

PSY 3730
Perception
Spring 2016
TuTh 10:30 am – 11:45 am
Social and Behavioral Sciences Building, Room 323

Professor: Dr. Jim Hutchins

Professor's Contact Information:

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Office Hours: MW 9-10, TuTh 12-1. Other hours by appointment; call 801 626 6505 to set a time.

Office Location: Marriott Health 113

Class Web Site: <http://canvas.weber.edu/> Please use the Canvas messaging tool to contact the professor. You may use the weber.edu email address as a backup. I maintain a 24 hour service standard — I answer your message within Canvas within 24 hours unless I announce otherwise during the semester.

I. Textbook: Wolfe, Jeremy M *et al.* *Sensation & Perception*, 4th edition, 2015. Publisher: Sinauer Associates (ISBN 978-1-60535-211-4). Note: Supplemental reading materials may be handed out in class or posted online.

II. Course Objectives

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

Explain how photons are transformed into a signal that is perceived by the retina, lateral geniculate nucleus, and visual cortex.

Compare the “what” and “where” pathways (ventral and dorsal streams) in visual processing.

Outline how color, depth, and motion are analyzed by the visual system.

Explain the basis for visual attention selection and scene perception.

Outline the steps and characteristics of auditory perception, including music and speech.

Contrast the vestibular sense (equilibrium) with the auditory system.

Survey the somatosensory (touch) system.

Explain the chemical senses (olfaction/smell and gustation/taste) and how they are perceived by cortex.

III. Course Grade

A. Examinations (4 x 20% = 80% of course grade)

1. Four exams will be taken during the course of this semester. Each exam is non-comprehensive and constitutes 20% of your final grade (80% total).
2. All exams will be taken using at a Weber State Testing Center using Chi Tester. I hope to have each exam posted and ready to be taken about one week ahead of its deadline. Please note the testing center information found in section VI of this syllabus.
3. You may take ANY exam early. You may take exams 1, 2 and 3 up to one week late with a 10% deduction. (This is to be used for emergencies only; taking exams on time is the only way to be successful in this course.) If an exam is not taken during the one-week late exam window, you will receive a zero and the exam may not be taken at all.

B. Textbook Reading Questions (10 x 2% = 20% of course grade)

Reading the textbook prior to coming to class is vital to your survival in this class. To support this idea, you will have weekly study questions that you must complete prior to the start of class on each Tuesday. Each weekly assignment is due in Canvas by 10:29 am on that Tuesday. It is based solely on textbook readings and may be taken open-book from any computer. You will be given only one attempt but there is no time limit on that attempt.

There are 12 of these quizzes and I will set the gradebook to drop the lowest two, so you will receive credit (worth 2% of your final grade each) for your 10 best quizzes.

C. Extra Credit Opportunities

Each exam will have an extra credit opportunity included with the questions. These are questions that require you to integrate information and go above and beyond what you normally would learn for the exam. You may earn up to 5 percentage points for each exam through this type of extra credit. No other extra credit will be offered. Please don't ask.

D. Grading Scale

The course grade will be assigned according to the scale indicated below:

<u>Numeric Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
60-66	D
Below 60	E

IV. Course Outline

The course is divided into four modules. Each module concludes with an exam in ChiTester.

Module	Chapter in Wolfe et al.	Topics covered
Module 1 Jan 11 – Feb 1	Chapter 1: Introduction	Psychophysics Sensory Neuroscience Eye
	Chapter 2: The First Steps in Vision	Retina Dark & Light Adaptation Visual Acuity
	Chapter 3: Spatial Vision	Retinal Ganglion Cells The Lateral Geniculate Nucleus Striate Cortex: Receptive Fields & Spatial Vision
Exam I (Vision I) due Feb 1		
Module 2 Feb 2 – Feb 29	Chapter 4: Perceiving and Recognizing Objects	What and Where Pathways Middle Vision Object Recognition Color Detection
	Chapter 5: Color Perception	Color Discrimination Color Appearance Monocular Cues to 3D Space
	Chapter 6: Space Perception	Binocular Vision & Stereopsis Combining Depth Cues Development of Binocular Vision
	Chapter 7: Attention & Scene Perception	Selection in Space; Visual Search Attending in Time; Physiology of Attention Attention Disorders Perceiving & Understanding Scenes
	Chapter 8: Visual Motion Perception	Computation of Visual Motion Eye Movements Development of Motion Perception
Exam 2 (Vision II) due Feb 29		
Module 3 Mar 1 – Mar 28	Chapter 9: Hearing Physiology & Psychoacoustics	Sound Auditory System Structure Hearing Loss Sound Localization
	Chapter 10: Hearing in the Environment	Complex Sounds Auditory Scene Analysis Auditory Attention
	Chapter 11: Music & Speech Perception	Music Speech Equilibrium
	Chapter 12: Vestibular System	Spatial Orientation Sensory Integration Disorders of Balance
Exam 3 (Hearing & Balance) due Mar 28		
Module 4 Mar 29 – Apr 25	Chapter 13: Touch	Touch Physiology Tactile Sensitivity & Acuity Haptic Perception
	Chapter 14: Olfaction	Olfactory Physiology Chemicals to Smells Olfactory Psychophysics Olfactory Hedonics & Learning Taste v Flavor
	Chapter 15: Taste	Anatomy & Physiology The Basic Tastes Variations in Taste
Exam 4 (Touch, Smell, Taste) due Apr 28		

V. Additional Information

A. Attendance

Attendance is not required for this class but is **STRONGLY** encouraged. Anything discussed in class may be included on an exam, even if that information is not found in the textbook or online resources. Thus, it is in everyone’s best interest to attend. If you miss class, there are two things you can do to get the material you missed. You may get the outline from the PowerPoint on Canvas, and/or you may get notes from a classmate. It is your responsibility to attend class or, if you cannot, contact a classmate to catch up.

B. Class Contact

Often it is necessary to miss a part or all of class. When that happens, or when you have questions that you cannot answer on your own, it is helpful to have the name and number of another student in class that you can contact. Please use the space below to write down the name, email, and phone number of at least two students in this class. You can also use Canvas to email anyone in the class.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR CLASSMATES:

Name Phone or Email

Name Phone or Email

C. Class Courtesy

Please be courteous of others when coming late to or leaving early from class. Do not make a habit of arriving late or leaving early as many (including your instructors) find it very distracting. The following behaviors are rude when they take place during class time: a) holding private conversations, b) sleeping, c) reading other material, or d) doing other work. Eating and drinking in class are permitted, so long as it is not disruptive to the learning environment. **POLICY FOR CELL PHONES: If you use a cell phone during class, it should be something related to class, for example to look up information or to answer class questions.** Any disruptive behavior will be addressed immediately, and if the behavior does not cease, you will be asked to leave class. **Students repeatedly engaging in rude behavior will be counseled to drop the course.**

D. Grade Appeals

If, after receiving an exam back during class, you think a mistake has been made in the grading of the exam, please do not ask about this during class. I will set up Canvas discussion boards for exam question appeals. In order to make an appeal, write/type your questions/concerns, and provide reference to specific pages from the book to support your concern. Post this written appeal to the appropriate Canvas discussion board. Any adjustments made will apply to *all* students. This is the only way exam adjustments will be made.

E. Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism/Cheating

We encourage students to work and study together whenever possible. **However, students must hand in their own work.** Whenever you try to pass off someone’s work that is not

your own, that is cheating. If you cheat on ANY assignment (even extra credit), you will receive a grade of **E (Failing) for the course**. Plagiarism is when you represent someone else's ideas or words as your own. For a very detailed description of plagiarism, please go to the web site and review the PLAGIARISM description. You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism. ANY plagiarism (even unintentional) will result in a failing grade in the course. Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of infringements that constitute cheating: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>.

F. Students with Disabilities

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

G. Students' Rights and Responsibilities

Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of all WSU student rights and responsibilities: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

VI. Testing Center Hours

All exams may be taken in a Weber State Testing Center on Chi Tester. In order to take an exam, you must show up on the correct date at the appropriate times (NOTE: you must arrive at least one hour before closing) with your student ID. You will not be allowed to take the exam without a picture ID or if you show up after hours. Please contact the testing centers to be sure of their current hours. Please go to the following website for more information: <http://www.weber.edu/TestingCenter/>

VII. Grade Record

Please keep a record of the grades you receive on each assignment. You may also access your grades using the GRADES tool on Canvas. Quiz grades will be calculated and posted immediately. Exam grades are updated and posted within one week of the end of every assignment and exam.

NOTE: The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course. By continuing in the course after reading the syllabus, you are indicating that you accept the terms of the syllabus.