

PSY301 **Cognitive and Perceptual Psychology****School:** School of Health - Psychology

2025 | Semester 2

UniSC Sunshine Coast
UniSC Moreton Bay**BLENDED
LEARNING**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Please go to usc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?**1.1. Description**

This course provides an overview of human perception and cognition. The study of perceptual psychology aims to understand how information is acquired from the environment through sensory organs. The study of cognitive psychology looks at the storage, manipulation, and retrieval of information. Students will conduct core perceptual and cognitive experiments and analyse and interpret the findings of the research.

We recommend students purchase the ebook bundle of Goldstein's Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience 5th Edition (WITH MindTap + CogLab).

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Whole of cohort weekly workshop	2hrs	Week 1	13 times
Tutorial/Workshop 2 – Small group workshop in computer lab	1hr	Week 2	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

Introduction to the course & cognitive psychology

Perception & pattern recognition

Attention

Short term & working memory

Long term memory 1

Long term memory 2

Different types of memory

Categorisation

Imagery

Language

Problem solving & creativity

Reasoning & decision making

Applied / contemporary guest talks

2. What level is this course?

300 Level (Graduate)

Demonstrating coherence and breadth or depth of knowledge and skills. Independent application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts. Meeting professional requirements and AQF descriptors for the degree. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory or developing knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally undertaken in the third or fourth full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES		GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...		Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1	Understand core and advanced research paradigms, theories and concepts in cognitive and perceptual psychology	Knowledgeable
2	Critically evaluate research in cognitive and perceptual psychology.	Creative and critical thinker
3	Apply scientific knowledge to everyday cognitive and perceptual functioning.	Empowered Ethical
4	Present a clear, coherent and independent exposition of knowledge and ideas.	Empowered

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

PSY200 and PSY201 OR PSY207

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Assistance will be provided in workshops to prepare you for the assignment pieces.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Examination - not Centrally Scheduled	Individual	20%	1 hour	Refer to Format	Online Test (Quiz)
All	2	Report	Individual	40%	2000-2200 words	Refer to Format	Online Submission
All	3	Examination - Centrally Scheduled	Individual	40%	2 hours	Exam Period	Online Submission

All - Assessment Task 1: Exam

GOAL:	The goal of this activity is to examine your understanding and application of foundational content covered early in the course.								
PRODUCT:	Examination - not Centrally Scheduled								
FORMAT:	Multiple choice and short answer. This assessment will likely be due in weeks 6-7 but will depend on final timetable and public holidays. Refer to Canvas at semester commencement for exact date.								
CRITERIA:	No.							Learning Outcome assessed	
	1	Accuracy of answers					1		
	2	Ability to apply and critically evaluate content					1 2 3 4		
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving								

All - Assessment Task 2: Major Research Report

GOAL:	The purpose of this laboratory report is to increase your understanding of key research methods and techniques in cognitive psychology by applying theory to a contemporary issue in the literature. The report will be based on an experiment conducted in laboratory class. You will analyse the research data statistically and write up your findings in a research report. As prior knowledge of the experiment would influence your responses, full details will be provided shortly after the experiment has been conducted in the learning materials and workshops.		
PRODUCT:	Report		
FORMAT:	Major research report of 2000-2200 words presented in APA style. This assessment will likely be due in weeks 11-13 but will depend on final timetable and public holidays. Refer to Canvas at semester commencement for exact date.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Theoretical knowledge – demonstrated understanding and application of relevant theories and concepts in cognitive psychology	1 3
	2	Critical thinking	1 2
	3	Correct APA style and scholarly writing style	4
	4	Quality of research	1 2 3 4
GENERIC SKILLS:			

All - Assessment Task 3: Examination

GOAL:	The exam will assess your knowledge of the course content.		
PRODUCT:	Examination - Centrally Scheduled		
FORMAT:	Multiple choice and short answer questions		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Accuracy of answers	1 2 3 4
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving		

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Required	Goldstein, B	2018	Value Pack: Cognitive Psychology: Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience 5e + COGLAB, 1-term Access Card	5th ed	Cengage

8.2. Specific requirements

Nil

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- (a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
- (b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:

- (a) One day: deduct 5%;
- (b) Two days: deduct 10%;
- (c) Three days: deduct 20%;
- (d) Four days: deduct 40%;
- (e) Five days: deduct 60%;
- (f) Six days: deduct 80%;
- (g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:

Less than 15 minutes: No penalty
From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty
More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.10. General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au