

Psychology 242
Macalester College

Cognitive Psychology

Spring 2024
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(he/him/his)

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Class meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 2:20 - 3:20 PM in Olin/Rice 352.
Lab meets on Thursdays from 1:20 - 2:50 in Olin/Rice 349

Course Objectives:

This course has two main objectives: 1) to provide you with an in-depth examination of human mental processes; and 2) to give you the experience of participating directly in every phase of a theoretically interesting study, from collecting the data to realizing its final form as a scientific report written in APA style. We will achieve the first objective through readings in textbook and primary source journal articles, and especially through class discussions in which the content of the readings will be reviewed and analyzed. Your diligent preparation before class, and active participation in class discussions, are fundamental to success with the first objective. The second goal of the course will be addressed mainly in the lab portion of the class. Briefly, we will work as a group to conduct experiments that bear upon several major theoretical debates in cognition. You will participate in all aspects of the project, though a special emphasis will be placed on the process of transforming the experimental ideas, actions, and results into a form from which other scientists can benefit, i.e., a written report.

Course Requirements:

1. Regular attendance and participation at all classes.
2. Attendance and participation in the weekly lab sections.
3. Timely completion and submission of the writing assignment.
4. Participation in a final group project.
5. Adequate performance on two essay-question examinations.

Grading:

Your grade for this course will be based on the following components:

- 10% - Class attendance and participation
- 5% - Lab attendance and participation
- 15% - Lab Paper
- 15% - Group Presentation
- 25% - Midterm Exam
- 30% - Final Exam

Grades will be assigned based on the percentage of available points:

93-100 %	90-92%	88-89%	82-87%	80-81%	78-79%
A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+
72-77%	70-71%	68-79%	62-67%	60-61%	<60%
C	C-	D+	D	D-	NC

Course Policies

Academic integrity

You are expected to meet the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty, which includes submitting your own original work and properly citing any other work (ideas/quotes) that you have incorporated into your work. For the two exams, accessing exams from previous semester as a means to prepare for the exams given this semester is a violation of academic integrity for both you, and any persons who assisted in that See Macalester's detailed definitions and policies concerning forgery, cheating, and plagiarism:

<https://www.macalester.edu/academicprograms/academicpolicies/academicintegrity/>. If you have any uncertainties about academic honesty/dishonesty as it might relate to your work in the course, please talk with me. Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported to the Director of Academic Programs.

Accommodations

I am committed to supporting the learning of all students. If you are encountering barriers to your learning that I can mitigate, please bring them to my attention. If you think you need accommodations based on the impact of a disability, please contact Shammah , Director of Disability Services (mfletche@macalester.edu, 651-696-6874) early in the semester to schedule an accommodations meeting. Further information about disability services and accommodations can be found at: <http://www.macalester.edu/studentaffairs/disabilityservices>

Health and Wellness at Macalester

Here at Macalester, you are encouraged to make your well-being a priority throughout this term and your career here. Staying well is extra complicated these days by COVID-19, as well as ongoing systemic racism, and other forms of oppression - this complex context requires flexibility, creativity, persistence and support. Investing time into taking care of yourself will help you engage more fully in your academic experience. Remember that beyond being a student, you are a human being carrying your own experiences, thoughts, emotions, and identities with you. It is important to acknowledge any stressors you may be facing, which can be mental, emotional, physical, financial, etc., and how they can have an academic impact. I encourage you to remember that you have a body with needs. In the classroom, eat when you are hungry, drink water, use the restroom, and step out if you are upset and need a break. Please do what is necessary so long as it does not impede your or others' ability to be mentally and emotionally present in the course. Outside of the classroom, sleep, moving your body, and connecting with others can be strategies to help you be resilient at Macalester. If you are having difficulties maintaining your well-being, please don't hesitate to contact me and/or find support from other resources on the following page.

On-Campus Resources

Laurie Hamre Center for Health & Wellness

Leonard Center Room 53, 651-696-6275 (call to make an appointment).

Follow *macalesterhwc* on Instagram. www.macalester.edu/healthandwellness/

- Medical Services
 - There is no charge for an office visit to see a provider for most appointments
 - Medical providers can talk to you about your mental health.
- Counseling Services
 - Health & Wellness counselors provide short-term counseling to students.
 - Drop-in counseling sessions are available each day.

- Counseling staff offers multiple groups each semester. Check Hamre Center website for more information on specific groups being offered.
- Let's Talk - brief, drop-in chats with counselors.
- 24 Hour Urgent Phone Counseling – PRESS 2
 - To speak to a mental health counselor at any time, call 651-696-6275, then press “2” to be connected to ProtoCall, a free phone counseling service that Macalester provides for students, available 24/7.
- Self-Care Resources
 - Health Promotion
 - Provides resources and initiatives, including free yoga classes, aromatherapy, AOD resources including fentanyl test strips, sleep products, and sexual health resources. Visit the Wellness Initiatives section of the HWC website.
 - We're All in this Together Resilience Challenge found on the Wellness Section, Resilience Button of the HWC website provides practical, digestible skills for you to create your own building blocks to resilience.
 - PAWS @ Mac (therapy dog program)
 - To learn more about when and where to find the therapy dogs, email paws@macalester.edu, or follow *pawsatmac* on Instagram.

Resident Advisor (RA) and Resident Hall Director (RHD)

- Both RAs and RHDs can serve as a first point of contact and are able to connect you to resources during mental health crises.

Other Support Offices

- Center for Religious and Spiritual Life, (651-696-6298), Weyerhaeuser Chapel
- Office of Student Affairs (651-696-6220), Weyerhaeuser 119

Urgent and Off-Campus Resources

(www.macalester.edu/healthandwellness/afterhours)

Macalester Public Safety

- Call 651-696-6555 in the case of any emergency to reach Public Safety. They will connect you with other campus response personnel.
- On Friday and Saturday nights (9 pm – 2 am), student EMTs are on call, and will respond to health-related emergencies when Security is called

Telehealth (call, text, email or video)

24/7 services with NO charge

Press 2 – Phone Mental Health Counseling (Macalester-sponsored. See description above) Call **651-696-6275**, select menu option 2.

Crisis Text Line Text MN to **741741**

Minnesota's suicide prevention and mental health crisis texting services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Trevor Project (text, chat, or call - suicide hotline for LGBTQ youth)

Call: **1-866-488-7386** The Trevor Project.org/get-help-now Text **START** to **678678**

Transgender Suicide Hotline 877-565-8860

Steve Fund Crisis text line Text **STEVE** to **741741** For person of color.
SOS Sexual Violence Services 651-266-1000

BetterHelp.com Does charge but covered at 100% if the student has the Macalester-offered United Healthcare Student Resources health insurance. *The BetterHelp app may share (non protected healthcare) information with other apps.*

Urgent Care for Adult Mental Health

402 University Ave E, St. Paul, MN 55130

651-266-7900 (24/7 phone support; walk-ins M-F 8am - 5:30pm)

Regions Hospital (Emergency Room)

640 Jackson Street, St. Paul, MN 55101

651-254-3456

Transportation

If you have an urgent health need and do not have transportation to get to a clinic or hospital, Hamre Center staff, Residential Life staff, Office of Student Affairs and other campus response individuals can arrange for a ride share (Uber) to and from the clinic/hospital. There is no charge for the ride.

Overview of Class Topics, Labs, and Assignments

JANUARY 19TH 2024 VERSION

Date	Class Topic	Lab	Assignments
1 st Week (1/19)	Introduction to the course		
2 nd Week (1/22 - 1/26)	History of Cognitive Psych Sensation & Perception	More Class	Solso Chap 1
3 rd Week (1/29- 2/2)	Sensation & Perception	“How the Mind Works” Video	Solso Chap 3
4 th Week (2/5 - 2/9)	Attention	Attention Experiments	Moray (1959); Wood & Cowan (1995)
5 th Week (2/12 - 2/16)	Attention	Attention Experiments	Solso Chap 6 Atkinson & Shiffrin (1971)
6 th Week (2/19 2/23)	Memory	<i>Memento</i>	Solso Chapter 7 Craik & Lockhart (1972)
7 th Week (2/26 - 3/1)	Memory	<i>Midterm Exam in lab 2/29</i>	Usher & Neisser (1993)
8 th Week (3/4- 3/8)	Memory Autobiographical Memory	Class catchup	Loftus “Desperately Seeking...” (1993) Belli et al. (1998)
	Spring Break!		
9 th Week (3/18 - 3/22)	Autobiographical Memory; Memory Illusions	Group Work	<i>Mistakes Were Made (but not by me)</i> Chapters 3-5
10 th Week (3/25 - 3/29)	The Organization of Knowledge	Group work Memory Experiments	Solso Chapter 9 Smith, Shoben, & Rips (‘74)
11 th Week (4/1 - 4/5)	Language Comprehension	Analyze SSR Data Group work on presentations	
12 th Week (4/8 - 4/12)	Language Comprehension	Group work on presentations	McKoon & Ratcliff (1992) Kintsch (1994)
13 th Week (4/15 - 4/19)	The Cog Science of Learning Decision-Making	Class Presentations	Make it Stick Chaps 1&2 Tversky & Kahneman
14 th Week (4/22 - 4/26)	Class Presentations	<i>Final Exam in lab 4/25</i>	<i>Lab write-up Due 4/29 (by 11:59 pm)</i>
15 th Week (4/29)	Class Presentations		