



湖北工业大学
HUBEI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Course Title	Cognitive Psychology
Course Code	PSYC 2612
Semester	Summer 2025
Course Length	5 Weeks, 60 Contact Hours
Credits	4
Instructor	TBA
Office	TBA
Email	TBA
Prerequisite	PSYC 1001 Introduction to Psychology I PSYC 1002 Introduction to Psychology II

Course Description:

This course on Cognitive Psychology explores the scientific study of mental processes in humans and animals, blending research, theory, and real-world applications. Students will examine key areas such as attention, memory, knowledge organization, problem-solving, decision-making, language, imagery, and metacognition. Through an experimental psychology lens, the course delves into how we perceive patterns, organize information, and navigate complex cognitive tasks.

Course Goals:

Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate competency in the following general education core goals:

- **Critical thinking skills** – Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts, and constructing solutions.
- **Communication skills** – Students will demonstrate effective written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Teamwork** – Students will demonstrate the ability to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal and consider different points of view.
- **Social responsibility** – Students will demonstrate intercultural competency and civic knowledge by engaging effectively in local, regional, national, and global communities.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- describe the historical development of cognitive psychology;
- recognize and explain major terms and concepts in cognitive psychology;

- explain how different methods of cognitive research can be used as tools to understand mental processes;
- discuss the classic experimental findings relating to various cognitive processes such as attention and consciousness, perception, memory, imagery, language, thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making;
- generate and explain examples that demonstrate or test theories or concepts within various cognitive domains;
- apply theories or findings to real-world situations and to one's own cognitive processes.

Textbooks/Supplies/Materials/Equipment/ Technology or Technical Requirements:

Farmer, T. A. & Matlin, M. W. (2019). *Cognition*. (10th ed.). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Course Requirements:

Class Participation & Discussions (10%)

Active engagement is crucial for understanding cognitive psychology. Students will participate in discussions, debates, and small-group activities analyzing case studies or experimental designs. Participation is graded based on the quality of contributions (e.g., asking insightful questions, connecting concepts to real-life examples) rather than mere attendance.

Pop Quizzes (25%)

Between five and seven surprise quizzes will be administered throughout the semester. Each quiz will contain 5-7 multiple choice questions from the previous lectures. This way assures that students will be prepared for each class. Moreover, being prepared for each quiz makes studying for exams easier and more effective.

Research Paper (25%)

Students will write a 10-12 paged research paper on a selected topic in cognitive psychology (e.g., false memory, cognitive biases, neural correlates of decision-making). The paper must include a literature review, a critical analysis of studies, and a discussion of real-world implications. A proposal (5%) and draft (5%) will be submitted for feedback before the final version (15%) is due. This assignment develops research skills, scientific writing, and the ability to synthesize complex ideas.

Exams (40%)

Students will complete two major exams (Midterm and Final), each covering key concepts, theories, and empirical studies discussed in lectures and readings. The exams will consist of multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions designed to assess comprehension, critical thinking, and the ability to apply cognitive principles to new situations. The Midterm (15%) will focus on early topics (attention, perception, memory), while the Final (25%) will be cumulative, with an emphasis on higher-order cognition (decision-making, problem-solving, language).

Assessments: Activity

Percent Contribution

Class Participation & Discussions

10%

Pop Quizzes

25%

Research Paper

25%

Exams	Midterm	15%
	Final	25%

Grading:

Final grades will be based on the sum of all possible course points as noted above.

Percentage of available points	Grade
90 - 100	A
80 - 89	B
70 - 79	C
60 - 69	D
<60	F

Course Schedule:

*The schedule of activities is subject to change at the reasonable discretion of the instructor.
Minor changes will be announced in class, and major ones provided in writing.*

PSYC 2612 Schedule		
Lecture	Topic	Readings/ Activities
L1	Introduction	No Readings
	What is Cognitive Psychology?	
L2	The Historical Roots of Cognitive Psychology	Ch. 1
	Mind, Brain, and Behavior	
	Overview of Research Methods	
L3	Visual and Auditory Recognition	Ch. 2
	Sensory Register	
L4	Object/Pattern Recognition	Ch. 2
	Face Recognition	
	Speech Perception	
L5	Attention	Ch. 3
	Neuroscience of Attention	
L6	Filter Models of Attention	Ch. 3
	Capacity Models of Attention	
L7	Consciousness	Ch. 3
L8	Short-term Memory	Ch. 4
L9	Working Memory	Ch. 4
L10	Long-Term Memory	Ch. 5
	Levels of Processing	
	Context and Memory	
L11	Implicit Memory	Ch. 5
	Research and Theory	*Research Paper
	Amnesia	Proposal Due
L12	Autobiographical Memory	Ch. 5
L13	Memory Failure	Ch. 5
	Forgetting	
	False Memory	
L14	Midterm Exam	Ch. 1-5
L15	Memory Strategies I: Memory Strategies Informed by Memory Concepts	Ch. 6
	Memory Strategies II: Practice and Mnemonics	
L16	Metacognition	Ch. 6

L17	Metamemory Mental Imagery	Ch. 7
L18	Visual Imagery Auditory Imagery Cognitive Maps	Ch. 7 *Research Paper Draft Due
L19	General Knowledge Theories of Knowledge Organization	Ch. 8
L20	Background and Approaches to Semantic Memory Network Models of Semantic Memory Schemas and Scripts	Ch. 8
L21	Language Structure and Speech Overview of Psycholinguistics Brain and Language	Ch. 9
L22	Language Production and Bilingualism Syntax and Language Acquisition	Ch. 10
L23	Problem-Solving and Creativity Structure, Heuristics, and Expertise Problem-Solving Strategies	Ch. 11
L24	Deductive Reasoning	Ch. 12 *Research Paper Due
L25	Decision-Making Overview of Heuristics Applications of Decision-Making Research	Ch. 12
/	Final Exam	Ch. 1-12

Accommodation Statement:

Academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire. Students who may require assistance in emergency evacuations should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow.

Academic Integrity Statement

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in coursework may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

Other Items:

Attendance and Expectations

All students are required to attend every class, except in cases of illness, serious family concerns, or other major problems. We expect that students will arrive on time, be prepared to listen and participate as appropriate, and stay for the duration of a meeting rather than drift in or out casually. In short, we anticipate that students will show professors and fellow students maximum consideration by minimizing the disturbances that cause interruptions in the learning process. This means that punctuality is a must, that cellular phones be turned off, and that courtesy is the guiding principle in all exchanges among students and faculty. You will be responsible for the materials and ideas presented in the lecture.

Assignment Due Dates

All written assignments must be turned in at the time specified. Late assignments will not be accepted unless prior information has been obtained from the instructor. If you believe you have extenuating circumstances, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Make-Up Work

The instructor will not provide students with class information or make-up assignments/quizzes/exams missed due to an unexcused absence. Absences will be excused and assignments/quizzes/exams may be made up only with written documentation of an authorized absence. Every effort should be made to avoid scheduling appointments during class. An excused student is responsible for requesting any missed information from the instructor and setting up any necessary appointments outside of class.

Access, Special Needs and Disabilities

Please notify the instructor at the start of the semester if you have any documented disabilities, a medical issue, or any special circumstances that require attention, and the school will be happy to assist.