

Instructor: Evans Mandes, Ph.D.
Professor of Psychology, Art, and
Visual Technology

College Hall 215
Office Hrs: T-Th 8:30-9, 3-4
703-993-8723
emandes@gmu.edu

**PSYCHOLOGY 309-001 SPRING 2006
SENSATION, PERCEPTION, AND INFORMATION PROCESSING**

LECTURE DATES	TOPICS	READING ASSIGNED
Jan 24	Introduction to Perception	G:1
Jan 31	The Visual System	G:2-3
Feb 7	The Visual System	G:4-5
Feb 14	FIRST EXAMINATION (essay)	
Feb 21	The Visual System	G:6
Feb 28	The Visual System	G:7
Mar 7	The Visual System	G:8-9 A:vision
Mar 21	SECOND EXAMINATION (essay)	
Mar 28	Audition	G:10
Apr 4	Pathologies of Hearing and Vision	G:16 A:hearing
Apr 11	The Cutaneous Senses	G:13 A:touch
Apr 18	THIRD EXAMINATION (essay)	
Apr 25	The Chemical Senses	G:14 A:smell A:taste
May 2	Perceptual Development	G:15
May 9	FINAL EXAMINATION (multiple choice on Goldstein)	

Texts: Goldstein, E (2002) *Sensation and Perception, 6th ed.* Pacific Grove: Ca, Wadsworth. And Ackerman, D(1990). *A Natural History of the Senses.* New York: Vintage

Exams: Midterms are essay in nature and cover the material for each section only. Please bring a bluebook for each test. Study questions in the back of each chapter provide an excellent review of the textual material and should be consulted. The lecturer also provides summaries after the end of every lecture. Makeups are not given, but students are only required to take two out of the three tests. If you take all three, then the lowest mark is dropped. The final is comprehensive over the Goldstein text and is multiple choice.

Grading: 90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, 0-59=F. Your lab mark =35%, the average of the exams = 30%, the final = 20%, and your class presentation = 15%

The Honor Policy – Students are expected to conform to the Honor Code of the University. All exams must be signed supporting the student pledge, and papers must be free of all charges of plagiarism including Internet plagiarism.

Technology requirement: Students are expected to be competent in word processing skills, Internet use, compiling of bibliographies, literature review searches, and downloading pictorial material from computers.

Course goals: To achieve an understanding of the sensory systems, how they function, how they relate to CNS functioning and to behavior. The orientation of the lectures will combine the neuropsychological approach, the neurophysiological approach (Goldstein), and the more traditional phenomenological approach to perception (Ackerman).

Classroom presentation: Oral communication is a part of the activities we undertake this semester in this class, so I am asking each of you to prepare a brief presentation of a topic of perception in the real world. Each of you will be working in groups of three on your presentation, but you will be allowed to choose the presentation and the group you wish to work with. You and your group are asked to use the Internet as the most convenient source along with more traditional ones, to divide the presentation equally among yourselves, and to meet frequently before your presentation to ensure that it goes well. You are to a brief summary of your remarks that can be distributed to your classmates for note taking and for studying. Remember to put your name on all of your work.

If you are a student with a disability and need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disabilities Resource Center at 703-993-2471. All academic accommodations must be arranged through this office.
hg