

**YORK UNIVERSITY**  
**FACULTY OF HEALTH**  
**PSYC 3260 3.0 M: COGNITION**  
**Winter 2013 Thursdays 8:30-11:30 CLH E**

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**Course Director:** Carly McMorris  
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BSB 307 (by appt. only)

**Teaching Assistant:** Stephanie Brown  
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BSB 307 (by appt. only)

**Secretary:** Agnes Levstik  
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BSB 261

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**Course Description:** This course focuses on the cognitive structures and processes involved in thinking, perception, attention, knowledge, memory, language, decision-making, problem solving, and reasoning. Overall, this course will present on theories, models, and empirical studies in cognition. The everyday applications of these cognitive processes will also be discussed.

**Course Objectives:** Following the completion of the course, students will be able to understand the primary psychological aspects of cognition. Specific learning objectives of the course are to:

- Understand main principals, theories, models, and empirical findings of cognitive processes
- Demonstrate the ability to read, understand, conduct, and write an experimental study
- Relate cognitive processes to everyday situations

**Prerequisite/Co-requisite:** 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:** Goldstein, B.E. (2011). *Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition)* (with CogLab 2.0 Access). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.  
ISBN: 1111658404

\* **Important:** In order to complete labs and the final assignment, students will need the **original** CogLab 2.0 access code that comes with the textbook. **Do not purchase a used CogLab 2.0 access code\***

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

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**Lecture Outline:**

<b>January</b>	10	Chapter 1: Introduction to Cognitive Psychology
	17	Chapter 2: Cognitive Neuroscience
	24	Chapter 3: Perception
	31	Chapter 4: Attention

<b>February</b>	7	<b>Midterm Exam #1 – 25%</b>
<b>February</b>	14	Chapter 5: Short-Term and Working Memory
	21	<i>No Class</i>
	28	Chapter 6: Long-Term Memory: Structure
		Chapter 7: Long-Term Memory
<b>March</b>	7	Chapter 8: Everyday Memory and Memory Errors
	14	<b>Midterm Exam #2 – 25%</b>
	21	Chapter 9: Knowledge
		Chapter 10: Visual Imagery
	28	Chapter 11: Language
<b>April</b>	4	<b>Research Report – 15%</b>
		Chapter 12: Problem Solving
		Chapter 13: Reasoning and Decision-Making
	10-26*	<b>Final Exam – 30%</b>

\* Date of the final exam will be determined by the Registrar's office- see [www.yorku.ca](http://www.yorku.ca) for schedule

### Other Important Dates:

Last date to enroll without permission of course instructor – January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013

Last date to enroll with permission of course instructor – February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Last date to drop courses without receiving a grade – March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013

### Evaluation:

CogLab 2.0 Assignments (10):	5%
Midterm Exams (2):	50% (25% each)
Research Report:	15%
Final Exam:	30%

CogLab Assignments: These labs provide students with the opportunity to participate in cognitive experiments. Please use the brochure included in the textbook to access CogLab 2.0 on-line. You will run all the experiments on-line at <http://coglab.wadsworth.com/>. Instructions as to how to access CogLab will be discussed during lecture. A user manual can also be found on the CogLab website. Students are expected to complete one lab *prior to* lecture. Students who do not complete the labs prior to lecture will receive a grade of zero on that assignment. Details regarding the CogLab assignments are provided below. Once you have completed your experiment, you will be able to view and download your data. **It is important that you save your data for later use.**

### CogLab Assignment Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>CogLab Assignment</u>
January 17	Brain Symmetry
January 24	Signal Detection
January 31	Change Detection
February 14	Memory Span
February 28	Serial Position <b>and</b> Von Restorff Effect
March 7	False Memory
March 21	Remember-Know
March 28	Categorical Perception-Identification
April 4	Decision Making

Midterm and Final Exams: There will be two in-class midterms on the dates outlined on the schedule above, and a final exam scheduled by the Registrar's Office during the exam period (April 10<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>). Each test will consist of multiple choice questions and short answer questions. Tests will be based on lectures, textbook readings, and CogLab assignments.

Research Report: This final written assignment provides students with an opportunity to write a research report similar to one published in peer-reviewed journals. For this assignment, students must choose one of the CogLab experiments that they have completed and write a report based on their findings from the experiment. The format of the report should be similar to one published in peer-reviewed journals, including an Introduction, Method, Results, and Discussion section. Students are required to write their report using APA style (either 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> Edition). For the results section, students will find the data sets for each experiment on Moodle. *Please use this data versus your own for the analysis of your research report.* Further details about the assignment will be discussed in class and an example will be provided.

**Assignment Submission:** Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Assignments are to be handed in during class time, or to the course secretary (Agnes Levstik in BSB 261). Please make sure that your name, student number, course name, and instructor name is **clearly noted** on the first page of your assignment.

**Lateness Penalty:** Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized 5% per day that the assignment is late. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor's letter).

**Grading:** The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g., A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

*For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - <http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2010-2011/academic/index.htm>*

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### **POLICY ON MISSED EXAMS**

1. Students are expected to write each test on the dates specified. If you miss a test for *no documented reason(s)*, you will receive a *grade of zero*.
2. If you have a legitimate reason (e.g., death in the family, severe illness, etc.) for being excused from a test/exam, and have documentation to verify your absence you may take a make-up test/exam in lieu of the missed test/exam.
3. Students **must** contact the course instructor, within 48 hours of the missed exam. In this email, please (a) outline the reason for your absence, and (b) confirm that you have medical or other relevant documentation to support this reason. Be sure to note your full name and student number in the subject header of your email.
4. Please note that there will **only be one set date for the make-up test/exam**. If both exams are missed, students will have to retake the course unless they successfully petition.

5. Please also note that if you miss a test, regardless of your reason, you have waived the right to have a specific percentage of graded feedback available to you prior to the drop date.
  6. Note also that deferred final exams are held on a single common date determined by the Department of Psychology. No individualized testing is available unless arranged formally through one of the offices at the University (e.g., Counselling and Disability Services - CDS).
  7. If you produce a valid medical document, signed by a physician, stating that you were medically unable to take the exam/test for a specific time period, you will be able to take a makeup exam/test. If you miss an exam/test for non-medical reasons, you still must produce supporting documentation (e.g., death certificate, obituary notice, automobile accident report, airline ticket for emergency travel, etc.).
  8. Once you have contacted the course instructor and the TA, you will need to have completed the attending physician's statement found at <http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/exams/deferred/>. You **are required to bring this form** to the make up exam. You will then receive confirmation of the make-up examination date from your TA. It is your responsibility to find out the information about when the make up test/exam is and ensure that you are set to write the make-up test/exam.
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### **Important Information for Students**

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum & Pedagogy webpage:

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the Academic Integrity Website
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning, and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=202>

York University Secretariat Home:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/index.html>

Important Dates from the Registrar:

<http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/>

Policy on Accommodation for students with disabilities:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=68>

Please read the information on plagiarism and academic honesty:

<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students/index.htm>

<http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=69>