

# BELLEVUE COLLEGE

## Fall Quarter 2014

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Course: Psyc 203 Cognitive Psychology, Section HYA, Item 5446, 5 credits  
Time: T/TH: 10:30AM – 12:20PM  
Room: L220

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Instructor: Ilona Pitkänen, Ph.D.  
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Office hours: By appointment  
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Phone: Phone: (425) 564-2706 (Voicemail); (425) 564-2331 (Social Science Division)  
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**Required Text:** *Reisberg, Daniel. Cognition: Exploring the Science of the Mind, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. W.W. Norton & Company.*

You also need the workbook and access to the ZAPS Lab website which contains demonstrations of cognitive psychology experiments. You will need to purchase an entry code. The book in the BC bookstore includes the workbook and an entry code package. A Norton representative will visit our class to give a demonstration of how to obtain the entry code and access the website resources.

### Course Description

Welcome to the Cognitive Psychology 203 class! Cognitive Psychology is the study of mental processes, including memory, language, perception, attention, problem-solving and reasoning. The goal of cognitive psychology is to figure out how the mind operates. This can be accomplished with various behavioral measures, and by observing the brain with neuroimaging or by studying people with brain damage.

**Please read this entire syllabus because it contains a lot of important information regarding the class!** If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me as soon as possible.

**IMPORTANT:** We are using Canvas in this course. I will be posting class materials and documents on the Canvas site. You can access Canvas on the Bellevue College website. We will talk about using Canvas in class, but below are some suggestions for navigating around our course site so that you can find what you need once you are on the Canvas site.

- **Course Tools:** To the left, you'll see a navigation bar with links. **Home** and **Pages** links take you to the **Front Page**. **Modules** link takes you to a list of all modules for the course. You can reach the calendar by clicking the **Calendar** link at the top of the page. You can access your grades for Canvas assignments by clicking the **Grades** link at the top of the page (we don't take exams in Canvas, so your exam grades are not available in Canvas, but you will get your graded exams back). Canvas has an email, and you can access your email inbox by clicking the **Inbox** link at the top right corner of the page. You can use this email to contact me. You can also use my regular Bellevue College email ([ilona.pitkanen@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:ilona.pitkanen@bellevuecollege.edu)) to contact me, especially if Canvas is down.

For Technology related problems, contact the HELP desk at (425) 564-4357 or online at <http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/helpdesk/>

## **Course Purpose & Goals**

### **Outcomes:**

Students successfully participating in this course will:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the history of cognitive psychology and its influence on other fields of psychology.
2. Develop critical thinking skills, an understanding of the methods and principles of cognitive psychology research, and an understanding of cross-cultural influences on cognitive processes.
3. Develop communication skills using oral and written materials to discuss topics related to human cognition.
4. Express a basic understanding of the neural bases of mental processes, and gain knowledge about the brain research methods utilized in cognitive psychology.
5. Distinguish the processes of sensation and perception, object recognition, and attention.
6. Examine the theories and physiological processes of memory encoding, storage and retrieval. Recognize the practical applications of cognitive psychology of memory, such as eyewitness testimony and the concept of false memories.
7. Indicate knowledge about the theories related to conceptual processing and language, including the neural basis of language, the structure and principles of human language, and language development.
8. Extend knowledge about the principles and applications regarding problem solving, reasoning and decision making.

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

In terms of general education outcomes, students will be able to:

Use cognitive and creative skills:

- a) Analyzing (identifying and evaluating problems)
- b) Synthesizing (interpreting situations, drawing conclusions, and making connections)

Improve communication skills:

- a) Doing research (gathering and documenting information)
- b) Delivering one or more written, oral and/or visual presentation with formal documentation

### **Student Exams & Activities (450 points total)**

- 1) Exams (250 points): There will be 5 exams, each worth 50 points. The exams may include essay questions, multiple choice questions and other short questions, and may include extra credit opportunities. No scantrons are needed, but you should **bring your own paper for answers to essay questions!** The exams are not cumulative. **No make-up exams will generally be given.** However, please contact me for exceptional circumstances such as illness or death in the family. Documentation such as a doctor's note or a death certificate will be required. The exams include questions from the Cognition workbook and the ZAPS LAB website, and the students are expected to complete the assigned readings and demonstrations before the exams.
- 2) Cognitive Psychology paper (60 points): Each student picks one topic from the field of cognitive psychology, finds at least 3 sources, at least two of which must be peer-reviewed scientific journal articles, and writes a paper that summarizes and discusses the findings related to the topic. Example topics might include "Hemineglect", "Prosopagnosia", "Evaluation of Baddeley's working memory model", "The neural basis of declarative vs. non-declarative memories", "Retrograde and anterograde amnesia", "Eyewitness testimony", "Infantile amnesia", "Foreign language learning and the brain". More information about this assignment will be provided in class. Late assignments without a documented and pre-approved reason may lead to a reduction in points or may not be accepted for grading.
- 3) Class Activities/Hybrid Assignments (70 points): Students complete activities and assignments that are related to the course material. Typically each student will be given a topic to research outside of class. Usually students then discuss and report about their findings in class (in small groups), and the information learned may also be tested in exams. **You are expected to research the topic on your own and attend and participate in the small group discussions in class to receive the points.** More information about these assignments will be given in class. Students will also post an introduction in Canvas.
- 4) Attendance (70 points): I will randomly check attendance on selected days of the quarter. Students get 10 points for being present on a given day when attendance is recorded. Thus, to get full credit (70 points) for attendance, the student needs to be present on 7 of these days. An 8<sup>th</sup> attendance recording brings 10 extra credit points. This policy is designed to encourage regular attendance and to reward students who come to class.

## Grading Information

The total number of points you earn will be converted to a percentage of the total points possible. Your final grade will be assigned based on the letter grade scale as shown below:

%	Letter Grade
95-100%	A
91-94	A-
86-90	B+
80-85	B
75-79	B-
71-74	C+
66-70	C
60-65	C-
55-59	D+
50-54	D
49 or less	F

For example, if you earn 360 points out of the total possible 450 points, your points are divided by the total possible points to obtain a percentage of the total points ( $360/450 = 0.80 = 80\%$ ). Once you have the percentage, refer to the table above to figure out the grade ( $80\% = B$ ).

## Course Schedule

	Tuesday	Thursday
<b>Week 1</b> <b>Ch. 1</b>	9/23 FIRST DAY	9/25
<b>Week 2</b> <b>Ch. 2</b>	9/30 Post intro in Canvas	10/2 Respond to another student's intro in Canvas
<b>Week 3</b> <b>Ch. 3</b>	10/7 <b>Exam 1 (Chapters 1 and 2)</b>	10/9
<b>Week 4</b> <b>Ch. 4</b>	10/14	10/16
<b>Week 5</b> <b>Ch. 5</b>	10/21 <b>Exam 2 (Chapters 3 and 4)</b>	10/23
<b>Week 6</b> <b>Ch. 5, Ch. 6</b>	10/28	10/30
<b>Week 7</b> <b>Ch. 6, Ch. 7</b>	11/4	11/6 <b>Exam 3 (Chapters 5, 6 and 7)</b>
<b>Week 8</b> <b>Ch. 8</b>	11/11 HOLIDAY	11/13
<b>Week 9</b> <b>Ch. 8, Ch. 9</b>	11/18	11/20
<b>Week 10</b>	11/25 <b>Exam 4 (Chapters 8 and 9)</b>	11/27 HOLIDAY
<b>Week 11</b> <b>Ch. 11, Ch. 13</b> <b>PAPER DUE</b> <b>DEC 1ST</b>	12/2 <b>PAPER ASSIGNMENT DUE by</b> <b>midnight of MONDAY DEC 1ST</b>	12/4
<b>Week 12 Final</b> <b>exam week</b>	12/9 <b>Final exam 9:30-11:20 (Chapters 11</b> <b>and 13)</b>	12/11

*Note: The course schedule is a plan only and is subject to change. You will be notified if changes occur.*

## **Course Policies**

**Hardship withdrawal policy:** According to the social science division policy, hardship withdrawals are for exceptional circumstances that prevent the student from completing the course. Documentation such as a death certificate or a doctor's letter may be required.

**Academic Problems:** It is important to me that you succeed in this class. If you have concerns about your performance, please contact me as soon as possible. Additionally, Bellevue College offers a variety of learning assistance services. See the following links for additional help:

Academic Success Center: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/asc/>

TRiO Student Support Services: <http://depts.bellevuecollege.edu/trio/>

**Missing Class:** It is your responsibility to find out from other students what you have missed when you are absent. If you stop attending the class, you must withdraw yourself from the class to avoid earning a 0.0 in the class.

**Punctuality and class conduct:** You should arrive on time for class and stay the entire period. If you do need to leave early, please sit near the door if possible to avoid disrupting others. **Please keep your cell phones and other electronic devices silent or turned off during class.** You are encouraged to share your views and participate in class discussions. However, side comments directed to other students, use of electronic devices, and activities that are not related to the learning material are disruptive. A student who engages in persistent disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the classroom.

**Affirmation of Inclusion:** Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination. We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

## **PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION**

### **Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing\***

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

### Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete (“I”). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an “F”).

### F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F.”

### Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

### Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

### Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of “HW” (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

### Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

### Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

### Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

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*\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*

### **Important Links**

#### **Bellevue College email and access to MyBC**

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to:

<https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam> .

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the [Computing Services website](#).

#### **Disability Resource Center**

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible. If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.

The DRC office is located in B 132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc)

#### **Public Safety**

The Bellevue College (BC) Public Safety Department's well trained and courteous non-commissioned staff provides personal safety, security, crime prevention, preliminary investigations, and other services to the campus community, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Their phone number is 425.564.2400. The Public Safety website is your one-stop resource for campus emergency preparedness information, campus closure announcements and critical information in the event of an emergency. Public Safety is located in K100 and on the web at: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/>