PsyC54S'02: Cognition and Representation: John M. Kennedy Fr10-12 H310

Text: J.M. Kennedy "Drawing and the blind," Yale Press,1993

Office hours Fr 9 to 10 + extra prior to exams

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In this course you will learn about representation in vision and touch. Much of what you will learn was discovered at UTSC, is still being investigated and is still the subject of hot debate, notably from young Oxford scholars. We will begin with a practical, applied question. Can pictures make sense to touch as well as vision? And if so why? At the end the answer will be YES. And you will be given several key reasons. Along the way, you'll learn how vision and touch deal with shape, and your own vantage point on the world. You'll learn how children develop the ability to draw. And you'll learn remarkable principles of representation — literal and metaphoric ones, in pictures and in symbols. You'll be given major questions, thoughtful theory, imaginative speculation and hard evidence from children, adults, the blind and the sighted, and different cultures.

Demonstrations lead to examination options. In-class presentations are voluntary.

Jan 11th: Chapter 1:The environment we can touch: What can we show in a picture?

Jan 18th: Chapter 2: Outline pictures and shadows; pages 21--46: + The latest 1?

Jan 25th: Ch 2+ Chapter 3: Can blind people recognize outline pictures? + Latest 2?

Feb 1st: First examination: weight 25%: Multiple choice plus options

Feb 8th: Chapter 4: Can the blind draw? + The latest 3?

Feb 15th: Chapter 5: The development of our ability to draw

Mar 1st: Ch 5 + Chapter 6: Effects of perspective + Presentations?

Mar 8th: Chapter 6: Effects of perspective + The latest 4? Presentations?

Mar 15th: Second exam: weight 40%: Multiple choice plus options

Mar 22nd: Chapter 7: Metaphor, simile and pictures: Latest 5? Presentations?

Mar 29th: Ch 7 and Chapter 8: Impressions from pictures: Presentations?

Apr 5th: Ch 8 + Chapter 9: The YES, and the WHY summarized! Presentations?

Final examination in examination period: Weight 35%:
Multiple choice + options + bonus