



Cognition

PSY352

Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Catalog Description

This course covers the psychological study of attention, pattern recognition, memory, language, reasoning, problem solving, and creativity. *Prerequisite: PSY 110.*

II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

Sternberg, R. J. & Sternberg, K. (2014). *Cognitive Psychology*, 7th Ed. Cengage Learning. ISBN-10: 1305644654

III. Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has learning outcomes specific to each program of study that are in line with the institutional outcomes of critical thinking, ethical reasoning, leadership, communication, and career preparation. Course outcomes support program outcomes and are listed below.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Explain basic concepts of cognition and its application to psychology.
2. Describe the role and function of the brain in the cognitive process.
3. Explain perception.
4. Explain the processes of attention and consciousness.
5. Describe memory processes.
6. Explain how knowledge is organized in the brain.
7. Explain the role of language as it relates to the human mind.
8. Differentiate between problem solving and decision making.
9. Describe practical application of all of the above to the “real world” environment.

Unit	Objectives	Topics covered	Course outcomes supported
1	1. Define cognitive psychology	Basics of Cognitive Neuroscience	1 2

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Compare and contrast the main lobes of the brain 3. Illustrate the connection between brain disorders and brain research 4. Differentiate between bottom up and top down processing 5. Explain the neural pathway from sensation to visual perception. 	<p>Visual Perception (Chapters 1, 2 and 3)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>3</p>
2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain the role of selective attention in visual processing. 2. Identify the pros and cons of multitasking. 3. Define consciousness 	<p>Attention and Consciousness (Chapter 4)</p>	<p>1, 4</p> <p>4</p> <p>1, 4</p>
3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distinguish between short term and long term memory. 2. Recognize the effects of brain disorders with memory research. 3. Investigate how false memories occur. 4. Explain how memories are stored and manipulated. 	<p>Memory and mental representations (Chapter 5, 6, and 7)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5</p> <p>5</p> <p>5, 6</p>
4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Differentiate between procedural and declarative memories. 2. Compare and contrast semantics and syntax in language. 3. Summarize the main features of the reading process. 4. Compare human and animal communication. 5. Analyze connections between thought and language. 	<p>Organization of knowledge Language (Chapter 8, 9 , and 10)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>7</p> <p>7</p> <p>7</p>
5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interpret the various type of problems to be solved. 2. Define the relationship between creativity and problem solving. 3. Analyze the role of heuristics and bias in decision making. 4. Compare and contrast the main forms of reasoning. 	<p>Problem solving and creativity (Chapter 11 and 12)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8</p> <p>8</p> <p>8</p>
6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hypothesize and research how cognitive processes 	<p>Human Intelligence</p>	<p>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9</p>

	relate to real world events such as eye witness testimony, dementia and eidetic memory.	Putting it all together!	
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At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes. You are more likely to achieve these outcomes only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus, complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

IV. Course Policies

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies.

Course Late Policy: *For online classes:* Regular, systematic, weekly participation is required by all online students. More than two weeks of nonparticipation in one six week period is considered unacceptable and may result in a lower grade for the course. Work completed late must be discussed with the instructor more than 24 hours before it is due to be accepted for partial credit. When accepted late, a 10% deduction per day will be imposed on the total score earned. This is an online course, prepare for / have backup plans for power outages, computer viruses, babysitters falling through, etc. Computer viruses and such are not valid excuses since there are 6 other days to complete the work before the disaster strikes.

Course Policy: If you fail a paper (make less than a 60% on it, you may redo the paper for 90% of the original points (i.e. you can make up to a 9/10 points or 18/20 points, etc). You must let me know this is your plan and submit it before the last day of the semester to receive an updated score.

V. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussion board postings	6	240	21%
Written Assignments	5	500	43%
Final Paper	1	200	17%
Exams (Midterm / Final)	2	200	18%
Introduce yourself	1	10	1%
Total Points		1150	100%

VI. Course at a Glance:

Unit	List the Graded Assignments Due	Relevant readings/prep	Learning objectives supported

1	Discussion Board 1	Chapter 1	1, 2
	Written Assignment 1	Chapter 2 Chapter 3	1, 2, 3
	Introduce yourself	PPTs 1, 2, 3	
2	Discussion Board 2	Chapter 4	1, 4
	Written Assignment 2	PPT 4	
3	Discussion Board 3	Chapter 5, 6, 7	5
	Written Assignment 3	PPTs 5, 6, 7	5, 6
	Midterm (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)		
4	Discussion Board 4	Chapter 8, 9, 10	7
	Written Assignment 4	PPTs 8, 9, 10	7
5	Discussion Board 5	Chapter 11, 12	8
	Written Assignment 5	PPTs 11, 12	8
6	Discussion Board 6	Research Paper Due	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
	Final Paper		
	Final Exam (Chapters 1 - 12)		

VII. Other Policies and Requirements

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.