monday of each week and will be due by 11:59 pm on Friday.
4. **Complete an Online Psychology Lab (OPL) Assignment** For eight of weeks of the class we will complete an online psychology lab experiment that will help illustrate to you the material we are covering. For each assignment, you will need to participate in the experiment and answer a set of discussion questions based upon the assignment to help you relate what you did to the lecture material. Connect what you did to material from the class for full credit. Assignments will be posted at the beginning of the semester. Due dates are listed in the schedule.

### **GAINING POINTS IN THIS CLASS**

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**Quizzes:** You will have 14 quizzes, one per week we cover material, composed of primarily multiple-choice questions. You will have 20 minutes to complete each quiz, and you may take each quiz **three times** (highest grade counts; the syllabus quiz can only be taken once). Note that 20 minutes is *NOT* long enough to look up every answer; remember to take notes while you read the chapter so that you can refer to those notes during the quiz. You are expected to take these quizzes independently- if you share answers, you are not determining what information you are missing from your studying, and I

will consider that academic dishonesty for all parties involved. After each attempt you will be told which questions you missed (by checking in the BB gradebook) but not what the correct answer was. At the end of availability for the material the correct answers will be posted. For this reason, there will be no late quiz attempts permitted.

**OPL Assignments:** The APA Online Psychology Lab provides students an opportunity for students to participate in cognitive psychology experiments, allowing you to apply what you are learning in class as well as be exposed to cognitive research methods. For each lab you will participate in an experiment and write up your individual experience based on guided questions to submit on BB. Write ups need to be a minimum of 300 words to earn full credit. I will write up or record a brief summary of the group results for the class to read/view.

Your Class ID for the OPL is 733895. The course name is PSYC 208 Cognitive Psychology F22. You will need this when registering. See the “How to use the OPL” document in BB for more info.

**Psychology Article Reviews:** To enhance your understating of cognitive psychology you will be given a selection of empirical research articles related to the concepts we are covering in class. You will write a 2-page review that summarizes the introduction and discussion sections of the paper and reflects upon what you learned from reading it. There will be two of these assignments, with a different set of articles available for each. Due dates are listed in the schedule.

**Mid-term and Final Exams:** Exams will be focused on the key information covered in the lecture period prior to the exam. They will be mostly multiple choice with a few short answer questions that test your critical thinking skills. You will be required to recall what you have learned and demonstrate that you understand its importance and implications. You will be given a 48-hour period to complete the exam and will have 60 minutes to complete it once you start. Dates for the exam are listed in the schedule.

#### Grading Summary:

Type	Points
Quizzes (14 @ 10 pts each)	140
OPL Assignments (8 @ 5 pts. Each)	40
Psychology Article Reviews (2 @ 20 pts. Each)	40
Mid-term and Final Exams	80
Total	300

**FINAL GRADES** All of your grades will be recorded in terms of points (300). Your grade will be assigned based upon a 90% (A), 80% (B), etc., grading system. I do not curve or round your final grade- do not ask me to.

#### CLASS POLICIES

**Late work** All deadlines are firm; no late work will be accepted. Late work will receive a 0 without prior permission or communication. As an asynchronous class, your main challenge is time management. You know all the due dates in advance. Barring an emergency, plan ahead and to work in advance if possible.

**Communication** If I need to contact you, I will do so via SIUE email. You are responsible for checking your SIUE email daily. Checking your SIUE email will also ensure that you get important departmental announcements. In addition, if you're a Twitter-er, I encourage you to follow our department's Twitter page (@SIUEpsychology).

**Blackboard** Lecture slides, video lectures, exercises, and grades will be available on Blackboard.

**Important university dates for this term:**

Consult this page for withdrawal dates for this term: <https://www.siue.edu/registrar/schedules/>

**Departmental policy on Incomplete grades, pass-no pass option, and withdrawal** All withdrawals must be completed by the end of the 13th week of classes during fall and spring, and by a similarly late date (i.e., before 82% of class meetings have occurred) in any summer term. Grades that apply to students who initiate a withdrawal and grades that apply when a student fails to officially withdraw within established deadlines are determined by university policy (see <http://www.siue.edu/policies/1j1.shtml>). The granting of a grade of I (Incomplete) is not automatic. It is available only in cases when a student has completed most of the work required for a class but is prevented by a medical or similar emergency from completing a small portion of the coursework before the deadline for grade submission. An I must be approved by the instructor with appropriate documentation provided by the student. If an instructor agrees to give a student an I, the instructor will fill out a Memorandum of Incomplete Grade to be kept with the student's records. If the work is not completed by the time specified on the Memorandum, the student's grade will be changed from I to F.

**Academic Honesty.** ANY case of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on a quiz or exam or allowing others to cheat off of you, or other dishonest act *regardless of the point count*) will receive the recommended university policy, failure of the course and reporting of the case to the Provost. You may not look at any other student's midterm/final exam, and you may not copy any portion of your answer from internet or other sources (i.e., the words/ideas must be entirely your own).

**Departmental policy on plagiarism.** Plagiarism includes either presenting someone else's words without quotation marks (even if you cite the source) or presenting someone else's ideas without citing that source. If you plagiarize, your instructor cannot evaluate your understanding of the topic. When paraphrasing from another source, at the very least the student should change the wording, sentence syntax, and order of ideas presented in the paper. Ideally, the student will integrate ideas from multiple sources while providing critical commentary on the topic in a way that clearly identifies whether words and ideas are those of the student or are from another source. Plagiarism is one type of academic misconduct described in SIUE's Student Academic Code (<http://www.siue.edu/policies/3c2.shtml>). University policy states that "Normally a student who plagiarizes shall receive a grade of F in the course in which the act occurs. The offense shall also be reported to the Provost." (<http://www.siue.edu/policies/1i6.shtml>). The University policy discusses additional academic sanctions including suspension and expulsion from the University. To insure that you understand how to avoid plagiarism, we encourage you to review the information on plagiarism provided on the Department of Psychology web page at <http://www.siue.edu/education/psychology/plagiarism.shtml>. Note that you are not allowed to use the previous exams/quizzes of any former students in this course; doing so constitutes plagiarism.

**Department of Psychology Writing Policy.** As a student in this course, you will be expected to display university-level writing, which includes completing course assignments that meet the following basic writing criteria. Specifically, all written assignments completed for this course should include:

- clear transitions from sentence to sentence and idea to idea (e.g., paper is organized/flows well);
- verb tense consistency;
- clear and unambiguous sentences and ideas;
- writing that is free of typos, spelling errors, and major grammatical errors;
- properly formatted citations and references (if relevant).

This is by no means an exhaustive list of basic writing skills, but will give you an idea of what we are looking for in our papers. If you feel you need help with your writing, you are encouraged to seek assistance from the writing center on campus (<http://www.siue.edu/is/writing>) or utilize one of the many online resources they have identified to help students (<http://www.siue.edu/lss/writing/resources.shtml>). If your graded written assignments fail to meet the basic writing requirements listed above (and any others found to be appropriate by your instructor), the instructor will stop the grading process and return the paper to you with the grade of 0. You will have 24 hours to return the assignment in an acceptable form; if it still fails to meet the basic

writing criteria, the grade of 0 will remain. Note that this policy applies to your discussion posts and your midterm/final exam. On the midterm/final, if your paper is returned to you because of a violation of the writing policy, 20 points will be deducted from the second attempt.

**Statement on Disabilities** Students needing accommodations because of medical diagnosis or major life impairment will need to register with **Accessible Campus Community & Equitable Student Support (ACCESS)** and complete an intake process before accommodations will be given. The ACCESS office is located in the Student Success Center, Room 1270. You can also reach the office by e-mail at [myaccess@siue.edu](mailto:myaccess@siue.edu) or by calling 618.650.3726. For more information on policies, procedures, or necessary forms, please visit the ACCESS website at [www.siue.edu/access](http://www.siue.edu/access).

### **CONTACTING DR. PETTIBONE**

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During the pandemic, it is easiest to contact me over e-mail or through chat/discussion posts in MS Teams. Please use chat (or email, but I prefer teams) for specific questions that apply only to you or for topics that you want to keep private. If you think the answer to your question could benefit everyone, post a public question in Teams so everyone can see the answer. If I think your e-mailed or chatted question could be useful to others I will ask you to resend it as a discussion post in teams before I answer. I keep teams open on my desktop almost whenever I am working, and I tend to respond to it faster than e-mail, so consider using that instead. I rarely respond to e-mail after 9 pm at night. Please do not call my office number. Since the pandemic hit, I am very rarely in my office to answer it.

## SCHEDULE

(the Instructor reserves the right to change the schedule if necessary, but fair warning will be given)

Note: OPL Class ID is 733895

[HTTP://opl.apa.org](http://opl.apa.org)

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic/Reading Assignment</b>	<b>Quizzes/Due Dates for OPL Assignments</b>
1 (8/23 – 8/29)	Welcome to Class & Cognition (Syllabus)	Go to the OPL website to register (2 EC points if completed by 8/29)
2 (8/30 – 9/5)	What is Cognitive Psychology? (Ch.1)	<i>OPL: RT Color (Due 9/5)</i>
3 (9/5 - 9/12)	Cognitive Neuroscience (Ch. 2)	<i>OPL: Word Recognition (Due 9/12)</i>
4 (9/13 - 9/19)	Perception (Ch. 3)	<i>OPL: Ponzo Illusion (Due 9/19)</i>
5 (9/20 – 9/26)	Attention (Ch. 4)	<i>OPL: Dichotic Listening (requires headphones) (Due 9/26)</i>
6 (9/27 – 10/3)	Short Term and Working Memory (Ch. 5)	<i>OPL: Numerical Memory (Due 10/3)</i>
7 (10/4 - 10/10)	Long Term Memory: Pt. 1 (Ch. 6)	
8 (10/11 – 10/17)	Long Term Memory: PT. 2 (Ch. 7)	<i>OPL: Self Reference (Due 10/17)</i>
9 (10/18 – 10/24)	<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>	<b>Article Review 1 Due (10/24)</b>
10 (10/25 – 10/31)	Everyday Memory and Memory Errors (Ch. 8)	<i>OPL: Facial Recognition (Due 10/31)</i>
11 (11/1 – 11/7)	Knowledge, Concepts, and Categories (Ch. 9)	
12 (11/8 – 11/14)	Visual Imagery (Ch. 10)	
13 (11/15 – 11/21)	Language (Ch. 11)	
14 (11/22 – 11/28)	Problem Solving & Creativity (Ch. 12)	
15 (11/29 – 12/5)	Judgment and Decision-Making (Ch. 13)	<i>OPL: Monty Hall (Due 12/5)</i>
16 (12/6 – 12/10)	<b>Review for Final Exam</b>	<b>Article Review 2 Due (12/10)</b>
Final Exam Week	<b>Final Exam (TBD)</b>	

Note: Lecture videos, materials, and quizzes will be posted by Monday of each week. The last moment you can complete a quiz and receive credit is 11:59 pm on Sunday of each week. Your quiz must be completed by that time- incomplete quizzes will auto submit and end.

## **COVID-19 Pandemic Policies Related to Classroom Instruction (Fall 2021)**

### **Health and Safety**

The measures outlined below are required and any student who does not comply may be in violation of the *COVID-19 People-Focused Health and Safety Policy*, as well as the University's *Student Code of Conduct*.

The full text of the *COVID-19 People-Focused Health and Safety Policy* can be found here:  
<https://www.siu.edu/policies/Covid.shtml>

### **Classrooms, Labs, Studios, and Other Academic Spaces**

While in the classroom, lab, studio, or other academic spaces, students (regardless of vaccination status) shall wear face coverings that fully cover the nose and mouth and practice physical distancing measures to the extent practicable based on the specific classroom capacity and pedagogy. Classroom furniture should not be rearranged, and furniture that has been taped off or covered should not be used.

Students who forget to wear a face covering will be reminded of their obligation to comply with SIUE's *COVID-19 People-Focused Health and Safety Policy* and temporarily asked to leave the class until they are able to conform to the policy. Students who forget or lose their face coverings may be able to obtain replacements from a friend, a faculty member, or a nearby departmental office. Face coverings are also available for purchase in the Cougar Store (MUC).

Students who refuse to wear a face covering will be asked to leave the classroom and referred to the Dean of Students for non-compliance with community health and safety protocols. Repeated non-compliance may result in disciplinary actions, including the student being administratively dropped from an on-ground/face-to-face course or courses without refund if no alternative course format is available.

If a student has a documented health condition which makes wearing a face covering medically intolerable, that student should contact ACCESS to explore options with the understanding that ACCESS will not grant accommodations which excuse the need for a face covering while on campus or in the classroom. ACCESS will work with qualifying individuals to find reasonable alternatives, whenever such solutions are available. Please call or contact the ACCESS Office via email to schedule an online appointment to discuss potential alternatives. ACCESS office (Student Success Center, Room 1203, 618-650-3726, and [myaccess@siue.edu](mailto:myaccess@siue.edu)).

### **General Health Measures**

At all times, students should engage in recommended health and safety measures, which include:

- Conducting a daily health assessment. If you have [COVID-19 symptoms](#), but not yet tested positive, have had COVID-19 close contact exposure, or are COVID-19 diagnosed as presumptive or confirmed positive, stay home and contact your health provider or SIUE Health Service at [cougarcare@siue.edu](mailto:cougarcare@siue.edu) or 618-650-2842. More information on reporting procedures is available [here](#).
- Frequent washing or disinfecting of hands.

- Physical distancing.
- Face masks or face coverings that cover the nose and mouth are required in indoor public spaces regardless of the ability to maintain physical distance. Indoor public spaces include common spaces or community settings that anyone can access, such as reception areas with walk-in access, restrooms, hallways, classrooms, teaching and research laboratories, as well as common spaces in residence halls, conference rooms, lobbies, and break rooms.
- If present, adhere to directional signs and traffic flow patterns in buildings and offices. In many spaces, doors for entering and exiting buildings are designated.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students are reminded that the expectations and academic standards outlined in the Student Academic Code (3C2) apply to all courses, field experiences and educational experiences at the University, regardless of modality or location. The full text of the policy can be found here:

<https://www.siue.edu/policies/3c2.shtml>.

### **Recordings of Class Content**

Faculty recordings of lectures and/or other course materials are meant to facilitate student learning and to help facilitate a student catching up who has missed class due to illness or quarantine. As such, students are reminded that the recording, as well as replicating or sharing of any course content and/or course materials without the express permission of the instructor of record, is not permitted, and may be considered a violation of the University's Student Conduct Code (3C1), linked here:

<https://www.siue.edu/policies/3c1.shtml>.

### **Potential for Changes in Course Schedule or Modality**

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, there remains a possibility that planned classroom activities will need to be adjusted. Depending on circumstances and following state-issued recommendations, potential changes include changes in course modality (e.g., transition from face-to-face to online) or in course scheduled meetings. These changes would be implemented to ensure the successful completion of the course. In these cases, students will be provided with an addendum to the class syllabus that will supersede the original version.

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