1.0 CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Cognitive theorists face a unique problem: the understanding of mental structures and processes that are not directly observable. A variety of methods used to address this problem will be surveyed by introducing research questions of enduring interest. Students will be expected to use the techniques learned. Cognitive domains to be examined include attention, memory, problem-solving and thinking.

Prerequisites: Registration in third or fourth year Honours Specialization in Psychology or Honours Specialization in Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience and one of: Psychology 2115A/B (215A/B), 2134A/B (234A/B) or 2135A/B (235A/B) or 2210A/B (205A/B). Other Psychology Majors and Special Students who receive 70% in the prerequisite courses and 70% in Psychology 2820E (282E) [or 70% in each of Psychology 2800E (280E) and 2810 (281)] may enrol.

2 lecture hours, 2 laboratory hours, 0.5 course

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

2.0 COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Patrick Brown
Office and Phone Number: SSC 7328 / Ext. 84680
Office Hours: Wednesdays 2 – 3 pm or by appointment
Email: brown5@uwo.ca
Course Coordinator: NA

Teaching Assistant: Kaz Matsuki
Office: SSC 7206
Office Hours: TBA
Email: kmatsuki@uwo.ca

Time and Location of Lectures: Wednesday 4:30 – 6:30, SSC 3120

3.0 TEXTBOOK

There will be no textbook for this course. We shall read articles from the scientific literature, as listed below.

4.0 COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students should have:
• Knowledge of the fundamental concepts in human cognition.
• Extensive exposure to human cognition research paradigms.
• Hands-on experience in designing research projects (including one experiment), data collection and analysis, and preparing research reports on human experimental research.

5.0 EVALUATION

The course is divided into two parts, seminar meetings and labs. 50% of the course grade will be based on work in each half. Details of requirements for the lab will be given in the first lab meeting.

Grades for the seminar will be based on two exams – a midterm and a final. Each will be worth 25% of the final course grade. The midterm will cover papers taken up in the first half of the course, and the final will cover papers taken up in the second half of the course. The midterm exam will be in-class. The final exam will be take-home. Both exams will contain a set of essay questions from which each student will select one to answer. Exams answers must be in essay format. Final exam answers should be emailed to the instructor by the deadline (see Section 6.0 below) in Word format. (Do not use WordPerfect or any other software.) Any student who fails to turn in a final exam paper by the deadline will receive a grade of 0 (zero) for the final exam.

6.0 TEST AND EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

The Midterm will be held in class on Wednesday, October 22\textsuperscript{nd}. Final exam questions will be posted on the course WebCT site on Wednesday, December 3\textsuperscript{rd}. Exam papers are due by 5:00 pm. on Monday, December 15\textsuperscript{th} 2008. Late papers will not be accepted except by prior arrangement with the instructor.

7.0 LECTURE SCHEDULE & READINGS

Week 2


Week 3

Week 4


Week 5

Week 6

Week 7 – Midterm Exam

Week 8

Week 9

Week 10

Week 11

Week 12
Week 13


8.0 STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf

9.0 POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS & ACCOMMODATIONS*

Make-up exams will be given *only* if a student who misses an exam presents a valid excuse based on illness or compassionate grounds, supported by adequate documentation. Students are expected to inform the instructor of the problem as soon as possible, *normally before the exam date*.

Students planning to request an accommodation based on physical or learning disability are encouraged to discuss that accommodation directly with the instructor, during office hours or by appointment. Such students should read the relevant sections of the University’s Calendar, on Academic Rights and Responsibilities, available at this website:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2008/pg141.html

In particular, students’ attention is drawn to the section on The Responsibility of the Student, the first of which is to make a *timely* request for an accommodation. In this course, “timely” is defined in the following way: such a request from a student must be made within 30 days of the announcement of examination dates. A request which comes later than that will be considered to be not timely.

10.0 OTHER INFORMATION

Office of the Registrar web site: http://www4.registrar.uwo.ca

Student Development Services web site: http://www.sdc.uwo.ca

Please see the Psychology Undergraduate web site for information on the following:

http://psychology.uwo.ca/newundergradstudentresp.htm

- Policy on Cheating and Academic Misconduct
- Procedures for Appealing Academic Evaluations
- Policy on Attendance
- Policy Regarding Makeup Exams and Extensions of Deadlines
- Policy for Assignments
- Short Absences
- Extended Absences
- Documentation
- Academic Concerns
- 2008 Calendar References