



PSYU2246

Cognitive Processes I

Session 1, Online-scheduled-In person assessment, North Ryde 2023

School of Psychological Sciences

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General Information

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

((PSYC104 or PSYU1104 or PSYX104 or PSYX1104) and (PSYC105 or PSYU1105 or PSYX105 or PSYX1105 or PSYU1102 or PSYX1102)) or ((PSYU1101 or PSYX1101) and (PSYU1102 or PSYX1102) and (STAT1103 or STAX1103)) or ((COGS100 or COGS1000) and (COGS101 or COGS1010))

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit introduces major topics of cognition including mechanisms of visual and auditory attention, varieties of short and long term memory, language processes such as reading and written word recognition, and storage and retrieval of knowledge of concepts and reasoning. We cannot attend to everything that impinges on the senses so we select and attend only to part of the available input. Selected information must be encoded, used, stored and retrieved. Although the main focus of the unit is on normal adult cognition, we will also examine disorders of cognition including acquired dyslexias and various forms of memory impairments. You will learn to approach research findings critically, and in the practical classes you will gain hands-on experience of classic cognitive phenomena.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Explain and apply the major concepts, theoretical perspectives and empirical findings in cognitive psychology.

ULO2: Critically evaluate theories and empirical research in studies of various cognitive processes (e.g., attention, memory, language, decision making).

ULO3: Identify what factors impact on human performance in cognitive tasks (e.g., physiological, neural, linguistic, cultural).

General Assessment Information

Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the [Macquarie University Assessment Policy](#).

All final grades are determined by a grading committee, in accordance with the Macquarie University Assessment Policy, and are not the sole responsibility of the Unit Convenor.

Students will be awarded a final grade and a mark which must correspond to the grade descriptors specified in the [Assessment Procedure](#) (clause 128).

To pass this unit, you must demonstrate sufficient evidence of achievement of the learning outcomes, meet any ungraded requirements, and achieve a final mark of 50 or better.

Further details for each assessment task will be available on iLearn.

Late Submissions

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (OF THE TOTAL POSSIBLE MARK) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a grade of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical concern.

For example:

Number of days (hours) late	Total Possible Marks	Deduction	Raw mark	Final mark
1 day (1-24 hours)	100	5	75	70
2 days (24-48 hours)	100	10	75	65
3 days (48-72 hours)	100	15	75	60
7 days (144-168 hours)	100	35	75	40
>7 days (>168 hours)	100	-	75	0

No further submissions will be accepted after the marked assignments are returned and feedback is released to students.

For any late submissions of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, and scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for Special Consideration.

Final examination

The final exam for this unit is scheduled to occur on Macquarie University campus. Students are expected to make themselves available for the final exam, at the date and time set by the University, in line with the Assessment Policy and Procedure.

Sitting the final exam is compulsory in order to be eligible to pass the unit. Any student who does not attempt the final exam will be granted a Fail Absent grade.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Final Examination	55%	No	Session 1 final examination period
Mid-session examination	20%	No	March 30 2023 (9-11 am)
Assignment	20%	No	March 23 2023
Research Participation	5%	No	June 2 2023

Final Examination

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 50 hours

Due: **Session 1 final examination period**

Weighting: **55%**

Final examination held within the University's formal exam period, in accordance with relevant requirements.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain and apply the major concepts, theoretical perspectives and empirical findings in cognitive psychology.
- Critically evaluate theories and empirical research in studies of various cognitive processes (e.g., attention, memory, language, decision making).
- Identify what factors impact on human performance in cognitive tasks (e.g., physiological, neural, linguistic, cultural).

Mid-session examination

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **March 30 2023 (9-11 am)**

Weighting: **20%**

Online mid-session exam assessing unit content.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain and apply the major concepts, theoretical perspectives and empirical findings in cognitive psychology.
- Critically evaluate theories and empirical research in studies of various cognitive processes (e.g., attention, memory, language, decision making).
- Identify what factors impact on human performance in cognitive tasks (e.g., physiological, neural, linguistic, cultural).

Assignment

Assessment Type ¹: Qualitative analysis task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 35 hours

Due: **March 23 2023**

Weighting: **20%**

Students will answer a series of short-answer questions based on a set journal article.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain and apply the major concepts, theoretical perspectives and empirical findings in cognitive psychology.
- Critically evaluate theories and empirical research in studies of various cognitive processes (e.g., attention, memory, language, decision making).

Research Participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 3 hours

Due: **June 2 2023**

Weighting: **5%**

Students are required to participate in two and half hours of cognition research which is accessed via the Research participation pool system (or an alternate research activity).

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify what factors impact on human performance in cognitive tasks (e.g., physiological, neural, linguistic, cultural).

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

As a student enrolled in this unit, you will engage in a range of face-to-face (F2F, for Internal students) or online (for External students) learning activities, including lectures, online modules, and practical activities. Details can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

Lectures: One 2-hour lecture weekly starting on Session week 1. Delivered F2F (Thursdays 9-11 am, 21WW/Macquarie Theatre) and streamed live. Recordings are made available via iLearn homepage (Echo360).

Tutorials (practicals): One 1-hour class (F2F for Internal, Zoom for External) per fortnight. Tutorials start on Session Week 2 or Week 3 depending on your class assignment. Class availability can be seen via eStudent class enrolment.

F2F:

For the “In person scheduled weekday” unit offering: Students can enroll in either an on-campus lecture (space permitting) or an online/live-streamed lecture classes. Tutorial [/practical] classes all run on campus only. Students should not attend on-campus classes if you are unwell or have any cold and flu-like symptoms.

ONLINE:

For the “online scheduled with on campus assessment” unit offering: This version of the unit is “online scheduled weekday”. Tutorial [/practical] classes all run online via zoom. Lectures will run live online at the time and day indicated in the timetable.

For general information on unit versions, see this website <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/enrolling/choosing-units>

Recommended readings

Either edition is acceptable (e-book version is also available)

- Eysenck, M.W. & Keane (2015). Cognitive psychology: A students handbook. 7th Edition
- Eysenck, M.W. & Keane (2020). Cognitive psychology: A student's handbook. 8th edition

For other readings, refer to the reading list (Leganto) in the iLearn unit homepage.

Technology Used

Active participation in the learning activities throughout the unit will require students to have access to a desktop PC, laptop or similar device. Students who do not own their own computer may borrow one from the university library.

You will need access to the internet for accessing the iLearn unit homepage for the following:

- Up-to-date information about the unit
- lecture recordings (Echo360)
- online submission of the assignment
- midsemester test (online)
- Discussion forum

Unit Schedule

Session Week	Week beginning	Lecture: Thursday 9-11 am (Macquarie Theatre)	Practical	2023 prac schedule (relevant lecture topic)
1	20-Feb	Introduction & Research methods	-	-
2	27-Feb	Working memory	Practical 1	Phonological Similarity (Working memory)
3	6-Mar	Attention	Practical 1 Repeat	Phonological Similarity
4	13-Mar	Visual attention and object recognition (Kim Curby)	Practical 2	Stroop (Attention)
5	20-Mar	Episodic memory Assignment due Thurs 23/3/2023	Practical 2 Repeat	Stroop

6	27-Mar	Online MID SEMESTER TEST (during lecture time 30/3/2023)	Practical 3	Change Detection (Visual attention)
7	3-Apr	Semantic memory	Practical 3 Repeat	Change Detection
	10-23-Apr	Midsemester break	-	-
8	24-Apr	Language Production (Lisi Beyersmann)	Practical 4	Levels of Processing (Episodic memory)
9	1-May	Word recognition & reading	Practical 4 Repeat	Levels of Processing
10	8-May	Decision making and reasoning (Mike Richardson)	Practical 5	Lexical Decision (Semantic memory/Word Recognition)
11	15-May	Concepts and categories	Practical 5 Repeat	Lexical Decision
12	22-May	Cognitive Neuropsychology (Greg Savage)	Practical 6	Revision
13	29-May	Revision	Practical 6 repeat	Revision

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Inclusion and diversity

Social inclusion at Macquarie University is about giving everyone who has the potential to benefit from higher education the opportunity to study at university, participate in campus life and flourish in their chosen field. The University has made significant moves to promote an equitable, diverse and exciting campus community for the benefit of staff and students. It is your responsibility to contribute towards the development of an inclusive culture and practice in the areas of learning and teaching, research, and service orientation and delivery. As a member of the Macquarie University community, you must not discriminate against or harass others based on their sex, gender, race, marital status, carers' responsibilities, disability, sexual orientation, age, political conviction or religious belief. All staff and students are expected to display appropriate behaviour that is conducive to a healthy learning environment for everyone.

Professionalism

In the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences, professionalism is a key capability embedded in all our courses.

As part of developing professionalism, students are expected to attend all small group interactive sessions including practical, laboratory, work-integrated learning (e.g., PACE placements), and team-based learning activities. Some learning activities are recorded (e.g., face-to-face lectures), however you are encouraged to avoid relying upon such material as they do not recreate the whole learning experience and technical issues can and do occur. As an adult learner, we respect your decision to choose how you engage with your learning, but we would remind you that the learning opportunities we create for you have been done so to enable your success, and that by not engaging you may impact your ability to successfully complete this unit. We equally

expect that you show respect for the academic staff who have worked hard to develop meaningful activities and prioritise your learning by communicating with them in advance if you are unable to attend a small group interactive session.

Another dimension of professionalism is having respect for your peers. It is the right of every student to learn in an environment that is free of disruption and distraction. Please arrive to all learning activities on time, and if you are unavoidably detained, please join activity as quietly as possible to minimise disruption. Phones and other electronic devices that produce noise and other distractions must be turned off prior to entering class. Where your own device (e.g., laptop) is being used for class-related activities, you are asked to close down all other applications to avoid distraction to you and others. Please treat your fellow students with the utmost respect. If you are uncomfortable participating in any specific activity, please let the relevant academic know.