

San José State University
Department of Psychology
Psychology 135 – Cognition
Sections 1/61, Summer, 2022

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Evan M. Palmer
Office Location:	316 Dudley Moorhead Hall
Telephone:	(408) 924-5547
Email:	evan.palmer@sjsu.edu [Best way to reach me!]
Office Hours:	By appointment
Class Days/Time:	Tues/Thurs 1:00 – 5:45 PM
Classroom:	354 Dudley Moorhead Hall
Prerequisites:	PSYC 1 (General Psychology)

Course Description

The field of cognitive psychology attempts to answer the question “How does the mind work?” by examining its information processing capabilities and limitations. Through laboratory experiments, theorizing, and computational modeling, cognitive psychology illuminates mental activities such as perception, memory, attention, mental imagery, thinking, reasoning, problem solving, decision making, and language.

SJSU Catalog Description: The activity of knowing: acquisition, organization and use of knowledge. Processes involved in that activity, including perception, memory, thinking and language. Prerequisite: PSYC 001.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook:

Cognitive Psychology and its Implications (8th Ed.) by John R. Anderson (ISBN: 1464148910).

Other technology requirements

You will need reliable access to the internet to access CANVAS and receive e-mails about the course. Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas course website, accessible through <http://one.sjsu.edu>.

Course & Program Learning Outcomes

Goal 1. Knowledge Base of Psychology: Students will demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in cognitive psychology.

Goal 2. Research Methods in Psychology: Students will understand basic methodological approaches used in cognitive psychology, including research design, analysis, and interpretation.

Goal 3. Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology: Students will understand and be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.

Goal 4. Application of Psychology: Students will understand and be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.

Goal 5. Values in Psychology: Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

Course Requirements and Grading Information

Grade Breakdown:

100% 10 Chapter Tests + 2nd Chance Points

Grading Scale (I round up .5 and higher to next percentage):

97 – 100%	A+
93 – 96%	A
90 – 92%	A-
87 – 89%	B+
83 – 86%	B
80 – 82%	B-
77 – 79%	C+
73 – 76%	C
70 – 72%	C-
67 – 69%	D+
63 – 66%	D
60 – 62%	D-
≤ 59%	F

Chapter Tests: There will be a test for each chapter (20-30 questions), administered on Canvas. I will drop your lowest test grade.

Second Chance Points: After receiving feedback on a chapter test, you can earn back ½ of the points you missed on the test by writing a few sentences for each item you missed explaining: 1) the concept that was being tested, 2) what you misunderstood that caused you to miss the question on the test, and 3) the textbook page number of lecture slide number where you learned the concept. You will receive ½ credit on every question you master in the second chance period. NOTE: If I cannot tell that you have mastered the concept, based on your new answer, you will NOT receive second chance points for that question. Second chance points must be turned in to me in class on the dates indicated in the syllabus.

Make-Up Tests: Given that tests will be completed on Canvas, you can take the tests when it is convenient for you. I do not expect that there will be any make-up tests for this class.

Late Assignment Policy: All assignments will be penalized 20% for every day they are late. This means that after 5 days, all assignments are worth 0 points and can no longer be made up

Classroom Protocol

All students are expected to exhibit professionalism and respect for each other and the instructor. Specifically, this means arriving to class on time, participating in class, engaging in civil discussion, and paying attention to in-class demonstrations and lectures. If you arrive late to class or need to leave early from class, please sit near the door so as not to disturb the rest of the class. Please silence and put away cell phones during class. You may record lectures only if you obtain my permission first.

Academic Integrity

I do not tolerate any forms of academic dishonesty in my courses. I take issues of academic dishonesty very seriously and pursue disciplinary action rigorously, so please take extra care to avoid this sort of unpleasant situation. All writing assignments will be checked for plagiarism by TurnItIn on Canvas. Plagiarized assignments automatically receive a score of 0 in this course. Any incidents of cheating on exams result in an automatic grade of 0 for the exam. If the academic dishonesty is particularly egregious, you may receive an automatic F in the course. All incidents of academic dishonesty are reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development (SCED) and students may appeal any accusations of academic dishonesty through SCED.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

PSYC 135 / Cognition

Summer, 2022

Course Schedule

(Schedule is subject to change. Changes will be announced in class.)

Course Schedule:

Date	Discussion and Demos	Anderson Text
Thurs, 6/2	Course Intro, Enrollment, Overview History & Methods Perception	Ch 1 Ch 2
Tues, 6/7	Perception Attention	Ch 2 Ch 3
Thurs, 6/9	Attention Knowledge Representations	Ch 3 Ch 5
Tues, 6/14	Knowledge Representations Memory I – Encoding & Storage	Ch 5 Ch 6
Thurs, 6/16	Memory I – Encoding & Storage Memory II – Retention & Retrieval	Ch 6 Ch 7
Tues, 6/21	Memory II – Retention & Retrieval Problem Solving	Ch 7 Ch 8
Thurs, 6/23	Problem Solving Expertise	Ch 8 Ch 9
Tues, 6/28	JDM Language	Ch 11 Ch 12
Thurs, 6/30	Language Catch-Up	Ch 12

Chapter	Test Due Date	2nd Chance Points Due
1 – History & Methods	6/8	6/10
2 – Perception	6/10	6/15
3 – Attention	6/15	6/17
5 – Knowledge Representations	6/17	6/22
6 – Memory I	6/22	6/24
7 – Memory II	6/24	6/29
8 – Problem Solving	6/29	7/1
9 – Expertise	6/29	7/1
11 – JDM	7/1	7/5
12 - Language	7/1	7/5

Thurs 2-Jun Tues 7-Jun Thurs 9-Jun Tues 14-Jun Thurs 16-Jun Tues 21-Jun Thurs 23-Jun Tues 28-Jun Thurs 30-Jun

1:00 PM									
1:15 PM	1	2	3	5	6	7	8	11	12
1:30 PM									
1:45 PM									
2:00 PM									
2:15 PM	Break								
2:30 PM									
2:45 PM	1	2	3	5	6	7	9	11	Catch-Up
3:00 PM									
3:15 PM									
3:30 PM									
3:45 PM	Break								
4:00 PM									
4:15 PM	2	3	5	6	7	8	9	12	Catch-Up
4:30 PM									
4:45 PM									
5:00 PM									
5:15 PM	Break								
5:30 PM									
5:45 PM	Q&A	Q&A	Q&A	Q&A	Q&A	Q&A	Q&A	Q&A	Q&A