

# PSY362H5F - Animal Cognition

Delivery Method: **IN-PERSON**

Schedule: **FRI 9:00am – 12:00pm**

Room Location: **IB250 (Instructional Centre)**

## Contact Information

**Dr. Loren Martin**

[lj.martin@utoronto.ca](mailto:lj.martin@utoronto.ca)

**Office hours:** Mondays 12 – 1 pm or by appointment (in-person).

**Teaching Assistant:**

**Crystal Mui**

[crystal.mui@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:crystal.mui@mail.utoronto.ca)

**Office Location:** CCT Building, room 4065

## Course Description

A comparative survey of cognitive processes in animals from an ecological and evolutionary perspective. The course will examine topics including perception, working and reference memory, simple associative and complex relational learning, and concept formation. **Exclusion:** PSY362H1

## Email Policy

E-mail should **not** be seen as an alternative to attending office hours with your TA or instructor, and questions that could benefit others and should be asked in class or posted to the appropriate discussion board on the course website.

E-mails need to come from an utoronto account. E-mail should not be seen as an alternative to meeting with the instructor (or the TA). Nor should e-mail be used as a mechanism to receive private tutorials (especially prior to tests) or to explain material that was covered in lectures you missed. When emailing, please include “**PSY362**” and the topic of your email in the subject line. We will try to respond to all emails within 2 business days.

## Learning Outcomes

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

- Recognize and recall experimental findings that support or do not support existing theories in animal cognition.
- Apply theories to predict outcomes of experimental manipulations.
- Interpret and critically analyze experimental findings and design
- Engage in critical reading of primary and secondary sources.
- Combine critical reading skills and conceptual knowledge of animal cognition to create a review of experimental findings for a broad audience.

## Reading Material

Comparative Cognition (clickable link)

Mary C. Olmstead

Valerie A. Kuhlmeier

ISBN: 9781316190548

**Readings:** Students are encouraged to read the assigned chapters before each lecture as this will facilitate and extend their knowledge acquired in class. You should pay close (but not exclusive) attention to the material that overlaps with the lecture material.

## Course Evaluation

1. Post-Lecture Questions (10%)
2. Mid-term Test (20 %) (**October 7, 2022**).
3. Mid-term Test (20%) (**November 11, 2022**)
4. News and Views assignment (15% of final grade). Write a Nature style News and Views column that elaborates on a recent discovery within the domain of Animal Cognition and explain the discovery using general language.
5. Final Exam (35 % of final grade). The cumulative final exam will cover all lectures, associated readings and media associated with the course.

**The mid-term test and final exam** will be based on the material from posted media material, lectures and assigned readings. The mid-term test and the final exam will consist of multiple-choice questions, and shorter / longer questions. The shorter and longer questions will require students to recite information but also integrate knowledge analytically. The **final exam WILL BE CUMULATIVE**, i.e., the questions will ask you to consider material learned from the very beginning of the class albeit more weight will be given towards material not tested during the term test.

## 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 Quercus; 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 Quercus. If you have any general questions regarding Quercus, please visit the [help site](#).

## Student Tech Requirements and Connection Tools

- [Recommended tech requirements for online learning](#)
- [UTM Library Learn Anywhere resource website](#)

**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:** If you sit down and receive a test, you will **NOT** be able to receive special consideration.

If your request is approved by the department, a make-up test will be offered. You will receive an email when a make-up date has been arranged. The department will try to give 2-3 days notice of make-up date, however this is sometimes is not possible. **Be prepared for the make-up.**

**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 and follow their procedures.

**Penalties for Lateness**

A penalty of 10% per calendar day (i.e., including weekends 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.

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.

### **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](mailto:edo.utm@utoronto.ca) or the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union Vice President Equity at [vpequity@utmsu.ca](mailto:vpequity@utmsu.ca).

*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. However, the assignment and test dates are fixed.*

## Course Outline

Date	Topic
September 9	Lecture 1: History of comparative cognition (Chapter 1)
September 16	Lecture 2: Sensory systems (Chapter 2)
September 23	Lecture 3: Memory and Associative Learning (Chapters 3 and 4)
September 30	Lecture 4: Orientation and Navigation (Chapter 5)
October 7	<b>Mid-Term Test #1</b>
October 14	<b>Reading Week</b>
October 21	Lecture 5: Timing and Number (Chapter 6)
October 28	Lecture 6: Decision Making (Chapter 7)
November 4	Lecture 7: Causality and tool use (Chapter 8)
November 11	<b>Mid-Term Test #2</b>
November 18	Lecture 8: Categorization and Concept formation (Chapter 9)
November 25	Lecture 9: Social competence and prosocial behavior (Chapters 10 and 11)
December 2	Lecture 10: Communication and learning from others (Chapters 12 and 13)

**Final exam:** It is the student's responsibility to be available for the entire exam period.