

PSY270H5F – Cognition: The Machinery of the Mind

Mondays and Wednesdays 12:00pm – 3:00pm EST, on ZOOM

[Online Synchronous](#)

Course Delivery

ONLINE VIA ZOOM/QUERCUS

The course will be delivered online through Zoom, and the Zoom link will be posted to the course page on Quercus. To access the link, you must use a Zoom account associated with your utoronto email address. **Please register for a UTM Zoom account using your UTORid and password before classes start (<https://utoronto.zoom.us>). Lectures will be online on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:10-3:00pm EST.** Lectures will be recorded and posted to the course Quercus page after each class session. There will be one term test and a final exam, administered online through Quercus Quiz, as well as two written lab report assignments. Please see the Quercus page for more details.

Learn Anywhere Guide for Students

<https://library.utm.utoronto.ca/students/quercus/learn-anywhere>

University of Toronto tech [requirements for online learning](#)

Contact Information

Course Instructor:

Dr. Benjamin Wolfe

email: benjamin.wolfe@utoronto.ca

Office hours: Mondays, 3-4pm on Zoom

A link will be posted to Quercus; also by appointment

(Be sure to register for a UTM Zoom account at

<https://utoronto.zoom.us>)

Teaching Assistants:

Mo Cui

mo.cui@mail.utoronto.ca

Priscilla Fung

priscilla.fung@mail.utoronto.ca

TA office hours will be listed on Quercus at a later point.

Email Policy: Emails are the best way to get in touch with Dr. Wolfe and the TAs, but emails aren't instant messages. Please send all emails to the utoronto email addresses listed above, with "PSY270" in the subject line and be clear about what you need, whether it's a question or to schedule a meeting outside of office hours.

Please be polite; the pandemic has been hard on everyone, and it's hard to read tone in email. If you are asking for special consideration for a deadline, earlier is better than later if at all possible.

You can generally expect a response within 48 hours (not including weekends). Emailing with questions at the last minute before the term test or the final examination is not recommended, since you may not receive a reply before the exam.

Course Description

Cognitive psychology is, fundamentally, the study of how we think about the world. To do so, we perceive the world, develop mental representations, remember them, manipulate them and use them to reason about the world and express our thoughts. In this course, we will discuss cognitive psychology from its perceptual foundations, including attention and memory, and work our way to an understanding of how we use mental representations to express ideas and solve problems. Key elements of this course will be the history of cognitive psychology – how we got here – and cognitive psychology’s implications in the broader world.

Learning Outcome

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Describe the fundamental building blocks of modern cognitive psychology, in terms of key concepts, findings and theories
- Understand the origins and implications of cognitive psychology
- Understand the tools and methods used in cognitive psychology research
- Relate and explain empirical findings to theories in the field
- Explain how empirical findings can support or refute psychological theories
- Identify key variables in empirical research and reason about their conclusions and implications
- Read, analyze and critique published research in cognitive psychology
- Communicate your understanding of empirical data in written form

Reading Material

Bundle with Paper textbook

- Bundle: Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research and Everyday Experience, Loose-Leaf Version, 4th + COGLAB 5, 1 term (6 months) Printed Access Card, 5th + MindTap Psychology with CogLab, 1 term (6 months) Printed Access Card for Goldstein
ISBN: **9781337747516**

... or bundle with e-textbook

- MindTap Psychology with CogLab, 1 term (6 months) Instant Access for Goldstein’s Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research and Everyday Experience
ISBN: **9781337100069**

CogLab is required for the course and must be bought as a bundle with the textbook, you cannot buy it separately! The textbook is meant to give you background, and is a scaffolding for lecture material.

Course Evaluation

Tests and Assignments	Deadline	Weight
Online Lab (CogLab)	May 12, 2021	10 %
Lab Report 1	May 19, 2021	10 %
Lab Report 1 Resubmission	June 2, 2021	
Term Test	May 26, 2021	35 %
Lab Report 2	June 14, 2021	10 %
Final Examination	TBA	35 %

Term Test and Final Examination: There will be one term test (**May 26, 2021, from 12:10-2:10pm, through Quercus Quiz, covering all material from May 3rd-May 19th**) and a final examination (**TBD, also through Quercus Quiz, covering material from May 31st-June 14th**). The term test and final exam will be composed of multiple choice questions, and will be worth 35% of your term grade each. During the exam period, it is the student's responsibility to be available for the entire exam period.

These tests will assess your understanding of the concepts, rather than the ability to look things up. Just trying to rely on the textbook (without having come to / listened to lecture and taken notes) is not likely to be a winning strategy.

Online Lab (CogLab): You are expected to complete 6 online experiments in CogLab before the deadline; see the document on Quercus for more detail about this. **Access to CogLab is bundled with your textbook; you cannot buy it separately and it is required for the course.** Completing these 6 experiments is worth 10% of your term grade.

Lab Reports: You will submit **two** lab reports over the course of term (worth 10% of the term grade each), based on one of the 6 online experiments that you do on CogLab. The first lab report is due on **May 19th 2021** and the second lab report is due **June 14th 2021**. Instructions and an example will be posted to Quercus, and will be discussed in lecture.

Since learning how to write about experiments and their results is a skill, **you will have the opportunity to revise and resubmit Lab Report 1 (due June 2nd, 2021)** to help you develop these skills. This is optional; if you do well enough on Lab Report 1, you can choose to not revise and resubmit. However, if you do revise and resubmit your first lab report, the grade for the revised version will stand.

Lab reports will be submitted online through Quercus. **Assignments will be due no later than 11:59pm EST on the date listed** (it's probably not a good idea to try to submit it at 11:58pm). Assignments will be screened for plagiarism using Turnitin.

University Policy on Turnitin: "Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site."

In accordance with university policy, you may opt out of using Turnitin.com. If you plan to opt out of Turnitin.com, please notify the instructor in writing at least one week before Lab Report 1 is due (no later than May 12, 2021) so that alternate arrangements can be made (e.g., a draft or outline to support the originality of your work).

Course Webpage

The website associated with this course is accessible via <http://q.utoronto.ca>

Note: You don't need to create a new login for Canvas; it already knows who you are. You just need your UTORid and password. This is the same login that gets you onto the wireless network with your laptop, and the same one that you use to check your email. If you're confused about your UTORid or don't remember your password, go to: <https://www.utorid.utoronto.ca/>

In order to access course material, monitor course information, and view your grades you must log into Canvas. If you have any general questions regarding Canvas, please visit the following help site: <https://library.utm.utoronto.ca/faculty/canvas>

IMPORTANT COURSE POLICIES **PLEASE READ**

Missed Test Special Consideration Request Process

Students who miss a test due to circumstances beyond their control (e.g. illness or an accident) can request that the Department grant them special consideration. Students must present their case to the Department (NOT the Instructor) by submitting a request via the online Special Consideration Request form at:

<https://utmapp.utm.utoronto.ca/SpecialRequest>.

Important note: Once the test/exam is available online and you're unable to write or have an approved request to miss, **DO NOT** at any point attempt to access the test/exam. If at any time you access the test/exam, you will **NOT** be able to submit a special consideration and/or your request will be refused.

If your request is approved by the department, the weight of the missed test will be redistributed to the final exam.

Extension of Time Special Consideration Request Process

Students who seek to be granted more time to complete their term work beyond the due date without penalty, owing to circumstances beyond their control (e.g., illness, or an accident), must do so by submitting a request **directly to the Instructor** for the period up to and including the last day of the term. The decision as to whether or not to apply a penalty for the specified period rests with the Instructor.

Students who seek to be granted more time to complete term work beyond the last day of the term must submit their request directly to the Department. This request covers the period following the last day of classes and ends the last day of the exam period. This is done by submitting a request via the online Special Consideration Request form at <https://utmapp.utm.utoronto.ca/SpecialRequest>. You are advised to seek advising by the departmental Undergraduate Counsellor prior to the deadline.

Supporting Documentation

The University is temporarily suspending the need for a doctor's note or medical certificate for any absence from academic participation. However, you are required to use the Absence Declaration tool on ACORN found in the Profile and Settings menu to formally declare an absence from academic participation. The tool is to be used if you require consideration for missed academic work based on the procedures specific to our campus/department.

Missed Final Exam or Extension of Time beyond exam period

Missed final exams or for extensions of time beyond the examination period you must submit a petition through the Office of the Registrar. <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/registrar/current-students/petitions> and follow their procedures.

Penalties for Lateness

A penalty of 10% per calendar day (i.e., including week-ends and holidays, during which students are not able to submit term work) up to and including the last day of classes, will be applied by the Instructor. After the last day of classes, the penalty of 10% per calendar day will be applied by the Undergraduate Counsellor on behalf of the Department. No penalty will be assigned if request for special consideration, described above, was successful.

Academic Guidelines

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have met all prerequisites listed in the UTM Calendar for this course. If you lack any prerequisites you **WILL BE REMOVED** from the course up until the last day to add a course. Further information about academic regulations, course withdrawal dates and credits can be found in the University of Toronto Mississauga Calendar at: <http://www.erin.utoronto.ca/regcal/>.

You are encouraged to read this material. If you run into trouble and need advice about studying, preparing for exams, note taking or time management, free workshops and advice are available from the Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre at 905-828-5406.

AccessAbility Services

The University provides academic accommodations for students with disabilities in accordance with the terms of the Ontario Human Rights Code. This occurs through a collaborative process that acknowledges a collective obligation to develop an accessible learning environment that both meets the needs of students and preserves the essential academic requirements of the University's courses and programs. Students requiring academic accommodations for learning, physical, sensory, or mental health disabilities or medical conditions should contact the AccessAbility Office (2037B Davis Building), 905-828-3847. <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/accessability/>

Privacy and Copyright Disclaimer

Notice of video recording and sharing (Download permissible; re-use prohibited)

This course, including your participation, will be recorded on video and will be available to students in the course for viewing remotely and after each session. Course videos and materials belong to your instructor, the University, and/or other source depending on the specific facts of each situation, and are protected by copyright. In this course, you are permitted to download session videos and materials for your own academic use, but you should not copy, share, or use them for any other purpose without the explicit permission of the instructor. For questions about recording and use of videos in which you appear please contact your instructor.

Lectures and course materials prepared by the instructor are considered by the University to be an instructor's intellectual property covered by the Copyright Act, RSC 1985, c C-42. Course materials such as PowerPoint slides and lecture recordings are made available to you for your own study purposes. These materials cannot be shared outside of the class or "published" in any way. Posting recordings or slides to other websites without the express permission of the instructor will constitute copyright infringement.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto Mississauga is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, UTM treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously.

The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters outlines behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the process for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

1. Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
2. Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
3. Making up sources or facts.
4. Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams:

1. Using or possessing unauthorized aids.
2. Looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test.
3. Misrepresenting your identity.

In academic work:

1. Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
2. Falsifying or altering any documentation required, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

With regard to remote learning and online courses, UTM wishes to remind students that they are expected to adhere to **the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters** regardless of the course delivery method. By offering students the opportunity to learn remotely, UTM expects that students will maintain the same academic honesty and integrity that they would in a classroom setting. Potential academic offences in a digital context include, but are not limited to:

Remote assessments:

1. Accessing unauthorized resources (search engines, chat rooms, Reddit, etc.) for assessments.
2. Using technological aids (e.g. software) beyond what is listed as permitted in an assessment.
3. Posting test, essay, or exam questions to message boards or social media.
4. Creating, accessing, and sharing assessment questions and answers in virtual “course groups.”
5. Working collaboratively, in-person or online, with others on assessments that are expected to be completed individually.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from your instructor or from other institutional resources.

Academic Rights

You, as a student at UTM, have the right to:

- Receive a syllabus by the first day of class.
- Rely upon a syllabus once a course is started. An instructor may only change marks' assignments by following the University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy provision 1.3.
- Refuse to use turnitin.com (you must be offered an alternative form of submission).
- Have access to your instructor for consultation during a course or follow up with the department chair if the instructor is unavailable.
- Ask the person who marked your term work for a re-evaluation if you feel it was not fairly graded. You have up to one month from the date of return of the item to inquire about the mark. If you are not satisfied with a re-evaluation, you may appeal to the instructor in charge of the course if the instructor did not mark the work. If your work is remarked, you must accept the resulting mark. You may only appeal a mark beyond the instructor if the term work was worth at least 20% of the course mark.
- Receive at least one significant mark (15% for H courses, 25% for Y courses) before the last day you can drop a course for H courses, and the last day of classes in the first week of January for Y courses taught in the Fall/Winter terms.
- Submit handwritten essays so long as they are neatly written.
- Have no assignment worth 100% of your final grade.
- Not have a term test worth more than 25% in the last two weeks of class.
- Retain intellectual property rights to your research.
- Receive all your assignments once graded.
- View your final exams. To see a final exam, you must submit an online Exam Reproduction Request within 6 months of the exam. There is a small non-refundable fee.
- Privacy of your final grades.
- Arrange for representation from Downtown Legal Services (DLS), a representative from the UTM Students' Union (UTMSU), and/or other forms of support if you are charged with an academic offence.

Equity Statement

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the UTM Equity and Diversity officer at edo.utm@utoronto.ca or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union Vice President Equity at vpequity@utmsu.ca.

Course Outline

Please note that this outline is subject to change depending on the needs of the class (we may need additional time to cover a topic). Any changes to the syllabus will be announced in class one week before.

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
5/3	Introduction to Cognitive Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience	Goldstein, Ch. 1 & 2	
5/5	Perception, Part 1	Goldstein, Ch. 3	
5/10	Perception, Part 2	Goldstein, Ch. 3	
5/12	Attention	Goldstein, Ch. 4	Online Lab Due
5/17	Short-Term / Working Memory	Goldstein, Ch. 5	
5/19	Long-Term Memory, Part 1 & Review	Goldstein, Ch. 6-8	Lab Report #1 Due
5/24	Victoria Day (No Class)		
5/26	Term Test	Covering lectures from May 3rd-May 19th	
5/31	Long-Term Memory, Part 2	Goldstein, Ch. 6-8	
6/2	Knowledge & Imagery	Goldstein, Ch. 9 & 10	Lab Report #1 Resubmission Due
6/7	Language	Goldstein, Ch. 11	
6/9	Problem Solving	Goldstein, Ch. 12	
6/14	Judgement, Decision and Reasoning	Goldstein, Ch. 13	Lab Report #2 Due
TBA	Final Exam	Covering lectures from May 31st-June 14th	

NOTE: This is a tentative outline and is subject to change based on the progress of the course.

Final exam: During exam period, it is the student's responsibility to be available for the entire exam period.