**Higher Mental Processes (PSYC 5313-001)**

**T/Th 11:00-12:20 PM**

**SPRING 2019, LS 501**

**Instructor: Prof.** Daniel S. Levine

**Office:** LS 414 (817-272-3598)

**Office Hours:** 3:30-4:30 PM T/Th or by appointment

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**Faculty profile**: https://mentis.uta.edu/public/#profile/profile/edit/id/151/category/1

**Course Description:** This course will focus upon core topics in cognitive psychology. This course will be a combination of lecture and presentation/discussion format. The instructor will provide an overview of a topic and one or two students will present assigned articles each class. The list of articles will be provided for each topic. Students who are not presenting will be required to submit a question or a relevant discussion item via Blackboard by a day prior to the presentation to promote discussion.

**Course Learning Goals and Objectives:** The course aims to study the mind’s complex cognitive processes from an interdisciplinary perspective. The goal is to provide a broad introduction of the topics in cognitive psychology that will serve as a foundation for further investigation of specific topics in depth as they become relevant to one’s field.

**Course Business Communication:** All course announcements and updates of schedule will be communicated via Blackboard.

**Attendance & Drop Policy:** Attendance is required for this course. The drop policy is as established by University policy (see below).

**Course Requirements:**

Students are required to submit a research proposal, to give class presentations (based on assigned readings), to participate in class discussion, and to take two examinations (midterm, final). Students are expected to attend class, to complete the weekly readings (provided on Blackboard) before class and to prepare questions (via Blackboard) and to ask questions during class. The number of presentations per student will depend on the size of the class.

**Course Assessments:**

**Research Proposal (30%):** Students are required to propose a novel research idea, based on topics/articles that are covered in the course, and submit the proposal by the date of final exam. The proposal must be the student’ own ideas (thorough literature search is necessary). Follow APA format including Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion.

**Presentation/Discussion (10%):** One or two presentations (30m), depending on the class size and time available, about assigned articles and participation in discussion (including the questions for discussion) will be evaluated. Should you want to present other material, you may do so with the instructor’s permission.

**Exams (60%)**: There will be two non-cumulative essay exams allowing the student to demonstrate his or her ability to understand and integrate the concepts discussed. The exam will cover material from the Reisberg book, discussions, lectures, presentations, and all readings. There will be some choice about which assigned articles to answer questions on.

Missed exams and presentations will be accorded a grade of zero unless the student submits a valid written excuse recognized by the university's rules. There will be no makeup exams or presentations. The final grade will be calculated based on the sum scores of research proposals, presentation/discussion, and exams.

**Attendance**: I will take attendance but it will not be part of the grade.

**Required Textbook:**

Reisberg, D. (2017). *Cognition: Exploring the science of the mind (7th ed)*. New York: WW Norton & Company.

**Articles**:

Students will read and lead discussions on 1-2 articles per book chapter on cognitive psychology or cognitive neuroscience, most of them cited in Reisberg’s book and all available on Blackboard.

**Supplementary Textbooks:**

Goldstein, E.B. (2011). *Cognitive psychology: Connecting mind, research, and everyday experience (3rd ed)*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Sternberg, R. J., & Sternberg, K. (2017). *Cognitive psychology* (7th ed.). Boston: Cengage.

**Approximate Schedule**:

Dates Topic Material

1/15-1/17 General cognitive psychology Reisberg Ch. 1

1/17-1/24 Cognitive neuroscience R. Ch. 2; articles

1/29-2/5 Perception, object recognition R. Ch. 3-4; articles

2/7-2/14 Attention R. Ch. 5; articles

2/19-2/21 STM & working memory R. Ch. 6; articles

2/26-2/28 LTM encoding & retrieval R. Ch. 7; articles

3/5-3/7 Memory errors R. Ch. 8; articles

WEEK OF MARCH 11: SPRING BREAK

3/19-3/21 Review and **MIDTERM EXAM**

3/26-3/28 Knowledge, categorization R. Ch. 9; articles

4/2-4/4 Language R. Ch. 10; articles

4/9-4/11 Visual imagery R. Ch. 11; articles

4/16-4/23 Judgment

/decision making R. Ch. 12; articles

4/28-4/30 Problem solving R. Ch. 13; articles

5/2 Consciousness R. Ch. 14

**FINAL EXAM WEDNESDAY MAY 8 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM**

*(If we move quickly and cover material sooner than planned, there will be time for in-class presentations of experiment ideas. Grading on those will be ONLY on the written essays; oral presentation is for feedback.)*

**Other Information**

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Disability Accommodations:** UTArlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of **a letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting: **The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** <http://www.uta.edu/disability/> or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://www.uta.edu/hr/eos/index.php).

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated.*For information regarding Title IX, visit* [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Michelle Willbanks, Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-4585 or titleix@uta.edu

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>. Faculty are encouraged to discuss plagiarism and share the following library tutorials <http://libguides.uta.edu/copyright/plagiarism> and <http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/>

**Lab Safety Training:** **[Required for laboratory courses in the Colleges of Engineering and Science where students may be working with chemicals, biological material, radiological material or lasers] Students registered for this course must complete all required lab safety training prior to entering the lab and undertaking any activities.** Once completed, Lab Safety Training is valid for the remainder of the same academic year (i.e., Fall through Summer II) and must be completed anew in subsequent years. There are no exceptions to this University policy. Failure to complete the required training will preclude participation in any lab activities, including those for which a grade is assigned.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** for semester-long courses**,** a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located [insert a description of the nearest exit/emergency exit]. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Active Shooter:** The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by UTA Police regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. <https://police.uta.edu/activeshooter>