Course Learning Goals and Objectives: Instructional goals are directed toward enabling students to understand the mechanisms underlying human cognition such as attention, memory, knowledge, and thinking. This course is intended to provide an overview of theories in human cognition and relevant phenomena. This includes reviews of research on cognition as well as discussions of theoretical applications in real world. Instructional materials will be provided in assigned textbook readings, lecture presentations, and a few journal articles. In order for students to effectively participate in class, it is highly recommended that assigned readings should be completed before each class. Assessment of instructional goals will be made via exams with questions that focus on the above knowledge and skills.

Purchase and use of older editions is discouraged. The answer keys to the multiple choice questions and short answer questions are based on the current (7th) edition.

**Tests:** There will be three in-class tests and a final, all multiple-choice. The final is equivalent in length and difficulty to the other three tests. *The lowest of the 4 tests will be dropped, so your total test grade will be out of 300.* This means that if you are happy with your first three test grades you are not required to take the final!

For anyone missing a test *a makeup test will be offered during the last week of classes*, at a time to be scheduled about a week in advance. Makeup tests will not be offered at other times during the semester except in unusual circumstances. Excuses are not necessary for missed tests, only for missed classes.

**Attendance:** Attendance will be taken for every non-test class from February 13 on, and students can earn up to 20 points for attendance. 4 or fewer unexcused absences from lecture constitute perfect attendance; thereafter 2 points are taken off for every unexcused absence. (Reasonable excuses, such as work pressures if not excessive, sports teams, or family occasions will be excepted if reported promptly.) *Attendance will be taken via an app called Kahoot.* Students can sign up for that app on [www.kahoot.it](http://www.kahoot.it).

There will be discussions posted on Canvas, one per book chapter. Each student will be expected to contribute to the discussions by posing a question and by responding to another student’s question. Each contribution will be worth 2 points of credit up to a total of 35 points for the semester, in addition to one posting where you identify yourself and what your ambitions are. *Deadlines for postings will be about 2-3 weeks after the start of that chapter’s coverage.* In addition, we will have one in-class discussion per
month, with the class divided into groups of 5-10 students each. Students have an option of basing questions on research articles that will be posted on Canvas.

**Extra credit:** Extra credit can be obtained through participation in experiments via the SONA system: see [https://uta.sona-systems.com](https://uta.sona-systems.com). You will get up to 10 extra-credit points for 2 experiment credits, and points will be pro-rated for fewer than 2 credits. (You don’t need to report your credits to me: they will be shown through the system.)

So the total grade for the class is out of 348:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top 3 tests</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion postings</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The grade ranges are

- 313-348: A
- 278-312: B
- 243-277: C
- 208-242: D
- 0-207: F

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (Coverage dates may change slightly; exam dates are fixed):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days and dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/21-1/23</td>
<td>Overview, syllabus</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/28-1/30</td>
<td>Neural basis of cognition</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/30-2/4</td>
<td>Visual perception</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/4-2/6</td>
<td>Recognizing objects</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2/11  Review
Thursday 2/13  Exam 1

2/18-2/20  Paying attention  5
2/25-2/27  Working memory  6
2/27-3/3  Encoding and retrieval  7
3/3-3/5  Remembering  8

3/10-3/12  SPRING BREAK
3/17  Review
Thursday 3/19  Exam 2

3/24-3/26  Concepts  9
3/31-4/2  Language  10
4/2-4/7  Visual knowledge  11
4/9  Review
Tuesday 4/14  Exam 3

4/16-4/21  Judgment, decision  12
4/23-4/28  Problem solving  13
4/30-5/5  Consciousness  14
5/7  Review or makeup tests

FINAL EXAM (only on Chapters 12-14)

Tuesday May 12
2:00-4:30 PM

Other important dates
Census date  February 5
Last day to drop  April 3
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/ses/fao).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington 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). 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 that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: 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. For information regarding Title IX, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

**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 are 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.

**Library Information**
Andy Herzog is the Psychology librarian. His email is amherzog@uta.edu. The library psychology page for students is [http://libguides.uta.edu/psychology](http://libguides.uta.edu/psychology).