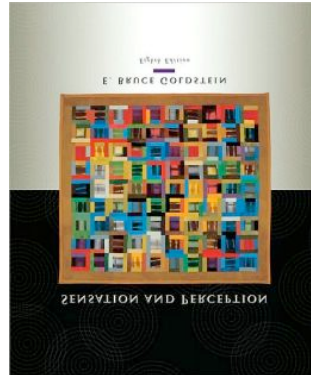


## **Perception**

Psychology 438; CRN 41879



### **Lecture**

**Instructor:** Scott A. Reed, M.A.  
**E-mail:** sreed@uoregon.edu  
**Phone:** 346-1585  
**Office Hours:** MT 11:30-1:00pm in 232 LISB, or by appt.  
**Lecture:** MTWR 2:00-3:50pm in 107 ESL

### **Course Description**

In this course, we will examine the perceptual abilities of the human brain, including vision, hearing, touch, taste and smell. Toward this end, we will include discussions of the methods used by scientists to examine perceptual abilities, the capabilities and limitations of perception, the current knowledge of the underlying neural bases of perception, and the various types of brain damage that may affect perception.

### **Course Pre-Requisites**

Psychology 303 (Research Methods) is a prerequisite that must be completed prior to enrollment in this course.

### **Required Text**

***Sensation and Perception, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition*** by E.B. Goldstein is required ([a copy of the 7<sup>th</sup> edition is on reserve in the Knight Library](#)). New texts contain an enrollment for the supplemental course info contained on the Blackboard site; students who buy used texts will have to purchase this enrollment separately. Please notify me immediately if you have difficulty obtaining either the text or the supplemental course enrollment from the bookstore.

## Blackboard

Blackboard will be used in this course as an online resource for the syllabus, powerpoint lecture slides, study guides, and grades. It is recommended that you frequently check Blackboard in order to stay up to date on the course materials that are posted from week to week (i.e., lecture slides will be posted before class). Please note that while you may have access to the lecture slides ahead of time, attending class will be crucial to doing well in the course. The blackboard site for this course can be found at: <http://blackboard.uoregon.edu>.

## Optional Weblinks

You can also get more perception and neuroscience-related information at the following web sites:

<http://www.brainconnection.com>

<http://www.neuroguide.com>

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/introb.html>

<http://www.hhmi.org/senses>

## Course Format

The material in this course will be presented through a combination of assigned reading from the text, class lectures, in-class discussion, and demonstrations. Lecture material and readings will have some overlap, but will not be replications of each other; some lecture material will not be covered in the readings and vice versa. You are expected to do the assigned reading *before* the class period in which it is due. Reading the material before the corresponding lectures will help your performance in two ways. First, discussions of the material during lecture will be more fruitful if you have at least a general understanding of the material beforehand, helping you to ultimately comprehend and retain the material. Second, questions drawn from the assigned readings will be included on the regularly scheduled quizzes, *even if they have not yet been discussed in lecture (see below)*.

## Grading

Grades will be assigned based on your total percentage points in the course (i.e., your point total/400) for all combined coursework. Note that no extra credit is offered in the course.

GRADE	PERCENTAGE		GRADE	PERCENTAGE
A+	99-100%		C	72-77.9%
A	92-98.9%		C-	70-71.9%
A-	90-91.9%		D+	68-69.9%
B+	88-89.9%		D	62-67.9%
B	82-87.9%		D-	60-61.9%
B-	80-81.9%		F	59.9% and Below
C+	78-79.9%			

*“If I have seen further than others, it is because I have stood on the shoulders of giants.”*

--- Sir Isaac Newton

### Course Points

Thought Pieces: 20 points  
Quizzes: 20 points  
Midterm Exam 1: 80 points  
Midterm Exam 2: 80 points  
Final Exam: 100 points

**Total Points: 300**

### Course Components

**Thought Pieces (20 points):** Five times throughout the term (see course calendar for specific dates), you will be asked to write an in-class reaction to a particular question posed during class. You will be given 5 to 10 minutes to write out your response and no preparation is required. Each thought piece will be worth 5 points and cannot be made up, however, one thought piece will be dropped so that only four will count toward your final grade.

**Quizzes (20 points):** There will be 5 quizzes throughout the term worth 5 points each, however, I will drop your lowest quiz so that only four quizzes are counted toward your final grade. Each quiz will consist of 5 multiple-choice questions (worth 1 point each) and will be based on both lecture and textbook material. Note that if you are absent, quizzes cannot be made up.

**Exams (260 points):** There will be three exams throughout the term, 2 midterms and 1 final (see Course Calendar for specific dates). Each exam will cover the textbook chapters listed in the course calendar in addition to the lecture material we covered in class. The exams will consist of multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, short definition, and short answer questions. The midterm exams will be worth 80 points, while the final exam is worth 100 points (and will be cumulative).

### Course Expectations

**Academic Honesty and Responsibility:** All work submitted in this course must be your own. Violations will be taken seriously and are noted on student disciplinary records. If you are in doubt regarding any aspect of these issues as they pertain to this course, please consult with the instructor before you complete any relevant requirements of the course. In addition, attendance is critical to earning a good grade for the course. This class will be guided by University Policies that entail a standard of responsibility, honesty, and integrity for the instructor, your classmates, and the work that you do. This also means that you should do your absolute best to attend every class meeting, and to come to class prepared and ready to participate in our discussions.

### Student Accommodations

**Accesible Education Center (AEC):** If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me. Also, please request that the Counselor for Students with Disabilities, Molly Sirois, send me a letter verifying your disability. The phone number for disability services is 346-1155 ([disabsrv@uoregon.edu](mailto:disabsrv@uoregon.edu)).

**Students for Whom English is Not Their Native Language:** If you are a non-native English speaker and think you may have trouble in this course due of language difficulties, please see the instructor as soon as possible to make special arrangements.

<b>Course Calendar</b>
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Week/ Day	Date	Topic	Reading Assignments	Exams/Quizzes/Thought Pieces
<b>Week 1</b>				
M	7/22	Introduction to Perception	Chapter 1	
T	7/23	Physiology of Perception	Chapter 2	<b>Thought Piece 1</b>
W	7/24	Low-level vision	Chapter 3	<b>Quiz 1 (Ch. 1 &amp; 2)</b>
R	7/25	High-level vision	Chapter 4	<b>Thought Piece 2</b>
<b>Week 2</b>				
M	7/29	Object perception	Chapter 5	<b>Quiz 2 (Ch. 3 &amp; 4)</b>
T	7/30	<b>Midterm 1</b> (Chapters 1,2,3,4,5)		<b>Midterm 1</b>
W	7/31	Visual attention	Chapter 6	<b>Thought Piece 3</b>
R	8/01	Motion and depth perception	Chapters 8 & 10	<b>Thought Piece 4</b>
<b>Week 3</b>				
M	8/05	Color vision	Chapter 9	<b>Quiz 3 (Ch. 6,8,10)</b>
T	8/06	<b>Midterm 2</b> (Chapters 6,8,9,10)		<b>Midterm 2</b>
W	8/07	Auditory perception	Chapters 11 & 12	<b>Thought Piece 5</b>
R	8/08	Cutaneous senses	Chapter 14	<b>Quiz 4 (Ch. 11 &amp; 12)</b>
<b>Week 4</b>				
M	8/12	Chemical senses	Chapter 15	<b>Quiz 5 (Ch. 14)</b>
T	8/13	Course wrap-up and review		
W	8/14	<b>Final exam</b>		<b>Final</b>

*"The purpose of psychology is to give us a completely different idea of the things we know best."*

*--Paul Valery*