

# PSYO 219: INTRODUCTION TO COGNITION

2023/2024 Term 1

Asynchronous Online Course

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**Professor:** Leanne ten Brinke, Ph.D.

**Email:** [leanne.tenbrinke@ubc.ca](mailto:leanne.tenbrinke@ubc.ca)

**Preferred Pronouns:** she/her/hers

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 2:30-3:30pm (or by appointment)

ART 318 and on Zoom

<https://ubc.zoom.us/j/61068153240?pwd=Y1FETjhGOVJ0VUNleGd6eDFQbHdnQT09>

Meeting ID: 610 6815 3240

Passcode: 947443

## **Teaching Assistants:**

*Teaching assistants will be available by e-mail to answer course questions as appropriate.* TA contact information can be found on Canvas.

## **Course Description:**

A brief introduction to how the mind works from a cognitive perspective. Topics will be drawn from memory, decision making, reasoning, attention, object perception, and speech and language. Credits: 3

Pre-requisites: All of PSYO 111, PSYO 121.

## **Course Format:**

This course will be delivered online via *canvas.ubc.ca*. Weekly online modules will be posted each Monday at 9am (Pacific). Weekly online modules will include chapter readings from the course textbook, lectures in video format, and additional supplementary information (e.g., videos, activities). See Canvas for full details.

## **Objectives:**

This course is designed to provide you with foundational knowledge in cognitive psychology, including both research and theory, acknowledging the complexity of cognitive processes. Specifically, this course will cover topics such as perception, attention, memory, problem-solving, and decision-making. Together, we will learn how the mind works and will use our own cognitive experiences to better understand the course material.

## **Learning Outcomes:**

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Identify various cognitive processes (e.g., attention, short-term memory) involved in their everyday experience.
- Identify common misconceptions about human cognitive processes.
- Understand the research methods that psychologists commonly use to study cognitive processes.
- Understand how basic research in cognitive psychology can be applied to improve attention, memory, and decisions in one's own life and in institutions such as: education, law, and public health.

## **Textbook (required):**

Goldstein, E. B. (2019). *Cognitive psychology: Connecting mind, research, and everyday experience*, 5th Edition. Boston: Cengage.

You can access the e-book by purchasing it through the UBC Okanagan Bookstore.

## **Requirements for Technology for Online Delivery of Courses:**

In order to engage with this course online, students are required to have a laptop or desktop computer and a stable internet connection. The lectures will be pre-recorded and posted to their weekly module on Canvas. Tests will be completed online during the **scheduled course time** (i.e., starting at 2pm Pacific on Tuesdays during weeks tests are scheduled).

### **Assessment of Performance**

Type of assessment:	% of grade
1.) Test 1	25%
2.) Test 2	25%
3.) Final Exam	30%
4.) Activities	10%
5.) Quizzes	8%
6.) Learning Assessment	2%
7.) Research Activity (Optional)	2% Bonus

1.) Test 1: Test 1 will cover all material covered in weeks 1-4 of the course, inclusive. The exam will consist of multiple-choice and short-answer questions, and will occur online. Test 1 will be closed book/note and you will be required to use Lockdown Browser.

2.) Test 2: Test 2 will cover all material covered in weeks 5-8 of the course, inclusive. The exam will consist of multiple-choice and short-answer questions, and will occur online. Test 2 will be closed book/note and you will be required to use Lockdown Browser.

3.) Final Exam: The Final Exam will be cumulative, but more heavily weighted toward material covered in weeks 10-13 of the course. The exam will consist of multiple-choice and short-answer questions, and will occur online. The Final Exam will be closed book/note and you will be required to use Lockdown Browser.

Each week, students will be assigned either an activity or quiz:

4.) Activities: A total of 5 experiential activities, worth 2% each, will be assigned throughout the course. On the weeks that activities are assigned, evidence that you completed that activity must be submitted on Canvas by 11:59 pm each Sunday.

5.) Quizzes: A total of 4 quizzes, worth 2% each, will be assigned throughout the course. These quizzes will be 10 questions each and you will have 10 minutes to complete them. Quizzes will be open book/note. On the weeks that quizzes are assigned, responses must be submitted on Canvas by 11:59 pm each Sunday.

6.) Learning Assessments: Two assessments, worth 1% each, will be assigned on the first and last weeks of the course. These assessments will include the same 20 questions and are meant to provide an objective measure of learning over the course of the term. Learning assessments are closed book/closed note. Students will receive full marks for completion of these assessments, regardless of the number of correct responses.

7.) Research Activity (Optional; 2% Bonus): See pages 6-7 of this syllabus for information how to participate in research or complete a research summary assignment to earn this bonus credit.

### **Additional Notes About Grades:**

Final grades will be based on the evaluations listed above and the final grade will be assigned according to the standardized grading system outlined in the UBC Okanagan Calendar.

Please note I do not “round up” final grades. It is policy in this course that final grades cannot be adjusted (through extra assignments or otherwise) in order to achieve a passing mark, higher letter grade etc. In order to maintain fairness within this course, requests for additional assignments as well as requests to round or “bump up” final grades will be denied.

Barber School reserves the right to scale grades in order to maintain equity among sections and conformity to University, faculty, department, or the school norms. Students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed by the faculty, department, or school (<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/index.cfm?tree=3,41,90,1014>).

### **Missed/Late Assignments or Tests:**

Accommodations (i.e., make-up tests; assignment extensions) will not be given unless there is a valid reason for missing the initial deadline. Lack of planning, simultaneous assignments, or other conflicts do not qualify as valid reasons and instructors are not required to make allowance for any missed test or incomplete assignment (i.e., quiz, activity) that is not satisfactorily accounted for. Please contact your instructor as soon as possible if you need to request an accommodation. In the occurrence of an unforeseen event (e.g. emergency hospitalization; illness; death in the family), you must contact me about the matter no longer than 24 hours after the missed test or assignment deadline. If ill health is an issue, students are encouraged to seek attention from a health professional. Campus Health and Counselling will normally provide documentation only to students who have been seen previously at these offices for treatment or counselling specific to conditions associated with their academic difficulties.

**Late Assignments:** Assignment (i.e., quiz, activity) due dates are indicated on the course schedule. Extensions will not be given except in valid circumstances (described above). For every day that the assignment is late without a valid excuse, I will deduct 5 percentage points from your grade for that assignment. If a valid excuse is given, students will have 48 hours from the due date to submit the late assignment.

**Missed Tests:** Students who miss a test must provide written documentation (i.e., doctor’s note) of the absence to the instructor and must arrange to make up the test within one week of the original test date. Students who do not write the test by this time will receive a grade of “0”. If you do not have a valid reason for missing a test, you will also receive a “0”.

Students who feel that requests for consideration have not been dealt with fairly by their instructors may take their concerns first to the Head of the discipline, and if not resolved, to the Office of the Dean. Further information can be found at: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/index.cfm?tree=3,48,0,0>.

### **Technical Issues During Tests/Examinations:**

As per UBC policy, all tests/examinations must be completed during the scheduled course time. Out of fairness to all students, there are no exceptions to this policy. The instructor and/or TA will be available during all tests/examinations via email should students encounter technical difficulties. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that any technical issues are reported to the instructor **immediately**. If you cannot connect with the instructor via email, please document the issue or technical concern via a screenshot. This is the only circumstance in which it is appropriate to document (i.e., screenshot) exam material. Failing to report technical issues in a timely manner may result in the issue not being resolved and may negatively impact your grade.

### **Academic Integrity Examination Policies for Closed-Book Exams:**

The examinations in this course are all closed-book, so you are **not** permitted to access any of the course materials, including your notes, during the exam. You are **not** to use any search engines, generative AI, or other programs, with the exception of Lockdown Browser, which is required to complete the exam. Nor are you permitted to

communicate with anyone – you are to work independently. Communication with other individuals (written, text, verbal, etc.) is also not permitted. If you violate these conditions you have engaged in Academic Misconduct and will be subject to the consequences articulated in the Academic Integrity section (see below).

### **Final Examination:**

The examination period for Term 1 is December 11-22. Except in the case of examination clashes and hardships (three or more formal examinations scheduled within a 27-hour period) or unforeseen events, students will be permitted to apply for out-of-time final examinations only if they are representing the University, the province, or the country in a competition or performance; serving in the Canadian military; observing a religious rite; working to support themselves or their family; or caring for a family member. Unforeseen events include (but may not be limited to) the following: ill health or other personal challenges that arise during a term and changes in the requirements of an ongoing job. Further information on Academic Concessions can be found under Policies and Regulations in the Okanagan Academic Calendar (<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/okanagan/index.cfm?tree=3,48,0,0>). Out-of-time examination forms can be found at (<https://fass.ok.ubc.ca/student-resources/undergrad/student-forms/>) and must be sent to the Dean's office.

**Academic Integrity:** The academic enterprise is founded on *honesty, civility, and integrity*. As members of this enterprise, all students are expected to know, understand, and follow the codes of conduct regarding academic integrity. At the most basic level, this means submitting only original work done by you and acknowledging all sources of information or ideas and attributing them to others as required. This also means you should not cheat, copy, or mislead others about what is your work. In this course, using ChatGPT and/or other generative AI tools to complete assessments (tests, exam, activities, quizzes, learning assessment) is prohibited, and will be treated as academic misconduct.

Violations of academic integrity (i.e., misconduct) lead to the breakdown of the academic enterprise, and therefore serious consequences arise and harsh sanctions are imposed. For example, incidences of plagiarism or cheating may result in a mark of zero on the assignment or exam and more serious consequences may apply if the matter is referred to the President's Advisory Committee on Student Discipline. Careful records are kept in order to monitor and prevent recurrences.

A more detailed description of academic integrity, including the University's policies and procedures, may be found in the Academic Calendar at <http://okanagan.students.ubc.ca/calendar/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,0>.

**A Note Regarding Online Learning:** During this pandemic, the shift to online learning has greatly altered teaching and studying at UBC, including changes to health and safety considerations. Keep in mind that some UBC courses might cover topics that are censored or considered illegal by non-Canadian governments. This may include, but is not limited to, human rights, representative government, defamation, obscenity, gender or sexuality, and historical or current geopolitical controversies. If you are a student living abroad, you will be subject to the laws of your local jurisdiction, and your local authorities might limit your access to course material or take punitive action against you. UBC is strongly committed to academic freedom, but has no control over foreign authorities (please visit <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,33,86,0> for an articulation of the values of the University conveyed in the Senate Statement on Academic Freedom). Thus, we recognize that students will have legitimate reason to exercise caution in studying certain subjects. If you have concerns regarding your personal situation, consider postponing taking a course with manifest risks, until you are back on campus or reach out to your academic advisor to find substitute courses. For further information and support, please visit: <http://academic.ubc.ca/support-resources/freedom-expression>

**UBC Okanagan Disability Resource Centre:** The Disability Resource Centre ensures educational equity for students with disabilities and chronic medical conditions. If you are disabled, have an injury or illness and require academic

accommodations to meet the course objectives, please contact Earllene Roberts, the Diversity Advisor for the Disability Resource Centre located in the University Centre building (UNC 214).

UNC 214 250.807.9263

email [earllene.roberts@ubc.ca](mailto:earllene.roberts@ubc.ca)

Web: [www.students.ok.ubc.ca/drc](http://www.students.ok.ubc.ca/drc)

## TOPICS, READINGS, AND ASSIGNMENTS

Items on this syllabus are subject to change. Any necessary changes will be announced on Canvas. It is your responsibility to keep up to date on assignment due dates, as well as changes in the syllabus.

	<b>Topics Activities, Quizzes, Tests &amp; Exams</b>	<b>Assigned textbook chapter</b>
Week 1 (9/5-9/10)	Introduction to Cognitive Psychology Learning Assessment (Pre-Course)	Chapter 1
Week 2 (9/11-9/17)	Cognitive Psychology Quiz 1	Chapter 2
Week 3 (9-18-9/24)	Perception Quiz 2	Chapter 3
Week 4 (9/25-10/1)	Face Perception	
<b>10/3</b>	<b>Test 1 2pm PT; on Canvas</b>	
Week 5 (10/2-10/8)	Attention Activity 1	Chapter 4
Week 6 (10/9-10/15)	Short-term and Working Memory Activity 2	Chapter 5
Week 7 (10/16-10/22)	Long-term Memory: Structure Quiz 3	Chapter 6
Week 8 (10/23-10/29)	Long-term Memory: Processes	Chapter 7
<b>10/31</b>	<b>Test 2 2pm PT; on Canvas</b>	
Week 9 (10/30-11/5)	Everyday Memory and Memory Errors Activity 3	Chapter 8
Week 10 (11/6-11/12)	False Memories Quiz 4	
Week 11 (11/13-11/19)	Midterm Break	
Week 12 (11/20-11/26)	Problem Solving & Creativity Activity 4	Chapter 12
Week 13 (11/27-12/3)	Judgment, Decisions, & Reasoning Activity 5	Chapter 13
Week 14 (12/4-12/7)	Review Learning Assessment (Post-Course)	
Exam Period (12/10-12/21)	<b>Final Exam (date and time TBD; on Canvas)</b>	

## SONA RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Students earn Sona credit points for their eligible courses from participating in research activity. This can be either through direct participation in research through the Sona online research system (Option 1), by completing summaries of primary research articles (Option 2), or by a combination of the two types of activities. First year courses (i.e., PSYO 111 and PSYO 121) include 4% as part of the final course grade for participating in Sona research activity, while second year and higher courses allow for a 2% bonus to be added to the final course grade for participating.

### Research Participation In Online Research System (Option 1)

As a participant in one of the numerous research studies posted at <http://ubco.sona-systems.com/>, you will obtain 0.5% credit for each 0.5 hour of participation. Hence, studies requiring a 1-hour time commitment provides a credit of 1%, 1.5 hours provides a credit of 1.5%, and 2 hours provides a credit of 2.0%, etc.

#### *Important Requirements*

You may participate in more than one study in order to earn credits. It is important to sign up for studies early in the semester in order to increase the odds that a timeslot is available. If you wait until later in the semester, timeslots may no longer be available.

#### *Logging On To The System*

Sona is only open for those students who are registered in a psychology course offering Sona credit points. Please only use the request account option if you have never used the Sona system before. If you have used the Sona system before, please use the most recent login information you remember to log in.

#### *Missed Appointments & Penalties*

Missed appointments (i.e., failure to cancel the appointment at least 3 hours prior to the session) will be tracked. The consequence will be that you will not receive credit for participation in the study and you will be assigned an unexcused no-show. The unexcused no-show designation will cause you to lose the credit value of the study from the total possible credit points you can earn for your course. For example, if you are in PSYO 111 (or 121), you can earn up to 4.0 credits. If you miss an hour-long session that you signed up for (i.e., 1.0 credit) and don't cancel it in advance, the maximum credits that you can now earn for your course is 3.0, regardless of how many studies you complete.

If, after consenting to participate and starting a session (or survey), you decide to withdraw your consent, to avoid receiving an unexcused no-show on Sona, you must do one of the following:

- if it is an online study, you must cancel your Sona sign-up and/or contact Shirley ([psyc.ubco.research@ubc.ca](mailto:psyc.ubco.research@ubc.ca)) if you are unable to cancel your sign-up;
- if it is an in-person study, you must let the researcher know directly. Their email can be found on the main description page for the study (little envelope icon). Depending upon the study, they will either cancel your session or assign you an excused no-show (meaning that you will not be penalized).

Your ability to withdraw your data will depend upon the study. Instructions for withdrawing your data (including limitations) will be described in the study's consent form.

Please email [psyc.ubco.research@ubc.ca](mailto:psyc.ubco.research@ubc.ca) with any questions or concerns that you may have regarding the Sona system. Your professor or instructor does NOT have access to this information.

## Research Summary Assignment (Option 2)

As an alternative to participating in research studies, you may obtain Sona credit points by completing library-writing projects to a satisfactory level. Each library-writing project is worth a total of two credits.

### *Important Requirements*

1. This project consists of reading and summarizing (in written form) a recent, peer-reviewed, primary research article.
  - A “recent” article has been published within the past 12 months.
  - A “peer reviewed” article is one that has been reviewed by other scholars before it is accepted – for example, it **cannot** be a news item, an article from a popular magazine, a notice, or a letter to the editor.
  - A “primary” research article describes an experiment or study where data are collected by the authors. In other words, the article you choose to review **cannot** be a book review, literature review, or summary article.
2. You must choose an article published by one of the following agencies:
  - The American Psychological Society - *Psychological Science*, *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, *Psychological Science in the Public Interest*, or *Perspectives on Psychological Science*.
  - The American Psychological Association - [www.apa.org/journals/by\\_title.html](http://www.apa.org/journals/by_title.html) has a full listing.
  - The Canadian Psychological Association - *Canadian Psychology*, *Canadian Journal of Behavioural Science*, or *Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology*.
  - The Psychonomic Society - *Behavior Research Methods, Cognitive, Affective, & Behavioral Neuroscience*, *Learning & Behavior*, *Memory & Cognition*, *Perception & Psychophysics*, or *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*.
3. Other Assignment Guidelines

The summary should be about 300-500 words in length. The source must be cited and referenced in accordance with the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. The review will be graded on a pass – fail basis (2% or 0%). At least **14 days before the end of classes** each term, submit the following to the course instructor:

  - the article summary
  - a copy of the article
  - a cover page that specifies your name, student number, email address, and word count of the summary.
  - the course title and number

Submitting the assignment 14 days in advance is necessary to ensure that you have an opportunity to make corrections, if required. If you do not check your email frequently, provide a phone number on the cover page.