

**COURSE OUTLINE**  
**York University, Faculty of Health**  
**Cognition PSYC 3260 3.0A**  
**Fall 2015**  
**Tuesdays 7 pm to 10 pm**  
**Location: Curtis Lecture Hall - A**

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**Course Director:** Alice Kim, Ph.D.  
Email: a\_kim@yorku.ca  
Office: 041A, Atkinson Building  
Office hours: By appointment only

**Teaching Assistant:** Ashley Curtis  
Email: acurtis@yorku.ca  
Office: 065, Behavioural Science Building  
Office hours: By appointment only

**Note: All questions concerning the course should first be directed to the Teaching Assistant (TA). If the TA cannot answer the question, your email will be forwarded to the Course Director.**

When sending an email to the TA, please put the **course name or number in the subject line** to ensure that your message is answered promptly.

**Prerequisite:** 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), GL/PSYC 3370 3.00.

**Required Text:** Galotti, K. M., Fernandes, N., Fugelsang, J., & Stolz, J. (2010). Cognitive Psychology: In and out of the laboratory. First Canadian Edition. Nelson Education: Toronto, Ontario.

**Course Description and Objectives:**

In this course we will review concepts, processes, and theories in the field of cognitive psychology. Perception, attention, memory, decision making, and language will be included among the topics discussed. Activities will be conducted in class to clarify the methods, findings, and theories under discussion. Students will actively participate in all class discussions and activities.

The 3-hour class period will encompass some combination of lecture, activities, and breaks. We will either have a single 15-minute break in the middle or two 10-minute breaks, depending on which format is most suitable.

Questions regarding material from the textbook should be directed to the TA. If you miss a class it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and borrow notes from a fellow student. The Course Director will review material covered in the two most recent lectures, provided there is time, every two weeks.

Material presented in class--from lectures, films, and research demonstrations--will be included on the exams as will material from the assigned readings from the required text.

**Classroom Behaviour:**

The Course Director can go through the lectures through large ranges of noise. However, as a courtesy to other students enrolled in the course, students are asked to limit their conversations during the lectures. If any student finds that their peers are talking and that this is distracting and/or disruptive, they are encouraged to politely ask their peers to stop talking or to lower their voices.

**Course Webpage:** <http://www.yorku.ca/moodle/>

**Evaluation:** There will be five quizzes held during the scheduled class sessions and a final exam held during the scheduled exam period. The quizzes and the final exam will consist of multiple-choice and short-answer questions. The five quizzes together will count for 50% of your final grade. Each quiz will last about 30 minutes and will test material covered in class and readings from the previous two weeks. Your quiz grade will be calculated by determining the average of your three best scores from your quizzes (e.g., 60%, 80%, 70%, 0%, 55%; quiz grade = 70%). There will not be any opportunity to write a makeup quiz. If you miss a quiz your grade for that quiz will be 0%. The final exam will cover all the course material and will be held during your exam period. The final exam will count for 40% of your final grade. Your participation in class discussions and activities will count for the remaining 10%.

**Evaluation Breakdown:**

Quizzes 50%

Class Participation 10%

Final Exam 40%

Participation will be evaluated by the proportion of class activity and discussion questions that students answer, regardless of the accuracy of their responses. Students must write down their answers to questions presented during the lectures on a full 8 x 11" piece of paper with their names, student ID number and the date on the top right of the page. To get full participation marks, students have to write down the full answers to each question. Students must turn in their paper within five minutes of the end of lecture to the Course Director. There is no way to make up for missed participation marks, including medical reasons or late registration.

**Course Schedule:**

Date	Topic	Chapter	Evaluations
September 15	Introduction (guest lecture by Ashley Curtis, Ph.D. Candidate, MA)	1	
September 22	Overview of the Brain	2	Class discussion/activities
September 29	Perception	3	Quiz, Class discussion/activities
October 6	Attention	4	Class discussion/activities
October 13	Memory Structures	5	Quiz, Class discussion/activities
October 20	Memory Processes	6	Class discussion/activities
October 27	Concepts and Categorization	7	Quiz, Class discussion/activities
November 3	Visual Imagery and Spatial Cognition	8	Class discussion/activities
November 10	Language	9	Quiz, Class discussion/activities
November 17	Decision Making	11	Class discussion/activities
November 24	Thinking, Problem Solving, Reasoning	10	Quiz, Class discussion/activities
December 1	Individual, Aging, and Gender Differences in Cognition (guest lecture by Ashley Curtis, Ph.D. Candidate, MA)	12	Class discussion/activities

**Other Important Dates:**

Last date to enroll without permission of course instructor – September 24, 2015

Last date to enroll with permission of course instructor – October 8, 2015

Last date to drop courses without receiving a grade – November 9, 2015

**Missing the Final Exam:**

If you have a legitimate excuse (e.g., death in the family, severe illness, etc.) for being excused from the final exam, you must provide me with a copy of the documentation as soon as you can. You need to keep the original. If you miss the final exam with no legitimate excuse, you will receive a grade of zero. No individualized testing is available unless arranged formally through one of the offices at the University (e.g., Counseling and Development Centre, Faculty of Arts).

**Academic Dishonesty:**

There is a zero tolerance for any kind of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating and plagiarism). Become familiar with the rules and regulations regarding academic dishonesty, which will result in a penalty in accordance with the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (see <http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>).

**Grading Appeals:**

If students have any complaints about the way a piece of their term work has been graded, they must first contact the TA to discuss their concern. If the student is not satisfied after their discussion with the TA, they can write an appeal letter to the Course Director. Any requests for a re-grade must be submitted in writing within seven days (including weekends) of the first day the term work was made available for student viewing. Only requests that adequately justify why a piece of term work should be re-graded will be considered. Any requests for re-grading that are approved will result in the re-grading of the entire piece of work. As a result, your overall grade may be raised, lowered, or it may not change. If there is an arithmetic error in adding up your marks, please let the TA know and your grade will be recalculated immediately. In this latter case, there is no need to request a re-grade, just let the TA know.

**The Privacy and Legal Statement:**

Please see <http://www.yorku.ca/scdr/studentconduct.html> for details. The privacy and legal statement specifically prohibits theft of intellectual property by a student, which **includes recording a Course Director's lecture without their permission** or taking lecture material provided for a student online, modifying it, and/or using it for a student's own personal use or gain. The material provided by a course director is only to be used for a student's personal study when they take the course for which it was created. Use in any other way could result, at the minimum, in sanctions in accordance with the York's Student Code of Conduct and, at the maximum, will be breaking federal, provincial or municipal laws and will be acted on accordingly.

## Grade Conversion Table

<b>From Percentage</b>	<b>To Letter Grade</b>
90-100	A+
80- 89	A
75- 79	B+
70- 74	B
65- 69	C+
60- 64	C
55- 59	D+
50- 54	D
(Marginally below 50%)	
Marginally failing	E
(Below 50%) Failing	F