

Sensation and Perception

Psychology 3330-001
Summer II, 2013
M-F, 9:20 – 11:30 a.m.
Undergraduate Learning Center, Room #342

Instructor: Elijah Ricks, M.A.

Office: Psychology 104 *Office hours:* Wednesdays 11:30-1:00 (or by appointment)
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Text: Wolfe, J. M., et al. (2011). *Sensation & perception* (3rd ed.). Sinauer Associates, Inc. (ISBN 978-0-87893-876-6). This text can be purchased as an eBook at <http://www.sinauer.com/detail.php?id=5727>. Its companion website is <http://sites.sinauer.com/wolfe3e/home/startF.htm>.

Course Objectives: This course will introduce you to current knowledge regarding and methods of studying (a) how each of the sensory organs functions, (b) how various stimuli are transduced into neural impulses and then travel through the brain, and (c) how sensory systems' limitations and personal differences influence how we mentally experience the external world.

Exams: Exams will be administered as outlined on the schedule below. The format for all exams will include multiple choice responses, true/false statements, and some matching.

You are expected to take your exams at the times and dates specified on this syllabus. If you fail to take an exam without prior arrangements, you will receive no credit for that exam.

The first three exams will consist of 50 questions each, but if you take the exam at its scheduled time, only 45 questions will count. If you take the exam at another time, all 50 questions will be counted. For example, if you were to score 43 correct on an exam, and you took it at the time scheduled on the chart below, you would get $43/45 = 95.6\%$. If you do not take the exam at the scheduled time you would receive $43/50 = 86\%$.

You are responsible for purchasing and bringing Scantron® forms to each exam! We will use the green forms with 50 questions per side, form number 882-E. These are available in the Bookstore. Please ensure that you keep the forms in good condition to assist accurate grading.

Final Exam: The final exam is comprehensive. The first half of the final will be made from questions used on the first three exams. The second half of the final exam will be on new material. The final will be 100 questions, with 95 points counted if taken at the scheduled time (or 100 if not taken at the scheduled time). The final takes place in the same classroom as lectures, on Monday, August 5, 10:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Quizzes: Four to eight pop quizzes will be given during class time. These are worth 5 points each and cover material from the required readings and class discussion. Your lowest quiz grade will automatically be dropped. Under no circumstances will you be allowed to make up a quiz.

Grades: Your final grade is computed by dividing the points you receive throughout the course by the points possible. Points are not weighted differently; 1 quiz point = 1 exam point = 1 extra credit point. Points from exams will range between 230 (counting as 45 and 95) and 250 (exams counting as 50, final as 100). Quiz points possible will range between 15 and 35. Your final grade will be based on your percent of points earned according to the following scale:

90% to 100% = A	70% to 79% = C	0% to 59% = F
80% to 89% = B	60% to 69% = D	

All grades will be available for you to review through the Blackboard system. You are responsible for checking your grades. If you see a discrepancy or have a concern please contact me as early in the semester as possible to get it resolved.

Classroom Behavior: Please be respectful to the instructor and your classmates by muting cell phones, laptops, and other wireless devices during class. Do not text during class. Refrain from side conversations or other distractions to ensure everyone gets the best classroom experience. Punctuality is highly valued in the professional world; make it a habit now!

Studying: Exams are likely to include topics from both readings and lectures. To be best prepared for exams you must carefully read and take organized notes from the text, and attend each class to take thorough notes. After class, consolidate notes from text readings and lectures. If you do not understand certain concepts, ask questions in class, ask classmates, hold study groups, attend office hours, find trustworthy sources on the internet, or read additional books or articles. You should not expect to spontaneously understand material on exam day!

Course Schedule: (due to the variable nature of the universe, subjects and dates may not align exactly)

Date	Day	Topic	Required Reading
7/8	M	Introduction to S&P	Chapter 1
7/9	T	Light, Visual Neural System	Chapter 2
7/10	W	Spatial Vision: Stripes and Spots	Chapter 3
7/11	Th	Perceiving and Recognition	Chapter 4
7/12	F	EXAM 1	Chapters 1-4
7/15	M	Color Perception	Chapter 5
7/16	T	Space Perception, Binocular Vision	Chapter 6
7/17	W	Attention, Scene Perception	Chapter 7
7/18	Th	Motion Perception	Chapter 8
7/19	F	EXAM 2	Chapters 5-8
7/22	M	Hearing: Physiology and Psychoacoustics	Chapter 9
7/23	T	Hearing in the Environment	Chapter 10
7/24	W	Music and Speech Perception	Chapter 11
7/25	Th	Activity/Catch up/Review	
7/26	F	EXAM 3	Chapters 9-11
7/29	M	Vestibular System	Chapter 12
7/30	T	Touch	Chapter 13
7/31	W	Olfaction	Chapter 14
8/1	Th	Taste	Chapter 15
8/2	F	Catch up/Review	
8/5	M	FINAL EXAM, 10:00am-12:45pm	All Course Material

Extra Credit: You have the opportunity to earn 30 total points of extra credit through two optional assignments (each worth up to 15 points). You may turn in either one at any point during the semester, up until the last class on August 2. Each must be at least 4 pages, double-spaced, to receive full credit. Quality of content will also have a major impact on points received. See descriptions of the assignments on Blackboard. You may also participate in up to 3 hours of research through the SONA system for a total of 12 extra credit points.

Academic Integrity: In the best interest of your education and intellectual growth, cheating, plagiarism, and lying will not be tolerated. For exams, you must rely solely on what you have learned. For papers, anything that is not your original work must be properly cited. If you slept in during an exam, do not tell me your grandmother stubbed her toe. Otherwise, when you are caught you will fail the assignment, possibly the course, and you risk being expelled from the University. It is not worth it!

“Rather fail with honor than succeed by fraud.” - Sophocles