PSYC303

Course Summary

Description

Course Description: This course examines basic learning processes within the context of classical, instrumental, and operant learning situations. Course content focuses on classical conditioning, instrumental learning, principles of reinforcement, punishment and avoidance conditioning, stimulus generalization and discrimination, retention and forgetting, nature and functioning of memory, and learning and performance of motor skills.

Course Scope:

Learning and Cognition involves the total range of psychological processes – from sensation to perception, neuroscience, pattern recognition, attention, consciousness, learning, memory, concept formation, thinking, imaging, remembering, language, intelligence, emotions, and developmental processes. It cuts across all the diverse fields of behavioral studies. The course that is charted is the scientific study of the thinking mind, a greatly ambitious and exciting undertaking, dealing with a view of the human mind from a new perspective, which will build on the learner's foundational knowledge of general psychology.

Objectives

While completing this course, students will be able to:

LO1. Examine cognitive psychology as a discipline of study and professional practice

LO2. Compare historic and contemporary models of cognitive functioning

LO3. Compare processes and purposes of perception and attention

LO4. Explain the structure and function human consciousness

LO5. Distinguish between long-term and short term memory processes

LO6. Examine three positions on language acquisition

LO7. Compare and contrast human intelligence and artificial intelligence

LO8. Communicate in writing compliant with APA standards the results of researching a cognitive psychology topic of special interest.

Outline

Week 1:

Assignments

Read Chapter 1 – Introduction to Cognitive Psychology
Read Chapter 2 – Cognitive Neuroscience

Week 1 Discussion Forum

NOTE: Week 7 includes a research paper assignment. Students should start working on this paper well ahead of the 7th week and are encouraged to begin now by thinking about the topic you wish to research via a scan of the course textbook. It cannot be used as part of the paper resources but it a good place to start for developing a topic interest.

Week 2:

Assignments

Read Chapter 3 – Perception
Read Chapter 4 – Attention

Quiz 1
Week 2 Discussion Forum

Week 3:

Assignments

Read Chapter 5 – Short-Term and Working Memory
Read Chapter 6 – Long-Term Memory: Structure

Quiz 2
Week 3 Discussion Forum

Week 4:

Assignments

Read Chapter 7 – Long-Term Memory: Encoding and Retrieval
Complete Midterm Exam (Covers Chapters 1-7)

Week 5:

Assignments

Read Chapter 8 - Everyday Memory and Memory Errors
Read Chapter 9 – Knowledge

Quiz 3
Week 5 Discussion Forum

Week 6:

Assignments

Read Chapter 10 –Visual Imagery
Read Chapter 11 – Language

Quiz 4
Week 6 Discussion Forum

Week 7:

Assignments

Read:

Chapter 12 – Problem Solving

Chapter 13- Reasoning and Decision Making

Week 7 Discussion Forum
Research Paper Due

Week 8:

Assignments

Comprehensive Final Exam (Covers Chapters 1-13)

Evaluation

RESEARCH PAPER: A scholarly research paper on a course related topic of the student's interest, and a minimum of 12 pages in paper body length (not including the cover page or references page), double-spaced with 1" margins on all sides of each page, is required for this course. APA style formatting is required. Instructions for this assignment are located on the classroom Assignments page.

Discussion Forums require participation in weekly interactive dialogs with classmates in the graded discussion of course relevant topics. Forums are graded scholarly dialogs with both general posting and topic focus requirements.

All written work, including Forum posts, must be in the student's own words, with content based on published materials paraphrased (restated in one's own words), source credited in the body of the writing, and Reference-listed correctly at the end, per formatting rules of the American Psychological Association (APA). Copying the work of others, either published hard copy or online authors or other students, or failure to properly source credit, regardless of intent, constitutes plagiarism. Students may not copy any part of the reviewed journal article verbatim, with or without source crediting. No more than 2 or 3 short sentences of direct quoting, which must be placed inside quotation marks and source crediting, may be included in any writing submitted or posted for this course. Plagiarism found in any course assignments, including papers and discussion forums, will result in a score of zero for the first incident and course failure for any subsequent instance without the option of revision and resubmission.

QUIZZES: Scheduled during Weeks 2, 3, 5 and 6, quizzes are accessed via clicking Tests & Quizzes on the classroom left-screen menu.

EXAMS: The course Midterm (Week 4) and Final (Week 8) Exams are accessed via clicking Tests & Quizzes on the classroom left-screen menu.

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Research Paper	32.00 %
Week 7 Research Paper	32.00 %
Quizzes	20.00 %
Quiz #1 Week 2	5.00 %
Quiz #2 Week 3	5.00 %
Quiz #3 Week 5	5.00 %
Quiz #4 Week 6	5.00 %
Forums	18.00 %
Forum 1	2.57 %
Forum 2	2.57 %
Forum 3	2.57 %
Forum 5	2.57 %
Forum 6	2.57 %
Forum 7	2.57 %
Forum 8	2.57 %
Exams	30.00 %
Midterm Exam Week 4	15.00 %
Week 8 Final Exam	15.00 %

Materials

Book Title: Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research and Everyday Experience, 4th Ed- The VitalSource e-book is provided via the APUS Bookstore

Author: Goldstein, E. Bruce

Publication Info: Cengage

ISBN: 9781285763880

Book Title: You must validate your cart to get access to your VitalSource e-book(s). If needed, instructions are available here - http://apus.libguides.com/bookstore/undergraduate

Author: N/A

Publication Info: N/A

ISBN: N/A

Goldstein, E. B. (2015). *Cognitive psychology, connecting mind, research, and everyday experience* (4th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

This course uses a VitalSource e-textbook. The VitalSource book is provided via the APUS Bookstore. Please visit http://apus.libguides.com/bookstore for more information.

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted as part of coursework in the Psychology Department.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on forum assignments in the School of Arts & Humanities—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

Tutoring

- Tutor.com offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, we understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact your instructor before the due date so you can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes/tests, and assignments. Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes/tests, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.

Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc.) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc.). See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor.

Disclaimer Statement

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class.

Communicating on the Forum

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting day/time after which the instructor will grade and provide feedback, you are strongly discouraged from waiting until the due date to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
- "Substantive" means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree", even if wordy and thus, meets the length requirement, is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each other as colleagues. Hateful, aggressive, or hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
- Students must post a response to the weekly forums prompt and post the required number of replies to other students – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations on number of replies and word count requirements.

Quizzes and Exams

- Quizzes and exams may consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Each quiz/exam is accessible only once. Once a quiz/exam is accessed, you will not be able to access it again if you disconnect. Therefore, allocate time to complete your assessments.

University Policies

Student Handbook

- Drop/Withdrawal policy

- Extension Requests

- Academic Probation

- Appeals

- Disability Accommodations

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.