



COGS2000

Cognitive Neuroscience

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2025

School of Psychological Sciences

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Disclaimer

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Jordan Wehrman

jordan.wehrman@mq.edu.au

AHH 2.629 (Australian Hearing Hub Level 2)

Upon appointment

Tutor

Blake Cogle

blake.cogle@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

COGS1000 or COGS100

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit will cover the rapidly evolving field of cognitive neuroscience: bridging cognitive science and neuroscience to understand cognitive functions in humans and their underlying neural bases. Topics covered may include the neural mechanisms underlying perception, action, attention, memory, language, and decision making. The unit will also explore some of the powerful new methods for studying the human brain including functional neuroimaging.

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 the brain mechanisms responsible for a range of human cognitive functions

ULO2: Demonstrate understanding of the main experimental methods in cognitive neuroscience, including their strengths and limitations

ULO3: Critically evaluate empirical data and conclusions drawn from data as presented as graphs, tables or text

ULO4: Collect and analyse behavioural and neural data using appropriate techniques and methods from cognitive neuroscience

ULO5: Demonstrate effective scientific report writing skills

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Final exam	45%	No	Exam Period
Individual statistical analysis	20%	No	Week 7
Experimental report	35%	No	Week 12

Final exam

Assessment Type **1**: Examination

Indicative Time on Task **2**: 37.5 hours

Due: **Exam Period**

Weighting: **45%**

2-hour exam with multiple choice and short answer questions

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the brain mechanisms responsible for a range of human cognitive functions
- Demonstrate understanding of the main experimental methods in cognitive neuroscience, including their strengths and limitations
- Critically evaluate empirical data and conclusions drawn from data as presented as graphs, tables or text
- Collect and analyse behavioural and neural data using appropriate techniques and methods from cognitive neuroscience

Individual statistical analysis

Assessment Type **1**: Case study/analysis

Indicative Time on Task **2**: 15 hours

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **20%**

Max 500 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate empirical data and conclusions drawn from data as presented as graphs, tables or text
- Collect and analyse behavioural and neural data using appropriate techniques and methods from cognitive neuroscience
- Demonstrate effective scientific report writing skills

Experimental report

Assessment Type ¹: Report

Indicative Time on Task ²: 22 hours

Due: **Week 12**

Weighting: **35%**

Max 1700 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically evaluate empirical data and conclusions drawn from data as presented as graphs, tables or text
- Collect and analyse behavioural and neural data using appropriate techniques and methods from cognitive neuroscience
- Demonstrate effective scientific report writing skills

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 and online learning

activities, including readings, lectures, etc. Details can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

Tutorials:

Tutorials (1.5 hours) are **in-person, and held weekly, starting in Week 1**. Please check [eStudent](#) for the time and location of your tutorial. Changes to tutorials need to be made online via [eStudent](#) only (neither the unit convenor nor the tutor can make changes to your tutorial enrolment).

Textbook

Purves D. et al. (Eds.) (2013) **PRINCIPLES OF COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE**, Second edition. MA, USA: Sinauer Associates, Inc.

Other readings as required will be posted on iLearn.

iLearn

You will need access to the internet to access the unit's iLearn page. Through iLearn you will be able to access the lecture recordings (Echo360), additional readings, and feedback and marks for the assessment tasks. You are also required to submit assessment tasks via iLearn, using the Turnitin submission tool. Please allow time to familiarise yourself with how to access [iLearn](#). For further information, visit the [iLearn student support page](#).

Lectures

Lectures (2 hours) are held weekly, starting in Week 1 on **Mondays from 9-11am on campus** in 14SCO Mason Lecture Theatre. Lecture slides will be uploaded just before the lecture date under the lecture slides link in the relevant week below. Lecture recordings will be available through Echo360 accessible through the link on the right, but you are strongly encouraged to attend the lectures in person if at all possible.

Tutorials

All tutorials will be delivered face-to-face in starting in Week 1. Please check eStudent for the time and location of your tutorial. Changes to tutorials need to be made online via eStudent only (neither the unit convenor nor the tutor can make changes to your tutorial enrolment). After week 2, no further changes will be allowed unless supporting documentation about the reason for changing is provided and there is space in the tutorial you wish to enrol in.

Face-to-face tutorials are an essential part of COGS2000 and these cannot be delivered online. All students are therefore expected to come to campus to participate in tutorials and, for some weeks, complete the associated in-class assessment tasks. If you are unable to attend a tutorial with an in-class assessment task due to unavoidable reasons (quarantine, illness, etc.), you

should apply for Special Consideration through [AskMQ](#). Reasonable adjustments will be made for students with approved Special Consideration. You do not need to apply for Special Consideration if you miss a tutorial that does not have an in-class assessment task.

Requests for extensions, medical leave, and/or special consideration

Please note that it is the student's responsibility to notify the University of a disruption to their studies. All requests for extensions, medical leave and/or special consideration should be made prior to the due date for the assignment, are to be made directly via the University's online [Ask MQ](#) system. Guidelines for Special Consideration can be found [here](#).

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#) (<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>). 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>) 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 [connect.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 the [Service Connect Portal](#), 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 clinical, 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.

Unit information based on version 2025.02 of the [Handbook](#)