

PSYB51: Perception and Cognition

I) Course information

Course number: PSYB51H3 F

Fridays, 9 am – 12 pm
Place: SW 309

Prerequisites: PSYA01 & PSYA02

II) Instructor:

Dr. Matthias Niemeier
1265 Military Trail SW569
phone: 416-287-7466
e-mail: niemeier@utsc.utoronto.ca I will respond within two working days.
Office Hours: Fridays, 12 pm – 1 pm.

III) Teaching Assistants:

Bobby Stojanoski
Ada Le

IV) Blurb

Theory and research on perception and cognition, including visual, auditory and tactile perception, representation, and communication. Topics include cognition and perception in the handicapped and normal perceiver; perceptual illusion, noise, perspective, shadow patterns and motion, possible and impossible scenes, human and computer scene analysis, ambiguity in perception, outline representation. The research is on adults and children, and different species. Demonstrations and exercises form part of the course work.

V) Textbook

Required
Title: Sensation and Perception, 2nd edition
Authors: J. Wolfe et al.
Publisher: Sinauer
ISBN: 978-0-87893-953-4

VI) Web pages

Course Web Site: intranet page

Here you will find the syllabus, and announcements. Also, I will put the lecture slides on that page.

Please check on a regular basis for announcements.

VII) Evaluation

30% Mid-term test 1. Scheduled for **TBA**. Two hours.

30% Mid-term test 2. Scheduled for **TBA**. Two hours.

40% Final Term test. TBA. Two hours.

(3% Bonus credit for 8/10 passed quizzes)

Exams will have multiple-choice and short-answer questions. The final exam will be cumulative. Material on the exams will include lecture material and text readings. Although the topics covered will overlap, different things may be emphasized in class than in the book. Therefore, I recommend class attendance. E.g., you need to come to class to hear the details and see the demonstrations. The text is intended to reinforce and supplement material presented in class.

Missing an exam: If you miss one of the mid-term exams your grade will be recalculated based on your grades in the other mid-term and the final exam. Therefore, weights will be recalculated proportionally (mid-term will be 43%, final will be worth 57%). Please notify me through email if you miss both mid-terms. I will then offer a make-up exam that will cover the material of both mid-terms. If you miss the final exam, you are asked to petition to write the test through the Registrar's office, usually one term later.

Difficulties with the course: Please talk to me or the TAs if you are having difficulties with the course (or if you have personal issues). The earlier the better. Especially, please come before an exam is to be held. Afterwards is too late. We are happy to help as much as possible. Please note, however, that as per university policy it is not possible to negotiate better grades. Nevertheless, you have the chance to earn extra credit.

Bonus credit: There will be 10 quizzes that you can choose to participate in. The quizzes will be about the textbook chapters. If you pass 8/10 or more quizzes you earn a maximum of 3% of the total grade, and you need at least 6/10 to get 1.5%. Of course the main purpose of this small incentive is to get up to speed for the exams which will contain a portion of similar questions.

VIII) Schedule

This schedule is subject to changes as we go along. The most up-to-date schedule will be on the web.

Lecture	Date	Topic	Chapter
1	11-Sep-09	Welcome & Introduction	1
2	18-Sep-09	Optics and the eye	2
3	25-Sep-09	Spatial vision	3
4	02-Oct-09	Objects	4
5	09-Oct-09	Colour & Motion	5 & (7)
	TBA	Mid-term 1	1-5, (7)
6	16-Oct-09	Eye movements, Space and depth	(7) & 6
7	23-Oct-09	Attention	8
8	30-Oct-09	Sound and the ear	9
9	06-Nov-09	Hearing	10
10	13-Nov-09	Music & Speech	11

	TBA	Mid-term 2	6, (7), 8-11
11	20-Nov-09	Touch, Multisensory integration	12
12	27-Nov-09	Olfaction and taste, Vestibular system	(13)&(14)&(15)
	TBA	Final exam	1-15

IX) AccessAbility Statement

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office as soon as possible. I will work with you and AccessAbility Services to ensure you can achieve your learning goals in this course. Enquiries are confidential. The UTSC AccessAbility Services staff (located in S302) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (416) 287-7560 or ability@utsc.utoronto.ca.

X) Academic Integrity Statement

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to: IN PAPERS AND ASSIGNMENTS: Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement. Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor. Making up sources or facts. Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment. ON TESTS AND EXAMS: Using or possessing unauthorized aids. Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test. Misrepresenting your identity. IN ACADEMIC WORK: Falsifying institutional documents or grades. Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources (see <http://www.utoronto.ca/academicintegrity/resourcesforstudents.html>).

XI) H1N1 Statement

Students are advised to consult the university's preparedness site (<http://www.preparedness.utoronto.ca>) for information and regular updates regarding procedures relating to H1N1 planning and individual student responsibilities.

XII) Course Policies

For other academic regulations please also refer to the UTSC calendar.