



Psyc 620 - Advanced Topics in Brain and Cognitive Sciences (Memory) - Winter 2014

Instructor:	Glen Bodner	Seminar Location:	Admin 051
Phone:	403-220-2714	Seminar Days/Time:	Fridays 1-4 pm
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Office:	Admin 235 B	Office Hours:	By appointment

Course Description and Goals

An advanced survey of current developments in cognition research. Students will develop an innovative research proposal on a cognition topic of interest to them. Students will also contribute to each other's proposals via in-class discussion and peer reviewing.

Required Text

None. Students will choose a suitable article to present each article-round week as outlined in seminar.

Evaluation

A. Article round presentations (9 x 3% = 27%). On article-round weeks, each student will give a 10-minute presentation that summarizes 1 article and provides 1 comment on it (e.g., a criticism, follow-up, or proposal connection), and will moderate discussion. The lowest presentation grade (and any missed presentations) will be replaced by the student's mode grade on this component.

B. Article round commentaries (18 x 1% = 18%). On article-round weeks, each student will provide 1 comment (e.g., a criticism, follow-up, or proposal connection) on 2 articles (max 2 minutes each). The 2 peer reviewers for a given proposal will provide the commentaries for the 4 proposal-relevant articles. The lowest 2 commentary grades (and any missed commentaries) will be replaced by the student's mode grade on this component.

C. Proposal topic/ideas presentation (5%). Each student will give a 10-minute presentation on their proposal topic, including a literature review and 2 potential proposal ideas, and will moderate discussion. Missed presentations must be emailed to the instructor before class or will receive 0%.

D. Proposal presentation (5%). Each student will give a 10-minute presentation of their proposal and will moderate discussion. Missed presentations must be emailed to the instructor before class or will receive 0%.

E. Peer review 1 (5%) and 2 (5%). Each student will provide a 1 single-space page critical, constructive review for 2 peers' proposals. Students will submit a copy of each review in class to the peer and to the instructor. Late reviews will lose 10 out of 100 points per day.

F. Final proposal presentation (10%). Each student will give a 10-minute presentation of their final proposal and will moderate discussion. Missed presentations must be emailed to the instructor before class or will receive 0%.

G. Research proposal (20%). Each student will prepare a research proposal (max 10-12 pages of text) that will undergo 2 rounds of peer review before the final version is submitted. Proposals must follow APA format, must include a 150-word abstract, and must include 12 or more appropriate references. Late proposals at draft (peer review) stage or final submission stage will lose 2% out of 20% per day. Final proposals must be printed, stapled, and submitted in class.

H. Participation (5%). Each student is expected to contribute to discussion each class. Students and the instructor will rank order each student’s participation and this rank order will contribute to this grade.

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor’s discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% becomes 90% = A, 89.4% becomes 89% = A-).

Tentative Seminar Schedule

Date	Activity	Due
Jan 10	Seminar overview and article scheduling	
Jan 17	Article rounds 1 – current articles	Presentation (3%), 2 commentaries (2%)
Jan 24	Article rounds 2 – current articles	Presentation (3%), 2 commentaries (2%)
Jan 31	Article rounds 3 – current articles	Presentation (3%), 2 commentaries (2%)
Feb 7	Proposal topic/ideas presentations	Proposal topic/ideas presentation (5%)
Feb 14	Article rounds 4 – current articles	Presentation (3%), 2 commentaries (2%)
Feb 16-23	Reading Week.	
Feb 28	Proposal presentations	Proposal presentation (5%)
Mar 7	Article rounds 5 – proposal relevant	Presentation (3%), 2 commentaries (2%)
Mar 14	Article rounds 6 – proposal relevant	Presentation (3%), 2 commentaries (2%) Draft proposal for peer reviewers
Mar 21	Article rounds 7 – proposal relevant	Presentation (3%), 2 commentaries (2%) Peer review 1 (5%)
Mar 28	Article rounds 8 – proposal relevant	Presentation (3%), 2 commentaries (2%) Peer review 2 (5%)
Apr 4	Final proposal presentations	Final proposal presentation (10%)
Apr 11	Article rounds 9 – free choice	Presentation (3%), 2 commentaries (2%) Final proposal (20%)

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 15 days. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

Travel During Exams

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered except under

exceptional circumstances. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or via the Department Office (Admin 275), or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombuds provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or ombuds@ucalgary.ca (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>).

Safewalk

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **January 17, 2014**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **January 20, 2014**. Last day to withdraw from this course is **April 14, 2014**.