

Sensation & Perception I 2220.03 B - Online

INSTRUCTOR

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Webpage: The course is hosted on the Web CT site
<https://moodle.yorku.ca>

All course information will be posted on the above website. In the event of ANY disruption in the teaching schedule you are to go to this site for instruction and information.

Course Prerequisites: PSYC 1010 6.0 with a minimum grade of C.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Lesley Deas
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Matthew Cutone
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Office Hours: By appointment

TEXTBOOK

B. Goldstein Sensation and Perception 8th edition, ISBN: **0495601494**
The DVD is not required, and used copies should be available because I used this book last year.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The study of perception involves a complex combination of physiology, psychophysics, and cognition. In this course we will explore the major sensory systems focussing primarily on vision and hearing, using these topics as a framework.

Throughout the course, issues will be explored from an experimental perspective. Therefore, in some lectures we will cover the fundamental experimental paradigms used to study perception (psychophysics). Over the course of the term we will discuss different sensory systems in turn; in each instance time will be spent describing the stimulus (light, sound), the physiology of the receptors and subsequent cortical areas that are activated.

Very often what we perceive results not only from the information gathered by our sensory systems, but from our expectations and prior knowledge about the world we inhabit. As a result we will also study cognitive influences on perception and how they are identified and assessed.

EVALUATION

2 In-class tests:	55%	(multiple choice & short answer - 27.5% each)
Final exam:	40%	(multiple choice & short answer)
Participation	5%	(Discussion Posting)

The final exam will be held during the regular exam schedule and will be comprehensive.

Instructions for the participation component are posted on the course website. The final date to post is the last day of classes December 6th, 2013.

The tests will be based on the text and all lectures. Web-based materials will be included if mentioned in the lectures.

If you are ill and cannot attend a midterm or final you must notify us BEFORE the start of the test. If you wait until after the test you may not be able to write the make-up. Also, you must provide proof of adversity to write the make-up.

Make-up exams will be scheduled for pre-assigned days and not on an individual basis.

Given that this is an online course, the midterm(s) will be scheduled on weekends. We will deal with any scheduling conflicts on an individual basis, however, personal commitments will not be accommodated except in extreme circumstances.

TEST DATES

Midterm 1 **Wed, Oct 16 6-8pm LAS C** **Chapters 1-5**

Midterm 2 **Sun, Nov 17 2-4pm LAS A** **Chapters 6-10**

Final Exam During the regular exam schedule (no exceptions for vacation plans) and will be comprehensive (**Chapters 1-11**).

The final exam will be held during the regular exam schedule and will be comprehensive. The tests will be based on the text, and all lectures, films or demos.

Please refer to the York University Religious Observance website for information regarding observed holidays and procedures: <https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm.woa/wa/regobs> and the Important Dates site: <http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/fw12.htm>

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date (Mondays)	Lecture	Chapter	Content
*Sept 9	1	1	Obtain Accounts Review Course
Sept 16	1	1	Intro
Sept 23	2	2	Physiology
Sept 30	3	3,4	Introduction to Vision & The Cortex
Oct 7	4	5	Perceiving Objects
Wed Oct 16 6-8pm LAS room C	----	Midterm 1	
Oct 21	5	6	Visual Attention
Oct 28	6	7,8	Action & Motion
Nov 4	7	9	Colour
Nov 11	8	10	Depth & Size
Nov 17 2-4pm LAS room A	----	Midterm 2	
**Nov 25	9	11	Sound & Audition
Week of Dec 2nd	----	Review Sessions for final exam	

*Note The first lecture is available for 2 weeks to accommodate start-up problems.

** This chapter will be on the final exam, and will be given the same weighting as the other chapters.

MISSED EXAMS

According to University Policy, the only legitimate excuse for missing an exam is because of medical problems or exceptional circumstances.

IF YOU ARE ILL YOU MUST CONTACT YOUR TA BEFORE THE START OF THE EXAM - THIS IS A FIRM POLICY. ALSO YOU MUST PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF ADVERSITY SEE ITEMS A & B BELOW.

Failure to contact us, or to provide appropriate documentation will result in a grade of zero on the exam.

A. Tests or examinations missed on the grounds of medical circumstances must be supported by an **Attending Physician's Statement** or a **Statement by a Psychologist or Counsellor**. The Attending Physician's Statement must include (i) the full name, mailing address and telephone number of the Physicians, (ii) state the nature of the illness and its duration (i.e., specific dates covered), and (iii) an indication of whether the illness and/or medication prescribed would have seriously affected your ability to study and perform over the period in question.

B. Exams missed on the ground of exceptional non-medical circumstances must be supported by appropriate documentation, i.e., death certificates, obituary notice, automobile accident reports, airline/train/bus tickets/receipt for emergency travel (with date of booking on ticket), etc. Receipts from emergency travel must indicate destination, departure and return dates.

It is your responsibility communicate with the TA to notify them if you will not be able to write a test or a make-up. A conflict in another course during the time of the make-up is not an acceptable reason for missing the make-up (unless there is an exam in that course at that time).