

Psychology 657 – Cognitive Neuroscience

Class hours: M,W,F 10:00-10:50, Gibson 126
Instructor: Edward Golob, Ph.D.
Office Hours: Mon 3-4 and by appointment (3067 Stern Hall)
TAs: Kate Autin (kautin@gmail.com)
Office Hours: TBA and by appointment

Course Description

The class is designed to have a balanced approach to issues in cognitive psychology, neuroscience, and the relations between cognitive psychology and neuroscience. Topics include the neural basis of perception, attention, memory, language, and motor skills. We will also study how these processes change during normal development and in various neurological disorders. Critical thinking, problem solving skills, and use of the scientific method will be emphasized during class meetings.

Prerequisites

Introductory Psychology (Psych 100) and Brain and Behavior (Psych 367)

Textbook:

Ward, J. (2006). *The Student's Guide to Cognitive Neuroscience*. Psychology Press, New York.

Assignments and Grading

A total of four exams will be given, including the final. The highest score on 2 out of the 3 exams during the semester counts for 60% toward the final grade. The final exam is worth 40% of the course grade and is mandatory.

Exams will cover material from the lectures and assigned chapters of the textbook. The exam format includes multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Students can miss one exam without penalty. Inability to take an exam due to illness will count as a missed exam. There will be no make-up exams except under extreme, well-documented circumstances.

Extra credit toward the final grade is available by participating as a subject in laboratory research or completion an equivalent project (1% per study, maximum 3%). Failure to show up without at least 24 hours notice will result in loss of 0.5% from the final grade.

Grading is on a straight percentage scale. Exam percentages are usually curved up; there will never be a downward curve.

- 100-90% = A, 89-80% = B, 79-70% = C, 69-60% = D, < 60% = F
- Plus and minus: 0's-1's are grade minus, 2-7 full, 8-9 plus
- example. A- = 90-91%, B+ = 88-89%, B = 82-87%, B- = 80-81%

Honor system

Students are expected to follow the principles of the Tulane Honor Code. Any violations of this code will be enforced.

Please let the instructor know during the first week of class if you need accommodation for a medical disability.