

Cognitive Psychology  
Psychology 435  
Winter 1990

Instructor: Bill Prinzmetal

Office: 312 Straub Hall, ext 4927; Office Hours Tuesday, Thursday - 4:00 to 5:30

Class: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11:30; Room: 154

**Overview:** This will be a survey of the content, methods, and applications of cognitive psychology from the study of perception to decision making.

**Grades:**

Grades will be based on total points earned on 3 tests, 2 short papers, and 'extras' (e.g., Draft Days, see below) as follows:

Tests ( 30 points each).....	90
Papers ( 15 points each).....	30
Draft Days, and other possible activities.....	15 (max)
Total	135

**Tests.** Each of the 3 tests will have equal weight. They will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer.

**Papers.** Each paper will be a maximum of 5 double spaced, typed pages (excluding cover page and reference list) and it must be in APA format (the same format for references as the text book). Exact instructions for the papers will be given in class. Briefly, each paper should discuss 3 to 5 related research articles. One of the articles discussed in your first paper must be something referenced in the first half of the text (Chapters 1 to 6). One of the articles in the second paper must be something that was referenced in the second half of the text (Chapters 7 to 14). Use only original research reports in your papers. The papers must show evidence of reading and understanding the original research reports. Papers are due by 5PM on the due date. The penalty for late papers is 5 points per day.

**Draft Days.** There will be two 'Draft Days' and attendance is optional. To receive points on a Draft Day, bring in 2 copies of complete drafts of your paper to class. Each Draft Day is worth 5 points!!! *This is the best deal in town considering that you have to write the paper anyway.* If the draft is not typed, it must be written every other line on college ruled paper. The instructor's opinion of what constitutes a complete draft is final, but the draft will not be graded.

**Other Activities.** Five points can be awarded for a 5 minute class report of research on cognitive psychology in the news (newspapers, news magazines, etc.). Check with the instructor. There may be other opportunities for class research reports. There is a maximum of 15 points for Draft Days and other activities.

**Readings:**

Readings will be from *Cognition: Theory and Applications*, second edition (Reed, 1988) and from *Scientific American (SA)*. The SA articles are on reserve in the University library and are also available from the EMU print shop.

**Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Unit 1 - Perception, Attention, Short Term Memory January 8 to January 12	Reed: Preface, Chapter 1, 2 SA: Treisman
January 15 to January 19	Reed: Chapter 3 SA: Wurtz, et al.
January 22 to January 26	Reed: Chapter 4 SA: Atkinson & Shiffrin
January 29 to February 2 February 2 - Test 1	Reed: Chapter 5
Unit - 2. Long Term Memory, Imagery, Comprehension February 5 to February 9	Reed: Chapter 6 February 5 - Draft Day for 1st paper February 9 - First paper due
February 12 to February 16	Reed: Chapter 7 SA: Cooper & Shepard
February 19 to February 23 February 23 - Test 2	Reed: Chapter 8, 9 SA: Kumura
Unit 3 - Language, Problem Solving, Decision Making February 26 to March 2	Reed: Chapter 10,11 SA: Eimas; Levinson & Leberman
March 5 to March 9 March 5 - Draft Day March 9 - Second paper due	Reed: Chapter 12, 14 SA: Kahneman & Tversky
March 12 Test - 3	

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*Have a nice spring vacation*