

Psychology 317(B01)–Cognitive Psychology
Summer 2006–Jennifer M. Levitas, Ph.D.

Class Meetings: Mondays and Wednesdays, 7:20-10:00 pm

Class Location: Robinson Hall, room A247

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Phone: 571.435.7193

Office Hours: Mondays 10:00-11:00 pm, Thompson Hall room 131

Text: Cognition, Sixth Edition

Author: Margaret W. Matlin

Course Objectives:

This course examines cognitive processes, or “higher mental processes.” Topics to be covered include perception, memory, language, and thinking. In this course, you will gain an appreciation of the basic information in cognitive psychology, from both theoretical and research-based perspectives. You will also gain an understanding of the research methods used in cognitive psychology, and become competent in critically evaluating the research in this area. You will be encouraged to apply your knowledge to your own cognitive processes in order to gain a deeper understanding of the material.

Course Requirements:

-completion of four (4) out of five (5) exams

-ten sets of chapter review questions

Exams

Exams will take approximately one hour to complete, and are multiple choice. The first four exams are not cumulative, but the final is cumulative. Your lowest exam grade will be dropped. Thus, if you are happy with your grades on the first four exams, you may choose to skip the final. If you miss one exam for any reason, that is the exam that will be dropped, thus there will be no makeups. No exceptions! Each exam is worth 20% of your grade. Each exam will be preceded by a one-hour lecture.

Chapter Review Questions

At the end of each chapter, there are ten chapter review questions. You need to answer all of the questions and turn them in at the appropriate time as indicated on the following page. You must type each question in the text **in bold** and then answer each question in regular type. You will receive a grade of 0, 1, 1.5 or 2 for each report. Handwritten reports will not be accepted. There are thirteen chapters in the text, but you need only turn in ten sets of questions to receive full credit. These questions are quite involved, and will take considerable time and effort. All together, these questions will be the equivalent of one exam grade, thus I highly recommend you make every effort to complete them on time and submit high-quality work. You need to turn in a

hard copy of the assignment in class on the day it is due (unless email is indicated on the syllabus). The Review Questions are worth 20% of your grade.

Grade Calculation

In order to determine your final grade in the course, refer to the following formula:

Exam #1 x .20 = ??

Exam #2 x .20 = ??

Exam #3 x .20 = ??

Exam #4 x .20 = ??

Review Questions (up to 20) = ??

Add up all the ??'s, and that will be your final course grade.

Grading Scale

92-100% = A 87-89% = B+ 77-79% = C+

90-91% = A- 83-86% = B 70-76% = C

80-82% = B- 60-69% = D

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Important Dates

Last day to add—June 14

Last day to drop—June 21

Cheating/Plagiarism Policy

Any form of cheating will not be tolerated. Cheating includes any attempt to defraud, deceive, or mislead the instructor in arriving at an honest grade assessment. Plagiarism is a form of cheating that involves presenting as one's own the ideas or work of another. Violation of this policy may result in a grade of "F" in the course. Any violations of the Honor Code will be promptly reported to the Honor Committee.

Note: What follows is a tentative schedule. The schedule given is a best estimate. It is the responsibility of each student to keep her/himself informed as to any changes.

Date	Lecture Topic	Chapters
Week of 6/5	Introduction and Perceptual Processes <i>Chapter Review (CR) Questions for Chapter 1 due on Wednesday</i> <i>CR Questions for Chapter 2 due by Saturday (email to me)</i>	1, 2, 3
Week of 6/12	Working Memory <i>CR Questions for Chapter 3 due on Monday</i> <i>CR Questions for Chapter 4 due by Saturday (email to me)</i> Exam #1 (Chapters 1-3) on Wednesday, 6/14, beginning promptly at 7:20 to be finished no later than 8:30	4
Week of 6/19	Long-Term Memory and Strategies/Metacognition <i>CR Questions for Chapter 5 due on Monday</i> <i>CR Questions for Chapter 6 due on Wednesday.</i>	5, 6
Week of 6/26	Imagery Exam #2 (Chapters 4-6) on Wednesday, 6/28 <i>CR Questions for Chapter 7 due on Saturday (email to me).</i>	7
Week of 7/3	No class 7/3—enjoy your Fourth of July! General Knowledge and Language <i>CR Questions for Chapter 8 due on Wednesday</i>	8, 9
Week of 7/10	<i>CR Questions for Chapter 9 due on Monday</i> Exam #3 (Chapters 7-9) on Wednesday, 7/12 <i>CR Questions for Chapter 10 due on Saturday (email to me)</i>	10
Week of 7/17	Problem Solving/Creativity, Deductive Reasoning <i>CR Questions for Chapter 11 due on Monday</i> <i>CR Questions for Chapter 12 due on Wednesday</i> Exam #4 (Chapters 10-12) on Wednesday, 7/19	11, 12
Week of 7/24	Cognitive Development Throughout the Lifespan <i>CR Questions for Chapter 13 due on Monday</i> Final Exam (Cumulative) will begin at 7:20 pm on Wednesday, 7/26	13