

Psych 3730 – Perception
Fall Semester 2019
Tues/Thurs. 10:30-11:45 LH 174

Professor: Shannon McGillivray, Ph.D.

Email: smcgillivray@weber.edu

Office Hours: Monday 11:30-12:30, Thursday 3-4, & by appointment

Office Location: 382 Lindquist Hall

Office Phone: 801-626-7867

Course Website - CANVAS: <https://weber.instructure.com/login>

Textbook Website: <http://edge.sagepub.com/schwartz2e>

Course Description

This course is intended to present an overview of perceptual processes. The course will aim to provide a reasonably deep introduction to several of the key topics and research approaches in the field. The emphases will include the visual system, object, color, size and depth perception, movement, auditory systems, speech perception, touch perception, smell, and taste.

Required Text

Sensation & Perception 2nd edition by Bennett Schwartz & John Krantz

<http://edge.sagepub.com/schwartz2e>

Getting the Most out of the Course

In order to get the most out of this course you should come to each class and come prepared. This means that you should do the readings, take notes, and be ready to participate in discussions and activities. I will be posting my lecture slides on the course website (CANVAS) by the night before each lecture. Usually, I will post lectures for the entire week or chapter. To make note-taking much easier in class, one idea to print these out and bring them with you to class. Please note that you can print out slides in 'handout' form that can allow you to have multiple slides printed on one page. Keep in mind that I will be expanding on the slide content during class, and occasionally adding material not in the book - so the posted-lecture slides should NOT be considered sufficient to understand all that will be covered in lecture.

Course Requirements

Exams (55%)

There will be a total of 4 exams given throughout the semester. All of the material from the readings and lectures is fair game on the exams. The EXAMS ARE NOT CUMULATIVE, and thus only consist of material covered since the previous exam. The exams will consist of approximately 80ish multiple choice and a few fill-in-the-blank/short answer questions. The exams will be administered through Weber State's Testing Center using ChiTester. There are a variety of testing center locations, and you will be allowed to take the exam at any of the locations. For a list of the locations and testing center hours go to: <http://www.weber.edu/testingcenter/> You are responsible for knowing the hours of the testing center location you would like to use. To take an exam you must have a valid form of ID (driver's license, student ID) and show up to the testing center on the correct date(s). You will not be allowed to take the exam if you do not have an ID or if you show up after the posted and allowed hours. No make-up exams will be given except in cases of emergency. However, if you know you are going to be out of town for the dates of a posted exam, we can make arrangements for you to take the exam early.

Quizzes (15%)

There will be a total of 10 quizzes given during class. The dates of quizzes are on the class schedule. Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple choice questions. Quizzes will be on material from the lecture and readings that have been covered since the last quiz or exam (they are not cumulative). Quizzes will be given during the first 10 minutes of class, so be sure to come to class on time. Your lowest 2 quiz grades will be dropped. No make-up quizzes will be given. However, as is the case with the exams, if you know you are going to be out of town for the date of a posted quiz, we can make arrangements for you to take the quiz early. You will not be allowed to take the quiz after the posted date.

Short Papers (30%)

You will need to complete THREE short papers. For the papers, take a simple perceptual task (recognizing an object, hearing a word, etc. and discuss ALL of the perceptual processes involved that allow you to execute that activity correctly (or incorrectly as it might be). You can discuss the underlying brain structures involved in each step, the perceptual pathways, and the perceptual processes (using the correct terminology), what various theories might suggest if applicable, etc. Essentially, apply and appreciate all that goes into something you often take for granted. Each paper should be approximately 2-3 pages, double-spaced with normal fonts and margins.

Extra Credit

You can earn up to 10 extra credit points (weighted as 3% of your final grade) by finding a perceptual illusion and also a research article that discusses that perceptual illusion. There's a bunch of illusions on this website: <https://michaelbach.de/ot/> Write a 2-3 page paper that includes a brief summary of the illusion, as well as a summary of the research article. For the article summary portion describe what question(s) they were investigating, their methods/procedures, their findings, and what their findings suggest for this illusion (i.e., main conclusions).

Grading

B+ = 88-89%	A = 92-100%	A- = 90-91%
C+ = 78-79%	B = 82-87%	B- = 80-81%
D+ = 68-69%	C = 72-76%	C- = 70-71%
E = 59% or below	D = 62-66%	D- = 60-61%

****If needed a curve will be applied to the course****

A = 20% B = 30% C = 40% D/E = 10%

In the event that less than 20% of the students earn A's, this curve will be applied. **I will only curve up and never down.** This means that a curve, if applied, will only help your score.

Additional Course Policies

Special Accommodations

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in Room 181 of the Student Services Center (or Room 221 at the Davis Campus). SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats upon request.

You can contact SSD by phone: 801-626-6413 or email: ssd@weber.edu

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class, nor is it tolerated anywhere at Weber. If you are caught you will be immediately reported to the Dean of Students which could result in your expulsion from the university.

Emergency Closure Policy

If for any reason the university is forced to close for an extended period of time, we will conduct our class via email and CANVAS. Look for announcements on Weber e-mail. Code Purple is a good way to be alerted to campus closures, and you are encouraged to sign up for it.

Week	Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment
1	8/27	Intro to the course		
	8/29	Intro to Perception & Research Methods	Ch. 1 pp 1-9 Ch. 2	
2	9/3	Vision - The Eye	Ch. 3	Quiz 1
	9/5	Vision - The Eye cont.	Ch. 3	
3	9/10	Vision – The Brain	Ch. 4	Quiz 2
	9/12	Vision – The Brain cont.	Ch. 4	
Exam 1 – open Fri. 9/13 through Wed. 9/18				
4	9/17	No Class		
	9/19	Object Perception	Ch. 5	
5	9/24	Object Perception cont.	Ch. 5	
	9/26	Color Perception	Ch. 6	Quiz 3
6	10/1	Color Perception cont.	Ch. 6	
	10/3	Depth & Size	Ch. 7	Quiz 4
7	10/8	Depth & Size	Ch. 7	
	10/10	Movement & Action	Ch. 8	Quiz 5
8	10/15	Movement & Action	Ch. 8	Paper #1 Due
	10/17	No Class		
Exam 2 – open Wed. 10/16 through Mon. 10/21				
9	10/22	Visual Attention	Ch. 9	
	10/24	Visual Attention	Ch. 9	
10	10/29	Auditory System	Ch. 10	Quiz 6
	10/31	Auditory System cont.	Ch. 10	
11	11/5	Audition Sound Localization	Ch. 11	Quiz 7
	11/7	Audition Sound Localization cont.	Ch. 11	Paper # 2 Due
Exam 3 – open Fri. 11/8, through Wed. 11/13				
12	11/12	No Class		
	11/14	Speech Perception	Ch. 13	
13	11/19	Speech Perception cont.	Ch. 13	Quiz 8
	11/21	Touch & Pain	Ch. 14	
14	11/26	Touch & Pain cont.	Ch. 14	Quiz 9
	11/28	No Class – Thanksgiving		
15	12/3	Olfaction & Taste	Ch. 15	
	12/5	Olfaction & Taste cont.	Ch. 15	Quiz 10
16	Finals	Exam #4 – open Thurs 12/5 through Thursday 12/12 Paper #3 due by 11:59pm Sunday 12/8		