

**Cognition (EXP 3505) (3 Credits)****Monday/Wednesday/Friday 2:15-4:25 (BU )**

Summer, 2013

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 Office Hours: Thursday 11:30-1:30

**Text:** Robinson-Riegler, B. & Robinson-Riegler, G. (2012). *Cognitive Psychology: Applying the Science of the Mind* (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition). Boston, MA: Prentice Hall

**Course Objectives:** This course is designed to provide an overview of human cognition, from biology to behavior, and to acquaint the student with dominant theories, topics, and methods for the study of human cognition. The student's ability to apply these concepts will be evaluated with 2 tests (mid-term and final) that each constitute 25% of the course grade (50% total), 1 term paper that account for 15%, a group presentation that accounts for 20%, and participation that accounts for 15%.

**Tests:** Both the mid-term and final will consist of 100 points each (40 multiple choice questions (2 points each), and 2 free response questions (10 points each)). Each test will cover approximately 1/2 of the course material, the final will **NOT** be cumulative.

**Term Paper:** This paper will be a minimum of 5 pages and a maximum of 7 pages long, not including references. The topic is examples of "Cognition Gone Wrong", abnormal, dysfunctional, or incorrect cognitions the understanding of which can help us understand normal functioning. The goals of each paper are: to describe the cognitive dysfunction and compare it to normal functioning, explain which cognitive systems are involved and how, explain common assessment or evaluation methods of the dysfunction, and explain how this knowledge can be or has been used to inform normal functioning. You must use a **minimum** of 3 appropriate academic sources (academic journals, edited volumes, trade books). Your textbook **does not** count as an academic source. Wikipedia, blogs, or various other random, unedited, websites are not acceptable under any circumstance.

**Group Presentation:** Your group will be responsible for presenting to the class 1 of the research articles in the syllabus. This presentation will be verbal, **NO POWERPOINT**. You will be expected to summarize the theory behind the article, state the researcher's hypotheses and reasoning, summarize their methods and results, and then lead discussion with the class regarding the implications and importance of this research. Grading for the presentation will use a rubric that will be provided. All group members will receive the same grade.

**Grading Summary:**

Mid-Term (25%)	100 points (40 MC, 2 Free Response)
Final (25%)	100 points (40 MC, 2 Free Response)

Term Paper (15%)	100 points
Group Presentation (20%)	100 points
Participation (15%)	100 points

**Final grade is calculated by:**

$$((\text{Midterm} * .25) + (\text{Final} * .25) + (\text{Paper} * .15) + (\text{Presentation} * .20) + (\text{Participation} * .15))$$

**Grading Scale:** Final course grades will be **rounded to the nearest whole number** and based on the scale provided below.

Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent
A	Above 93	B-	80-82	D+	68-69
A-	90-92	C+	78 – 79	D	62 – 67
B+	88 – 89	C	73 – 77	D-	60-62
B	83 – 87	C-	70-72	F	Below 59

**Make-Up Policy:** Students who miss the mid-term can take an all essay make-up within 1 week from the original test date. Make-up exams will be scheduled during normal class time and will be conducted at the University Testing Center. The paper will be accepted late for a penalty of 10% per day late. No make-up is possible for the Final Exam. If you miss your group's presentation you will receive 75% of the grade the group receives. Participation cannot be made up.

**Tentative Schedule for Exams and Paper:**

Mid-Term	July 12th
Paper	July 26th
Final	August 5th

**Communication:** All communication should first be directed to your TA using an official FAU email address. If the issue requires my attention your TA will direct the question to me. Emails will be responded to within 24 business hours (that means NOT over the weekend. We have lives too). That means if you email us at 10pm the night before an exam, you may not receive a reply in time, and you are not to anticipate one.

**Classroom Rules:**

**Students violating the classroom rules will not be permitted to attend class.**

**Professional Conduct:** To foster a more professional learning environment, and to develop habits that lead to success in the business work, all participants must engage in professional behavior, including:

**1. Taking responsibility for individual actions. Checking your grades is your responsibility! E-mailing me about issues and concerns in a timely manner is your responsibility!**

2. Attending each class session, including arriving promptly and leaving at the designated time.

3. Being attentive and an active participant in group activities and class discussions.

**4. Respecting diversity in the classroom and treating everyone involved in the class in a civil manner.**

5. Planning outside activities to avoid conflicts with the activities outlined in the syllabus.

**6. Meeting all deadlines in the course for assignments, projects, etc.**

7. Acknowledging the importance of clarity of expression in written and oral communication.

If you feel that there is an error on my part please let me know in a courteous e-mail or personal communication and I am happy to look into it!

**Civility:** Both in class and in e-mail I ask that you are courteous and respectful in your personal communications with me as well as others in the class. University policy is that “Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which exemplifies respect for people of all races, religions, and ethnic groups, and to adhere to one’s personal values without unduly imposing them on others. Respect for one’s own mind and body, is essential. In interpersonal relationships, students are expected to respect the rights of others, particularly their right to refuse to participate in any activity. Students should take responsibility to serve as leaders in promoting compassion for others and challenging prejudice.” I ask that we extend this to all communication we have within the classroom. There is no reason to be uncivil or rude towards each other.

**Honor Code:** Violations of the university honor code will not be tolerated in this course and will be immediately reported according to FAU procedures. That is, while you are all encouraged to study and work together as much as possible throughout the course, e.g., preparing for exams and discussing assignments, all exams and papers are to be completed **individually**. No notes or books may be used during **any** exam. [http://www.fau.edu/divdept/honcol/academics\\_honor\\_code.htm](http://www.fau.edu/divdept/honcol/academics_honor_code.htm)

“Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying from another student’s test paper
- Using during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test
- Failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test
- Possession during a test of materials, which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test
- Using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program
- Collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- Discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination
- Divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student
- Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment
- Paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, or homework solution, or information about an unadministered test, test key, homework solution

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) -- in Boca Raton, SU 133 (561-297-3880) and follow all OSD procedures.*

*Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see [University Regulation 4.001](#).*

### **Cognition (EXP 3505) (3 Credits)**

#### **Tentative Course Schedule**

#### **Summer 2013**

##### **Tentative Lecture Schedule**

##### **Discussion Schedule**

6/24	Ch.1 Intro to Cognition and History	APA Intro
6/26	The Brain	APA Intro
6/28	Ch. 2 Perception and Consciousness	APA Intro
7/1	Ch.2 Perception and Consciousness	Chalmers (1995)
7/3	Ch.3 Attention	Soon (2008) or Green (2003)
7/5	Ch. 3 Attention	Jiang, et al. (2006)
7/8	Ch. 4 Immediate Memory	Redick, et al. (2012)
7/10	Ch. 4 Immediate Memory	Trick, et al. (2005)
7/12	<b>Exam 1</b>	
7/15	Ch. 5 Identification and Classification	TBD
7/17	Special Topic <b>(HBES)</b>	TBD
7/19	Special Topic <b>(HBES)</b>	TBD
7/22	Ch.6 LTM	Squire & Alvarez (2006)
7/24	Ch.6 LTM	Chen, et al. (2002)
7/26	Ch.7 Autobiographical Mem <b>(Paper Due)</b>	
7/29	Ch. 9 and 10 Language	
7/31	Ch. 11 Judgment	

8/2 Ch. 12 Problems and Goals

8/5 **Final Exam**

\*\*\*This schedule is tentative and subject to change given the needs of the course\*\*\*