

Cognitive Psychology, PSYC 2220-501
Spring 2026, Micah Cordova

Contact

Classroom: Thursday from 1:30p-4p in Arts & Science room 127

Office Hours: Thursday from 11:30a-1:30p or by appointment in Arts & Sciences room 113

Email: m4s4co3@unm.edu or message via UNM Canvas "Inbox"

Course Description

"The course provides an overview of human cognitive processes such as attention, perception, memory, language, categorization, decision-making, reasoning, and problem solving. Includes methods, theories, and applications."

Materials

Online: UNM Canvas @ <https://canvas.unm.edu/>.

This includes Lectures, Coursework, Readings, Texts, and other needed resources.

Text (optional): Taylor, S. & Workman, L. (2022). *Cognitive psychology: the basics*. Oxon: Routledge.

Course Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- a. Explain how sensation, perception, consciousness, and memory are used to facilitate the functional aspects of learning, cognition, and other higher thinking faculties.
- b. Recall key terms, concepts, and theories in the areas of sensation, perception, consciousness, learning, memory, cognition, and higher thinking faculties.
- c. Identify the major theoretical approaches of cognitive psychology as they relate to the body, mind, and society.
- d. Explain how information provided in this course can be applied to life in the real world.

Practical outcomes (or praxis):

1. A *critical understanding* of psychology.
2. The ability to *create* psychological *material*.
3. To *teach* psychological *tools* to one another.
4. A *functional perspective* of psychology's use in our lives.
5. To *develop* psychological *relationships* with each other.

Attendance

Be present, be respectful, be yourself, and use your own mind. Unethical behavior is subject to the UNM Student Code of Conduct found @ [Student Code of Conduct](#). Participation and effort is a choice but Attendance is a grade. Each class is worth 5 points and only 2 absences by semester's end means all Attendance points are earned. Students who are dropped by an instructor for non-attendance will be notified at their UNM e-mail address. If the student believes a mistake has been made, contact the instructor within two (2) working days of receipt of the drop notification.

Coursework

Attendance = 5 points (pts) x 15 weeks = 75 pts total

Reading Notes = 10 pts x 6 readings = 60 pts total, due the day of the Reading Tutorial

Reading Tutorials = 25 pts x 1 tutorial = 25 pts total

Homework 1-4 = 25 pts x 4 assignments = 100 pts total, due 2 weeks after date assigned

Quizzes = 25 pts x 2 quizzes = 50 pts total

Exam = 50 pts x 1 exam = 50 pts total

Grades

360 total points may be accumulated. Each assignment has a grading rubric (to be discussed). Additional points may be added by completing Extra Credit (tbd). Make-up work is accepted if discussed. Grades will be discussed twice and are based on the following scale:

A (100-97% = A+; 96.9-93 = A; 92.9-90 = A-) B (89.9-87 = B+; 86.9-83 = B; 82.9-80 = B-)
C (79.9-77 = C+; 76.9-73 = C; 72.9-70 = C-) D (69.9-67 = D+; 66.9-63 = D; 62.9-60 = D-)

Syllabus

Week/Dates	Lecture Topic	Text Chaps.	Tutorial	Coursework Assigned
1/Jan. 22	Introduction	1 & 2		
2/Jan. 29			Prep	
3/Feb. 5	Sense & Perception	2 & 3		HW1
4/Feb. 12			1	
5/Feb. 19	Consciousness	3 & 7		HW2
6/Feb. 26			2	
7/Mar. 5	Learning	4		HW3
8/March. 12			3	Q1
9/Mar. 26	Memory	4		HW4
10/Apr. 2			4	
11/Apr. 9	Cognition	5-6 & 8		
12/Apr. 16			5	
13/Apr. 23				Q2
14/Apr. 30	Semiotics			
15/May 7			6	
16/May 14	Finals Week			Exam

***No class March 19, Spring Break**

Readings - Notes & Tutorials

1. Sense & Perception -
2. Consciousness -
3. Learning -
4. Memory -
5. Cognition -
6. Semiotics -

Statements Mandated by UNM and/or federal law

Credit-hour statement: This is a three credit-hour course. Class meets for one 2-hour 50-minute session of direct instruction for fifteen weeks during the Fall 2024 semester. Please plan for a minimum of six hours of out-of-class work (or homework, study, assignment completion, and class preparation) each week.

Accommodations: UNM is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for students with documented disabilities. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an inclusive classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity to participate. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact the [UNM-Valencia Equal Access Services](#) (Sarah Clawson, Coordinator), at (505) 925-8840 or by email at sjclawson@unm.edu. Or the UNM-Albuquerque Accessibility Resource Center (<https://arc.unm.edu/>) at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone at 505-277-3506.

Title IX: The University of New Mexico and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and providing an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. The University's programs and activities, including the classroom, should always provide a space of mutual respect, kindness, and support without fear of harassment, violence, or discrimination. Discrimination on the basis of sex includes discrimination on the basis of assigned sex at birth, sex characteristics, pregnancy and pregnancy related conditions, sexual orientation and gender identity. If you have encountered any form of discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic or dating violence, we encourage you to report this to the University. You can access the confidential resources available on campus at the LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center (<https://loborespect.unm.edu>), the Women's Resource Center (<https://women.unm.edu>), and the LGBTQ Resource Center (<https://lgbtqrc.unm.edu>). If you speak with an instructor (including a TA or a GA) regarding an incident connected to discrimination on the basis of sex, they must notify UNM's Title IX Coordinator that you shared an experience relating to Title IX, even if you ask the instructor not to disclose it. The Title IX Coordinator is available to assist you in understanding your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct and reporting, please see <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html> and CEEO's website.

If you are pregnant or experiencing a pregnancy-related condition, you may contact UNM's Office of Compliance, Ethics, and Equal Opportunity at ceo@unm.edu. The CEEO staff will provide you with access to available resources and supportive measures and assist you in understanding your rights.