

## PSYCHOLOGY 6400/7400: Cognitive Psychology (Fall 2017)

**Instructor:** Dr. Stephen Christman  
**Meeting Times:** Monday, Wednesday 11:10 am -12:30 pm; UH 6400  
**Office:** UH5020 (phone: 530-4684)  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday, Thursday 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm (& by appt.)  
**Text:** **Anderson, J.R. (2015). *Cognitive Psychology and its Implications* (8<sup>th</sup> Ed.). New York: Worth.**

Dates: Lecture Topics and Assigned Readings:

Aug. 28 Introduction: Class format, Historical issues [ch.1]  
 Aug. 30 Neural Bases of Cognition [ch.1]  
 Sept. 4 NO CLASS (Labor Day)  
 Sept. 6 Perception [ch. 2]  
 Sept. 11 Attention [ch. 3]  
 Sept. 13 Mental Imagery [ch. 4]  
 Sept. 18 Representation of Knowledge [ch. 5]  
 Sept. 20 Representation of Knowledge [ch. 5]  
 Sept. 25 Human Memory: Short-term Memory [ch. 6]  
 Sept. 27 Human Memory: Short-term Memory [ch. 6]  
 Oct. 2 Human Memory: Retention and Retrieval [ch. 7]  
 Oct. 4 Human Memory: Retention and Retrieval [ch. 7]  
 Oct. 9 How Many Memory Systems Are There?  
 Oct. 11 Neuropsychology of Memory; *Distribution of*  
**MIDTERM TAKE-HOME EXAM**  
*(chs. 1-7; 200 pts); due Oct. 18*  
 Oct. 16 NO CLASS (Fall Break)  
 Oct. 18 Problem Solving and Creativity [ch.8]

Dates: Lecture Topics and Assigned Readings:  
 Oct. 23 Expertise [ch. 9]  
 Oct. 25 Reasoning [ch. 10]  
 Oct. 30 Decision Making [ch. 11]  
 Nov. 1 Language Structure [ch. 12]  
 Nov. 6 Language and Thought; Lang. Acquisition  
 Nov. 8 Language Comprehension, Neuropsychology of  
 Language [ch. 13]  
 Nov. 13 NO CLASS  
 Nov. 15 Individual Differences in Cognition [ch. 14]  
 Nov. 20 Cognition and Emotion  
 Nov. 22 NO CLASS (Thanksgiving Break)  
 Nov. 27 NO CLASS  
 Nov. 29 Cognition and Consciousness  
 Dec. 4 Cognition and Brain Asymmetry  
 Dec. 6 Review and Discussion

**Wed Dec 13, 10:15 am -12:15 pm FINAL EXAM** (chs. 8-13; 200 points)

In addition to the two examinations, students are required to keep a notebook of observations, ruminations, reactions and ideas. This will be described in detail during the first class meeting. This notebook will be turned in at the final exam and will be worth an additional 100 points.

Students will also be required to write a series of 8 short papers (3-4 pages) to be turned in on a roughly biweekly basis. Each paper will consist of a brief review of one of the research articles cited in the textbook. The paper should contain descriptions of (i) what the specific topic of interest was, (ii) what methods were used, (iii) what the basic results were, and (iv) a brief summary of the authors' discussion of those results. Each paper will be worth 12.5 points. On occasion, we will use these student papers as starting points for in-class discussions; students may be asked on occasion to briefly present their paper to the class.

### **GRADING**

Exam 1	200
Exam 2	200
Journal	100
Short papers (8 @12.5 points each)	100
Total points possible	600