
Instructor: Brian Cahill

Department: Psychology

Office: 257 Psy

Office Hours: Virtual Office hours only Wednesday 10:30-11:30am or by appointment

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Teaching Assistants: Graduate TAs: Jules Sostre and Cassandra Duan

Office: Virtual Office hours only

Office Hours: Sostre: Monday 12-2pm or by appointment; Duan: Tuesday 2-4pm or by appointment

Email: use canvas email

Course Description:

Cognitive Psychology is the scientific study of mental processes. This course will cover the major topics in the field, including perception, attention, memory, and decision making. Throughout the course, we will examine psychological research that attempts to explain these, and a variety of other, cognitive processes. At the end of the course, you will have a better understanding of how psychological research contributes to our knowledge of how the human mind works. Students should be prepared to think critically about each topic and to actively participate in class discussions. Successful completion of this course requires participation in class activities, completion of all assignments, and timely reading of assigned materials.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. Have a better understanding of the origins of scientific interest in cognition.
2. Have a basic understanding of research methods in cognitive psychology.
3. Understand the theoretical models proposed to describe various mental processes.

Recommended Text and Required Materials

Text: Matlin, M. W. & Thomas A. Farmer (2019). *Cognition* (10th ed.). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

This course is participating in the UF ALL ACCESS program for the Summer 2021 semester. The ALL ACCESS program will allow you to gain access to the required materials for the course at a significantly discounted price. **Please see UF All Access PDF posted in in the course files for directions on how to opt-in and access your course materials. Go to <https://bsd.ufl.edu/allaccess> to log into your GatorLink account. You will see a list of classes in which you are enrolled that are participating in UF All Access, with the prices. Click the Opt-in check box next to the appropriate class. You may have more than one class that you are taking participating in the program. Students then need to click the button below to authorize the charges.

Canvas:

Course-related materials will be posted on Canvas platform (<http://lss.at.ufl.edu>; click “**Canvas Login**”) so if you are not familiar with it I highly suggest that you spend some time exploring its various components. We’ll be using Canvas heavily to supplement our in-class meetings throughout the semester. Each student must become familiar with this software and ***check the course web site on a regular basis*** because important class updates and announcements will be posted online. You will be responsible for all class announcements made through canvas.

Course Structure:

Modules: To make the class easier for you I have standardized the opening and due dates of all modules and assignments throughout the course. Given that this is a summer course we will have to have multiple modules in a single week so please make sure you keep up with your work or you will struggle in this class. Also modules will begin on Monday at 12am and will end the following Sunday at 11:59pm. Quizzes will be due on the last day of each module (i.e., Sunday at 11:59pm. The exam dates will usually be on a Monday but the dates will vary so please check the schedule at the end of the syllabus for exact due dates.

Exams: Each exam will consist of 45 multiple-choice questions and 1 open ended question. Each multiple-choice will be worth 2 points and the open ended question will be worth 10 points for a total of 100 points for each exam. There will be 4 exams in all and each exam will be non-cumulative. Exam 1 will cover chapters 1, 2, and 3; Exam 2 will cover chapters 4 and 5; Exam 3 will cover chapters 8 and 11; and Exam 4 will cover chapters 12 and 13. Each exam will be taken using HonorLock and remember you will NOT be allowed to use your book or notes. You will be given one hour to complete the exam. Your lowest exam score will be dropped, so 3 exams x 100 = 300 points total. Each exam must be completed as scheduled unless you provide ***documentation*** of a serious illness, school activity, death in the family, or other ***serious emergency*** that ***prevents you from taking the exam on the day of the exam***. In the event that you provide adequate documentation for your missed exam, you will be required to complete the exam within ***one week*** of the scheduled exam date. Students will receive a zero for each missed exam. ***Make-up exams will not be administered under any other circumstances.***

Honorlock will proctor your exams this semester. Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from the comfort of your home. You DO NOT need to create an account, download software or schedule an appointment in advance. Honorlock is available 24/7 and all that is needed is a computer, a working webcam, and a stable Internet connection.

To get started, you will need Google Chrome and to download the Honorlock Chrome Extension. You can download the extension at www.honorlock.com/extension/install

When you are ready to test, log into Canvas, go to your course, and click on your exam. Clicking "Launch Proctoring" will begin the Honorlock authentication process, where you will take a picture of yourself, show your ID, and complete a scan of your room. Honorlock will be recording your exam session by webcam as well as recording your screen. Honorlock also has an integrity algorithm that can detect search-engine use, so please do not attempt to search for answers, even if it's on a secondary device.

Honorlock support is available 24/7/365. If you encounter any issues, you may contact them via live chat.

Quizzes: At the beginning of the module (i.e., Monday at 12am) I'll open up a 10-question multiple-choice quiz on Canvas. They'll be timed, such that you won't be able to look up answers quickly enough without knowing exactly where to look, so preparation's important. These quizzes are non-cumulative, thus they will focus on the current material being covered that week/module. Also, the questions will be randomly selected from a large question pool so each person's quiz will differ. Quizzes for each module will be due at the end of each module/week, which is a Sunday, at 11:59pm. There will be 9 quizzes in total, one for each of the modules, each worth 20 points each (2 points per question). Your lowest quiz score will be dropped, so 8 quizzes x (10 questions x 2 points each) = 160 points total. Because quizzes are open for 7 days and may be taken at any time in that time frame you cannot make up quizzes under any circumstances.

Grading Procedure:

| Assessment | Total Points | Percentage of Final Grade |
|------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Exams | 300 | 65% |
| Quizzes | 160 | 35% |

Your final grade will include 3 exams, 8 quizzes, and any extra credit earned. **The following scale will be used to determine final grades, I will not round up final grades under any circumstances:**

| | | | | | |
|----|---|-----------|----|---|----------|
| A | = | 93 – 100% | C- | = | 70 – 72% |
| A- | = | 90 – 92% | D+ | = | 67 – 69% |
| B+ | = | 87 – 89% | D | = | 63- 66% |
| B | = | 83 - 86 % | D- | = | 60 – 62% |
| B- | = | 80 - 82 % | E | = | 0 – 59% |
| C+ | = | 77 - 79 % | | | |
| C | = | 73 – 76% | | | |

At any time, you may calculate your grade by adding up the number of points earned, dividing that sum by the number of points attempted, and multiplying the result by 100. Information about UF's current grading policies may be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Our Class Policies

Late Work and Make ups:

An example: You have been very busy all week so you keep putting off taking that online quiz for your favorite class Legal Psychology. It is finally time for you to take the quiz so you put on your most comfortable Snuggie, crawl into your memory foam bed and turn on your notebook to take the quiz and then you say, “Son of a &^%*&!” because your internet goes out so you have no way of accessing the quiz now. You look at the clock and now there is only 20 minutes before the deadline so you don’t even have time go to a local Starbucks to access the internet. So you email me panicked, telling me about this horrible situation and plead for me to allow you to take the quiz late. Well unfortunately, unlike Lloyd Christmas who famously said “So you're telling me there's a chance. YEAH!”, you have NO chance of earning points for late work so please make sure you turn your assignments in on time. So please, please, please, please be responsible and make sure you do not wait until the last minute to do any of your graded assignments. Make-ups are not allowed under any circumstances, as I already allow you to drop your lowest quiz and discussion grades in case of any emergencies. Of note, if the Canvas website experiences course wide technical difficulties deadlines will be adjusted to allow for completion of assignments. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Grade Disputes: For all graded assignments, you will have 1 week from the day your grades are released to dispute your grade, after which your grade will become final and can no longer be disputed. Obviously, just because you dispute your grade DOES NOT mean your grade will be changed in your favor. Also, this should not be a default reaction to any low grade you receive, please only pursue this route when you are confident that you can make a case that an error occurred. If you wish to dispute a grade you must email me to inform me that you wish to dispute your grade. Then you must attend office hours and be ready to provide a sound argument based on empirical evidence. Any changes to grades will be made solely at the discretion of your professor.

U Matter, We Care: Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

University Policy on Academic Misconduct: The University of Florida holds its students to the highest standards, and we encourage students to read the University of Florida Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code (Regulation 4.040), so they are aware of our standards. Any violation of the Student Honor Code will result in a referral the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution and may result in academic sanctions and further student conduct action. The two greatest threats to the academic integrity of the University of Florida are cheating and plagiarism. Students should be aware of their faculty's policy on collaboration, should understand how to properly cite sources, and should not give nor receive an improper academic advantage in any manner through any medium. [UF Student Honor Code.](#)

I Need Help!!!

Ok, so maybe you are not a very tech savvy person or Canvas is giving you some strange error message and when you google it you still can't fix it. Don't panic we are here to help 24/7! For technical issues like this you should contact the UF Computing Help Desk at:

- helpdesk@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2

[Submit a question via the Helpdesk website](#) If they are still of no help (which from my experience they are very helpful) then you should contact me Dr. Brian Cahill: brian.cahill@ufl.edu or the teaching assistant you have been assigned to using your last name (see the top of the syllabus for their contact info). Aside from technical help my teaching assistants and myself are here to help you however we can with course related questions. We love our jobs and our students very much so please don't be afraid to ask for help! We are good at what we do and will do whatever we can to help you succeed in this course. However, when you email us please keep in mind a couple of things and I know this will come off as condescending and I am sorry but you would put this in your syllabus if you received the kinds of inappropriate emails I receive from students on a regular basis: 1) Your emails should be formal when you write to us, we are not your brother/sister, bff, or bae so please address us properly using appropriate terms (e.g., Dr. Cahill, Professor Cahill), 2) We have hundreds of students in multiple classes so please give us your full name, what class you are in, and which section in every email you write to us, and 3) Please spell check your email and use proper grammar so we can understand your question/issue.

Course Evaluations:

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner.](#) Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.](#)

EXP 3604 Cognitive Processes
Summer A 2022
****Course Schedule****

| Module/Date | Topic | Reading | Assignments (all Assignments Due at 11:59pm) |
|--------------------|---|------------|---|
| Start Here Page | General Course Information | | Very Important: Must complete syllabus quiz (score 100% on it) and introduce yourself to open up the rest of the modules |
| 1 (5-9 to 5-15) | A Brief History of and current issues in Cognitive Psychology | Chapter 1 | Due: Quiz 1 5-15 |
| 2 (5-9 to 5-15) | Psychology and Perceptual Processes I | Chapter 2 | Due: Quiz 2 5-15 |
| 3 (5-16 to 5-22) | Psychology and Perceptual Processes II | Chapter 3 | Due: Quiz 3 5-22 |
| 4 (5-23 to 5-29) | Working Memory | Chapter 4 | Exam 1: Chapters 1, 2, and 3. Take between 12am and 11:59pm on 5-23 Due: Quiz 4 5-29 |
| 5 (5-23 to 5-29) | Long Term Memory | Chapter 5 | Due: Quiz 5 5-29 |
| 6 (5-30 to 6-5) | General Knowledge and Schemas | Chapter 8 | Exam 2: Chapters 4 and 5. Take between 12am and 11:59pm on 5-31 Due: Quiz 6 -5 |
| 7 (5/30 to 6-5) | Problem Solving | Chapter 11 | Due: Quiz 7 6-5 |
| 8 (6-6 to 6-12) | Deductive Reasoning and Decision Making | Chapter 12 | Exam 3: Chapters 8 and 11. Take between 12am and 11:59pm on 6-6. Due: Quiz 8 6-12 |
| 9 (6-6 to 6-12) | Cog. Development Across the Lifespan | Chapter 13 | Due: Quiz 9 6-12 Exam 4: Chapters 12 and 13. Take between 12am and 11:59pm on 6-13 |