

PSY B50H: SENSATION AND PERCEPTION, 1999-2000

Classes: Mon. 5:00-7:00 (H214), Tues. 6:00-7:00 (H215)

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S228A (Music Cognition Lab)
Tues. 5-6, from November 16

Course Website: <http://www.scar.utoronto.ca/~nicholas/psyb50/>

Textbook: Coren, S., Ward, L. M. & Enns, J. T. (1999). Sensation and perception (5th ed.). Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace.

Objectives: To develop an understanding of the normal functioning of the human visual and auditory systems and to acquire a practical knowledge of the principal methods of data collection in the field of psychophysics.

Evaluation:

Practical reports (2)	20 %
Term tests (2)	40 %
Final examination	40 %

Practical Work:

Some classes will be conducted as practical sessions to demonstrate the use of psychophysical methods. In some cases, briefings will be given in class on small experiments that you will run outside class time on a computer; data will then be analysed and discussed in class the following week. In other cases, experiments will be conducted in class.

You will write short reports on two of the practical exercises, due on the following dates.

1. Tuesday, 12 October (Staircase Method)
2. Tuesday, 9 November (Signal Detection Theory)

Tests:

Tests will be conducted in the first part of the class period. Each test will have a multiple choice section and require one essay answer (there will be a choice), based on lectures and the text.

1. Monday, 18 October: Chs 1, 3, 4, Appendix, and pp. 15-20 & 24-30, excluding Computation Box 2-1.
2. Monday, 15 November (Chs 5, 9, 10, and pp. 20-24 plus Computation Box 2-1 & pp. 30-48.

Final Exam:

- a) Part I will have multiple choice questions on Chapters 6, 7, 12, and related lectures.
- b) Part II will require one essay answer (there will be a choice) on the same material as Part I.
- c) Part III will require essay answers (there will be a choice) and will draw upon major concepts dealt with throughout the course.

IMPORTANT: Do not make plans to leave Toronto for the Christmas vacation until after the examination timetable has been published. No special arrangements can be made for students who book flights that leave before the day of the exam.

Provisional Class Schedule:

Note: Numbers in brackets refer to the relevant chapter in the text.
P * indicates a class relating to a practical report.
JF/NS indicates instructor.

<i>Monday, 5-7</i>		<i>Tuesday, 6-7</i>	
S 13	Introduction (1), Light, The Eye (3) JF	S 14	Thresholds: Method of Limits (2) JF
S 20	Visual Nervous System (3 & Appendix) JF	S 21	Method of Constant Stimuli (2) JF
S 27	'What' v. 'Where' (3), Brightness (4) JF	S 28	Staircase Method (2) P * JF
O 4	Acuity, Modulation Transfer Function (4) JF	O 5	Staircase Method (2) P * JF
O 11	<i>Thanksgiving</i>	O 12	Contrast (4) JF
O 18	TEST 1, Colour (5) JF	O 19	Signal Detection Theory (2) P * NS
O 25	Colour (5) JF	O 26	Signal Detection Theory (2) P * NS
N 1	Form (10) JF	N 2	Signal Detection Theory (2) P * NS
N 8	Depth (9) JF	N 9	Other Psychophysical Methods (2) JF
N 15	TEST 2, Sound (6) NS	N 16	The Ear (6) NS
N 22	Auditory Nervous System (6), Perceptual Perceptual Dimensions of Sound (7) NS	N 23	Perceptual Dimensions of Sound (7) NS
N 29	Sound Localization, Scene Analysis (7) NS	N 30	Speech Perception (12) NS
D 7	Music Perception (12) NS		