

**YORK UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF HEALTH  
PSYC 3260 Section M  
COGNITION**

**Winter 2016 Fridays 2:30 – 5:30pm LAS 208 B**

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**Course Director:** Dr. Ada Le  
[m15adale@yorku.ca](mailto:m15adale@yorku.ca)  
LAS 0003 Fridays 11am – 12:30pm (or by appointment)

**TAs:** Lindsey Fraser ([lfraser4@yorku.ca](mailto:lfraser4@yorku.ca))  
Sang-Ah Yoo ([sangahy@yorku.ca](mailto:sangahy@yorku.ca))  
Office hours TBA

\*When sending an email to the Course Director or TA, please make sure to include the course code in the subject line. This will ensure that we read your email.

**Secretary:** Agnes Levstik  
(416-736-5125)  
BSB 261

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**Course Description:** This course focuses on the higher-order cognitive processes in humans. In particular, we will examine the cognitive mechanisms involved in perception, attention, memory, language, problem-solving, and decision making. This course will present theories, models, empirical studies, and everyday applications of these cognitive processes.

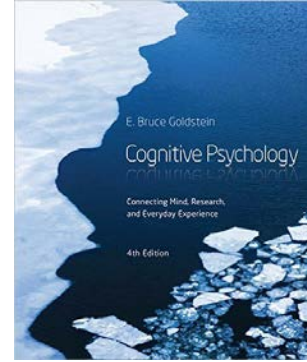
**Course Objectives:** Upon completion of the course, you will be able to identify, describe, and understand the primary psychological aspects of cognition. You will also be able to interpret empirical data in the context of these topics in cognition.

**Prerequisites:** AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC 1010 6.00 or AK/HH/PSYC 2410 6.00, with a minimum grade of C

**Course credit exclusions:** AK/PSYC 3135 3.00 (prior to Summer 2002), and GL/PSYC 3370 3.00

\*\*It is your responsibility to ensure that courses are selected in accordance with current degree/certificate and program requirements. You are required to satisfy all the prerequisites for the course.

**Required text:** Goldstein, B. E. (2015). Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) – with accompanying CogLab 5.0 access.



**\*\* You need to purchase a new CogLab 5.0 access code that comes with the textbook. Do not purchase a used access code!!!**

## Evaluations

Quizzes	15%
CogLab	5%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam (cumulative)	50%

The 3 hour class period will encompass a combination of lecture, activities, and breaks. In some weeks, I will lecture (and we will do some fun activities) for the entire 3 hour period. Some other weeks, I will lecture for 2 hours, and for the last hour, your TAs will (1) lead a review of the material covered in the most recent lectures, and/or (2) give a pop quiz.

Be prepared for the pop-quizzes! Make sure you come to all lectures, complete your readings in time, and finish the CogLab experiments by the assigned dates. The quizzes are meant to help you avoid cramming right before the midterms, and will help you determine whether your studying progress is satisfactory to you or not.

I understand that sometimes life happens, and you have to miss class or are simply having a bad day. For this reason, we will only count the best 5 of 6 quiz marks for your final grade.

If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and, if necessary, borrow notes from a fellow student.

**\*\*All materials presented in class – from lectures, films, research demonstrations, activities, review sessions by the TAs – will be included on the exams. Material from the textbook and CogLab will also be included on the exams. Everything is fair game!**

## Course Timeline

Date	Topic	Reading
January 8	Introduction	Ch 1
January 15	Cognitive Neuroscience	Ch 2
January 22	Attention	Ch 4
January 29	Perception & Visual Imagery	Ch 3 & 10
February 5	Short Term and Working Memory	Ch 5
February 12	Guest Lecture: Dr. J. Douglas Crawford	TBA
February 19	Reading week! 😊	--
February 26	Midterm	--
March 4	Long Term Memory	Ch 6 & 7
March 11	Knowledge	Ch 9
March 18	Language	Ch 11
March 25	Good Friday (university is closed)	--
April 1	Problem Solving, Judgment, Decisions, and Reasoning	Ch 12 & 13
April 4	Wrap Up & Review Session	TBA

## CogLab Assignments Due Dates

These labs provide you with the opportunity to participate in cognitive experiments related to the chapter readings. Please use the access code included with your textbook to access CogLab 5.0 online. Instructions on how to access Coglab will be discussed in class.

You are expected to complete the labs below by the deadlines. Those who do not complete the labs by the due date will receive a grade of 0% for that particular experiment. If you are having technical difficulties, please email us **before** the deadline!

Due date	CogLab experiment
January 21	Brain Asymmetry (#15)
January 28	Visual Search (#7), Spatial Cuing (#12)
February 4	Muller-Lyer Illusion (#6), Signal Detection (#1)
February 11	Memory Span (#24), Operation Span (#25)
March 10	Serial Position (#31), Encoding Specificity (#28)
March 17	Lexical Decision (#41), Prototypes (#46)
March 24	Word Superiority (#43), Categorical Perception: Discrimination (#39)
March 31	Monty Hall (#49)

### Extra Perks!

For a bonus 2% to your overall grade, complete *all* of the following CogLab experiments before April 3<sup>rd</sup>:

Apparent Motion (#3)	Phonological Similarity Effect (#26)
Attentional Blink (#8)	Mental Rotation (#38)
Inhibition of Return (#10)	Implicit Learning (#45)
Position Error (#21)	Risky Decisions (#50)

If you have questions or concerns about content material, please consider posting your question at the class discussion forum on Moodle! You can help each other out. The TAs will also monitor this forum, and jump in for clarification if necessary.

### Missing the Exam ☹

Bad things can happen to good people. If you have a legitimate excuse (e.g., severe illness, death in the family, car accident) for being excused from the exam, you must provide me with a copy of the documentation within one week of the exam. I will accept either a scanned copy or a photo of the documentation, sent directly to my email. For example, if you are severely ill, please get a doctor's note that is dated for the day of the exam (I will accept medical notes that are dated one day before or one day after the exam). Unfortunately, if you do not have a legitimate excuse or proper documentation, you will receive a grade of zero on the exam. This is something we all want to avoid happening.

If you miss the midterm exam, there will be a make-up exam approximately one week after the original test date. You will be informed about the time and date and location as soon as possible. If you foresee that this make-up exam time will be a problem for you, please email me as soon as possible.

## **Being Honest**

Please don't cheat on the quizzes or exams. It will break my heart. I want you to truly learn from this course, and this includes studying for the exams and writing them without any unauthorized aids! Not only is it embarrassing to get caught, the university also does not look too favourably on cheating of any kind, and the penalties can be harsh. Don't risk it.

You should consider reviewing the York Academic Honesty policy, or completing the interactive online tutorial for students on academic integrity:

[www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic\\_integrity](http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity)

## **Religious and Accessibility Accommodation**

If any of the dates specified in the course syllabus (including exam dates) are in conflict for you due to religious reasons, please contact me (Ada Le) within the first 3 weeks of class. Similarly, if you have certain accessibility needs, feel free to contact me at any time to discuss accommodations.