

**Proposal Title:** PSY 3130 – Cognitive Science

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Proposed Change:** Change name from "Cognitive <sup>Processes</sup> Psychology" to "Cognitive Science"

**Rationale:** This is consistent with current practices for similar courses at other institutions.

**Current Catalog Description:**

**PSY 3130 – Cognitive ~~Science~~ Processes**  
(3) Credit Hours

Examination of the ways in which people process information; with an emphasis on attention, memory, problem-solving, and language. Every semester.  
Prerequisite: PSY 1010, PSY 2010, PSY 2020, and PSY 2040 or department head approval.

**Proposed Catalog Description (title change)**

**PSY 3130 - Cognitive Science**  
(3) Credit Hours

Examination of the ways in which people process information; with an emphasis on attention, memory, problem solving, and language. Every semester.  
Prerequisite: PSY 1010, PSY 2010, PSY 2040, and PSY 2020 or department head approval.

**Primary Instructor:** Dr. Jill Shelton. Other department faculty are also qualified to teach this course.

**Impact on Other Programs/Departments:** None are anticipated.

**Sample PSY 3130 Syllabus follows:**

15-083 (9)

## PSY 3130 – COGNITIVE SCIENCE

Spring 2015

**COURSE:** PSY 3130, Section 0, CRN 21863

**TITLE:** Cognitive Science

**CLASS SCHEDULE:** 12-12:50 PM, MWF, Holt 124

**CREDIT:** 3 credit hours

**FACULTY:** Dr. Jill Talley Shelton

Office: 350 B Holt

Phone: 425-5246

E-Mail: [jill-shelton@utc.edu](mailto:jill-shelton@utc.edu)

Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 MW and by appointment.

Teaching Assistants: Olivia Howard ([rzi291@mocs.utc.edu](mailto:rzi291@mocs.utc.edu)) and Alyssa Ison ([vel324@mocs.utc.edu](mailto:vel324@mocs.utc.edu))

### REQUIRED READINGS:

Reisberg, D. (2013). *Cognition: Exploring the Science of the Mind*. 5<sup>th</sup> Ed. (with ZAPS and workbook). New York: W.W. Norton & Company. ISBN: 978-0-393-13840-5.

Other readings may be assigned during the semester and will be posted on Blackboard (UTC Online).

**PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT! A COPY OF IT IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE ON BLACKBOARD. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW COURSE REQUIREMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS AND TEST/DUE DATES. SOME DUE DATES ARE NOT IN THE SYLLABUS AND WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO STAY INFORMED ABOUT CHANGES TO COURSE DATES/ACTIVITIES.**

### PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES:

PSY 1010, PSY 2010 or equivalent, PSY 2020, and PSY 2040 or department head approval.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An examination of the ways in which people process information; with an emphasis on attention, memory, problem-solving, language, and consciousness.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide a fundamental understanding of how behavior is learned and the cognitive mechanisms that support human behavior.
2. Examine the basic concepts, strengths and weaknesses of both the behavioral and cognitive theories of learning.
3. Review the methods used to study human and animal cognition.
4. Apply concepts learned through research in cognition to everyday life.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Achieve a better understanding of the scientific method and how it is used to study cognitive processes.

2. Demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate scientific journal articles as reflected by quality article reviews and research paper, participation in class discussions, and accurate responses to test/quiz questions that pertain to journal articles read.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of APA format in article reviews and research paper.
4. Be able to critically evaluate the cognitive mechanisms that underpin human behavior and how science is used to reveal these mechanisms.

#### **INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES:**

1. Lectures
2. Group activities and class discussions
3. Videos
4. Quizzes
5. Exams

**ADA STATEMENT: Attention:** If you are a student with a disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) and think that you might need special assistance or a special accommodation in this class or any other class, call the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 425-4006 or come by the office, 102 Frist Hall <http://www.utc.edu/disability-resource-center/>.

If you find that personal problems, career indecision, study and time management difficulties, etc. are adversely affecting your successful progress at UTC, please contact the Counseling and Career Planning Center at 425-4438 or <http://www.utc.edu/counseling-personal-development-center/index.php>.

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Attendance is mandatory and will be recorded during class each day and points will be earned for each class attended. Five percent of student's final grades will be based on attendance. Freshmen who miss more than two consecutive days will be reported to UTC officials. In addition, there will be regular, unannounced quizzes and in-class activities, and students who miss class will not be given the opportunity to make up these activities outside of the designated class time. Students are expected to be in class on time and should not leave the classroom before the end of class, unless it is a medical emergency. Only students who have missed one day or less will be shown leniency for final grades that are borderline.

#### **PARTICIPATION:**

Engaging in the learning environment helps to promote the comprehension and retention of information. Thus, students are expected to participate during class discussions and activities. Participation will be taken into account upon assigning final grades. Students should be respectful of the instructor, other students and their opinions. Cell phones are expected to be turned off and put away during class. Students may use computers to take notes during class but not for other purposes.

#### **BLACKBOARD (UTC Online):**

This course will utilize the Blackboard website. You will find your class PowerPoint presentations, the syllabus, grades, and other course material as well as important class announcements. All students are responsible for keeping up with information presented on Blackboard, including monitoring of one's grades throughout the semester, retrieving assignment material, and being aware of the content of announcements.

#### **ACTIVITIES/ASSIGNMENTS:**

There will be five different types of activities (other than exams) in this course: quizzes, in-class activities, ZAPS exercises, article reviews, and a research paper.

1. **Quizzes** will be unannounced and can occur at the beginning of any class. The quiz will pertain to the information presented during the previous lecture, as well as the textbook material that was assigned for the previous class (even if material is not discussed in class).
2. **In-class activities** will consist of group activities based on the workbook and participation in class demonstrations. These activities will not be announced ahead of time so students should always bring their workbook to class.
3. **ZAPS activities** will be assigned regularly throughout the semester. Students will complete these on-line activities outside of class. The due dates for all homework activities will be announced either in class or via Blackboard and students are responsible for staying informed about these dates.
4. An APA-style **research paper** will be written by each student. Possible paper topics will be provided by the instructor. The papers **must be based on 5 peer-reviewed, scientific journal articles and 3 of these articles must be empirical.** The paper guidelines will be posted on Blackboard.
5. **Article reviews** will be completed by students in order to prepare for their research paper. Students will be responsible for choosing **5 peer-reviewed articles for their paper, and 3 of these articles must be empirical.** The article review template will be posted on Blackboard for the students to use for these reviews. Students should begin finding the full text version of their chosen articles early in the semester. **All article reviews must be typed on the article template.**

#### **LATE ASSIGNMENTS:**

There will be no opportunity to make-up in-class activities and quizzes. All missed activities and quizzes will be assigned a zero. The only opportunity to receive full credit for homework assignments (article reviews, research paper and ZAPS exercises) is to turn them in on their announced due dates. The ZAPS assignments must be submitted on-line by the beginning of class (12:00pm) on the due date. A hard copy of the article reviews and research paper must be typed and turned in at the beginning of class on the due date. Late assignments can be turned in up to one class period past the due date; however, there will be a 50% reduction in the grade for that assignment. **No assignments will be accepted past this one class period extension.**

#### **EXAMS:**

There will be three regular exams during this course. Exam questions will be based on the material presented during class, on the PowerPoint slides, in the textbook, and in additional readings that were covered or assigned during the relevant time period. Student's regular exam grade will be based on their two highest regular exam scores. Thus, the lowest of the three regular exam grades will be dropped. A mandatory cumulative final pertaining to information presented over the entire course will be given during the scheduled final exam time. Exams will **not** be open book or open note. No electronic devices or hats will be allowed during exams. If a student arrives late after **one person completes the exam they will not be allowed to take that exam** and will receive a zero.

#### **MAKE-UP AND REPLACEMENT EXAM POLICY:**

There will be **no make-up exams given during this course under any circumstance.** There will be three regular exams in this course and the instructor will drop each student's lowest grade from these three exams. If a student takes all three regular exams then their lowest grade will be dropped. Missed exams will automatically result in a zero and this can be used as the dropped exam score. Missing more than one exam will automatically result in a zero for each additional

missed exam; however, only one of these scores will be dropped. All students are required to take the final exam; thus, the final exam grade will not be dropped.

#### **EXTRA CREDIT:**

The only extra credit opportunity that will be offered for this course is for students to participate in experiments conducted within the Psychology department. You can receive up to a 3% boost in your final grade, which is achieved by participating in four hours worth of experiments. These experiment opportunities will be posted on the Sona website, which can be accessed at <https://utc.sona-systems.com>

#### **ACADEMIC HONESTY:**

Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated!

Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of others as your own work. Any time you make a statement (written or oral) that reflects the work of another person you must provide an accurate reference to that person's work. Failure to do so is a severe breach of academic honesty and intellectual integrity. A failing grade will be assigned to any assignment that contains plagiarism or represents cheating. Repeated cases of plagiarism and cheating will result in more severe academic sanctions.

#### **GRADING:**

Course grades are based on two non-cumulative exams, one cumulative final exam, a research paper, article reviews, in-class activities, quizzes, attendance, and online ZAPs exercises.

#### **GRADE COMPOSITION:**

Regular exams (2):	= 40%
Final exam	= 15%
Research paper	= 10%
ZAPS assignments:	= 10%
In class assignments:	= 10%
Article reviews	= 5%
Attendance	= 5%
Quizzes	= 5%

#### **GRADING SCALE:**

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = 59% and below

**CONTACTING ME:** The best way to contact me is by email, [jill-shelton@utc.edu](mailto:jill-shelton@utc.edu)

Do not, however, expect a response from me on nights, weekends, or university holidays. The subject of your email should contain the term PSY3130. You are invited to come to my office during office hours or by appointment.

#### **COURSE SCHEDULE**

The course schedule is subject to change!

Students are expected to complete the readings prior to the dates given in the schedule.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
Monday	1/06	Foundations of Cognitive Psychology	Chapter 1
Wednesday	1/08	Foundations of Cognitive Psychology	Chapter 1
Friday	1/10	Foundations of Cognitive Psychology	Chapter 1
Monday	1/13	Neuroscience	Chapter 2
Wednesday	1/15	Neuroscience	Chapter 2
Friday	1/17	Neuroscience	Chapter 2
Monday	1/20	<b>No Class</b>	
Wednesday	1/22	Recognizing Objects	Chapter 3
Friday	1/24	Recognizing Objects	Chapter 3
Monday	1/27	Recognizing Objects	Chapter 3
Wednesday	1/29	Paying Attention	Chapter 4
Friday	1/31	Paying Attention	Chapter 4
Monday	2/03	Paying Attention	Chapter 4
Wednesday	2/05	<b>Exam Review</b>	
Friday	2/07	<b>Exam 1</b>	
Monday	2/10	Memory Acquisition	Chapter 5
Wednesday	2/12	Memory Acquisition	Chapter 5
Friday	2/14	Acquisition-Retrieval	Chapter 6
Monday	2/17	Acquisition-Retrieval	Chapter 6
Wednesday	2/19	Acquisition-Retrieval	Chapter 6
Friday	2/21	Remembering Complex Events	Chapter 7
Monday	2/24	Remembering Complex Events	Chapter 7
Wednesday	2/26	Remembering Complex Events	Chapter 7
Friday	2/28	Concepts and Generic Knowledge; <b>ARTICLE REVIEWS DUE</b>	Chapter 8
Monday	3/03	Concepts and Generic Knowledge	Chapter 8
Wednesday	3/05	<b>Exam Review</b>	
Friday	3/07	<b>Exam 2</b>	
	3/10-14	<b>Spring Break - No Class</b>	
Monday	3/17	Language	Chapter 9
Wednesday	3/19	Language	Chapter 9
Friday	3/21	Language	Chapter 9
Monday	3/24	Cognitive Development	Slides
Wednesday	3/26	Cognitive Aging	Slides
Friday	3/28	Cognitive Aging	Slides
Monday	3/31	Judgment and Reasoning; <b>RESEARCH PAPERS DUE</b>	Chapter 11
Wednesday	4/02	Judgment and Reasoning	Chapter 11

Friday	4/04	Problem Solving and Intelligence	Chapter 12
Monday	4/07	Problem Solving and Intelligence	Chapter 12
Wednesday	4/09	Problem Solving and Intelligence	Chapter 12
Friday	4/11	Consciousness	Chapter 13
Monday	4/14	<b>Exam Review</b>	
Wednesday	4/16	<b>Exam 3</b>	
Friday	4/18	<b>Spring Holiday-No Class</b>	
Monday	4/21	<b>Final Exam Review</b>	
Wednesday	4/23	<b>Final Exam-10:30am-12:30pm</b>	