

Psychology 433

Learning and Memory

Hintzman
Spring, 1989

Text: Hall, J.F. (1989) *Learning and Memory* (2nd Ed.). Allyn & Bacon, Publishers

Tentative Schedule:

Week	Read Chapter	Notes
March 29-31	1 (skip pp. 8-22)	
April 3-5-7	2-3 (skip 35-38, 40-46, 66-68, 70-74, 81-84)	
April 10-12-14	4-5 (skip 93-106)	
April 17-19-21	6-7	
April 24-26-28	9-10 (skip 214-bottom 221, 249-258)	<u>Paper #1</u> due Fri., April 28
May 1-3-5	11	<u>Midterm</u> , Wed. May 3
May 8-10-12	12	
May 15-17-19	13	
May 22-24-26	14	<u>Paper #2</u> due Friday, May 26
May 31-June 2	15	No class Monday
Examination Week		<u>Final</u> , 10:15 , Thurs. June 8

Readings: Note that Chapters 8 and 16 and several smaller sections of the book have not been assigned. These unassigned readings are optional.

Exams: Either multiple-choice or a combination of short answer and multiple-choice (this will be announced ahead of time). Midterm to cover Ch. 1-7 and 9-10; final to cover the same chapters plus 11-15.

Papers: Two papers are assigned. In each, you are to propose an experiment on learning and memory that is related in some way to the reading. The paper should contain the following sections:

(1) Introduction

This section should spell out the hypothesis (or hypotheses) to be tested in the experiment.

It should refer to a specific part of the textbook, by topic and page number, and explain how

the hypothesis was suggested by the reading. The topic may come from any part of the book, whether assigned or not. (Someone especially interested in motor skills could do both papers on topics in Chap. 16, if they wanted to.) The proposed experiment should be an extension of something covered in the book--i.e., not just a replication of an experiment Hall describes.

(2) Design

This section should describe the design of the experiment, including the number and type of subjects, and a concise description of the manipulations defining each experimental condition. The description should give the reader a fairly concrete idea of how the experiment will be done. (In some cases, it may be appropriate to give a few examples of proposed experimental materials.) It should also make clear how behavior is to be measured.

(3) Anticipated Results

This section should describe briefly the different experimental outcomes that seem most likely, and indicate what conclusion could be drawn from each outcome regarding the experimental hypothesis (or alternative hypotheses).

The entire paper should be no longer than 7 pages. No review of the literature is required, and you are not being asked to perform the experiment (doing so would probably violate some regulation regarding protection of animal or human subjects). The best way to approach this assignment is to: (a) do the reading early, (b) always think about possible experimental ideas as you read, (c) jot down each idea as it comes to you, (d) when it comes time to write the paper, go back and pick out the idea you like best, and (e) revise your paper as appropriate for clear and effective communication. If you want to deviate from this plan, you must get the instructor's o.k. in advance.

Grading: The midterm will count for about 25% of your grade, the final for about 45%, and the papers for a total of 30% (15% each).