

Cognitive Processes
PSYC 4334
Fall 2008
424LS, T TH 3:30-4:50PM

Instructor:	Ifeoluwa Togun
Office:	430 LS
Office Hours:	Tuesday and Thursdays from 1-2 (and by appointment)
Email:	Itogun@aol.com
Course Prerequisites:	PSYC 2442
Required Textbook:	Reisberg, D. (3rd ed., 2006). <u>Cognition</u> . New York: Norton.
Course Description:	Current theory and research in cognitive processes such as memory, information processing, concept formation, problem solving, and decision making.
Course Learning Goals/Objectives:	Students will discover the broad array of phenomena, methods, and theories underlying cognitive psychology, and learn to think about them critically.
Attendance and Drop Policy:	Students are strongly encouraged to attend class as the material on tests comes both from the textbook as well as the lectures. Students will not be punished for being absent but they will be reward for attending as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If you are present for 90% of the semester's classes, 2 points will be added to your final grade.2. If you are present on two randomly selected days, 1 point will be added to your final grade for each day. However you are only eligible for these points if you were present for 90% of the semester's classes.3. If you are present for 90% of the semester's classes, the lowest grade received on <u>any</u> of the four tests will be dropped.

Specific Course Requirements:

Four exams of equal weight (25% each). Exams will be composed of short-answer and short-essay questions.

Missed exams:

Missed exams will be accorded a grade of zero unless the student has a valid excuse recognized by the university's rules.

Final Review Week

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 syllabi. 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.

Americans With Disabilities Act

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference to Public Law 93112---The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act - (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide “**reasonable accommodation**” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with **informing faculty at the beginning of the semester and in providing authorized documentation through designated** administrative channels.

Academic Dishonesty

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University

“Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or material that is attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.” (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2 Subdivision 3.22)

Student Success Programs

The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. They include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admissions and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

Bomb Threats

If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA will attempt to trace the phone call and prosecute all responsible parties. Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentations/tests caused by bomb threats. Unannounced alternate sites will be available for these classes. Your instructor will make you aware of alternate class sites in the event that your classroom is not available.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>LECTURE TOPIC</u>
8/26	Reisberg Ch. 1	Introduction and overview
8/28-9/2	Reisberg Ch. 2	Neural basis of cognition; neural networks
	<u>Section 1:</u>	<u>Lower-level processes</u>
9/4-9/9	Reisberg Ch. 3	Perception; object recognition
9/11-9/16	Reisberg Ch. 4	Attention
9/18	Test 1	
	<u>Section 2:</u>	<u>Memory</u>
9/23-9/25	Reisberg Ch. 5	Acquisition of information
9/30-10/2	Reisberg Ch. 6	Retrieval of information
10/7-10/9	Reisberg Ch. 7	Memory errors and gaps
10/14	Test 2	
	<u>Section 3:</u>	<u>Knowledge</u>
10/16-10/21	Reisberg Ch. 8	Associative theories of memory
10/23-10/28	Reisberg Ch. 9	Concepts and categories
10/30-11/1	Reisberg Ch. 10	Language
11/4-11/6	Reisberg Ch. 11	Visual knowledge
11/11	Test 3	
	<u>Section 4:</u>	<u>Thinking</u>
11/13-11/18	Reisberg Ch. 12	Judgment
11/20-11/25	Reisberg Ch. 13	Reasoning
12/2-12/4	Reisberg Ch. 14	Problem solving
12/11	Final (2:00 – 4:30)	