

## PSYCHOLOGY 6400/7400: Cognitive Psychology (Fall 2018)

**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]  
 Neural Bases of Cognition [ch.1]

Sept. 4 *NO CLASS* (Labor Day)

Sept. 11 Perception [ch. 2], Attention [ch. 3]

Sept. 18 Mental Imagery [ch. 4]  
 Representation of Knowledge [ch. 5]

Sept. 25 Human Memory: Short-term Memory [ch. 6]

Oct. 2 Human Memory: Retention and Retrieval [ch. 7]

Oct. 9 How Many Memory Systems Are There?  
 Neuropsychology of Memory; *Distribution of*  
**MIDTERM TAKE-HOME EXAM**  
*(chs. 1-7; 200 pts); due Oct. 18*

Oct. 16 *NO CLASS*

Dates: Lecture Topics and Assigned Readings:  
 Oct. 23 Problem Solving and Creativity [ch.8]  
 Expertise [ch. 9]

Oct. 30 Reasoning [ch. 10]  
 Decision Making [ch. 11]

Nov. 6 Language Structure [ch. 12]  
 Language and Thought; Lang. Acquisition

Nov. 13 Language Comprehension, Neuropsychology of  
 Language [ch. 13]

Nov. 20 *NO CLASS*

Nov. 27 Cognition and Emotion  
 Individual Differences in Cognition [ch. 14]

Dec. 4 Cognition and Consciousness  
 Cognition and Brain Asymmetry

**Tues Dec 11, 12:30 -2:30 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). One of the articles will be focused on historical issues: students will track down an older article of their own choosing that reflects one of the following historical systems: introspection (e.g., Wundt), functionalism (e.g., Wm. James), behaviorism (e.g., Watson), or Gestalt psychology (e.g., Kohler). Another article will focus on the relation between cognition and emotion, with students reviewing an empirical paper on a relevant topic of the student's choosing. Finally, the remaining 6 papers 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