

EXP 4507L

Spring, 2006

Laboratory in Memory & Cognition

Instructor: Dr. Claudia Stanny

Office Hours: Monday 9:00 - 11:00 AM
Wednesday 9:00 - 11:00 AM; 1:00 – 3:00 PM
Room 214 / Building 41
Phone: 474 - 3163

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Class Meets: 9:00 AM - 10:40 AM Friday
Room 139 (Psychology Computer Laboratory) / Building 41

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Prerequisite: STA 2023, EXP 3082, EXP 3082L.

Pre/Corequisite: EXP 4404

Students will learn about the research methods used to investigate topics in memory and cognition. Students will conduct experiments, perform statistical analysis appropriate for the data generated, and prepare brief reports of results using APA style. Students will complete a final project in which they design and conduct an experiment in the area of memory and cognition, analyze the data, and prepare an APA style research report.

Course Objectives

Students will learn about the research techniques used to study memory, and cognition. Students will receive hands-on experience with data collection and data analysis for research on topics in memory and cognition. Students will learn about how computers are used for data collection. Students will learn to write research reports using the editorial style of the American Psychological Association.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course should be able to:

Identify and use research methods to generate objective, reliable and valid evidence relevant to a research question about memory or other cognitive processes.

Recognize and adhere to ethical standards for the conduct and reporting of research in memory and cognition.

Create data files in SPSS, select and run the appropriate statistical test for data sets, and interpret the SPSS output.

Write laboratory reports of empirical research using the editorial style and format of the American Psychological Association.

Attendance

Participation in laboratory data collection and statistical analysis is essential for learning the skills associated with this course. Hence, attendance is required.

Topics/Activities: Experiments & Demonstrations

Students will conduct a series of classic demonstration experiments on topics of memory and cognition. Students will learn to perform appropriate statistical analysis on the data collected. Assignments based on these experiments will consist of brief write-ups of the methods used for data collection and the results of statistical analyses.

Each student will plan an experiment related to memory and cognition, write a research proposal for this research, and make a presentation based on this proposal. We will discuss topics and identify relevant journal readings in the early weeks of the term.

All reports written for laboratory assignments will be written using APA format. Those sections of a formal APA report that must be included will be discussed with each paper assignment.

Final grades will be determined as follows:

Laboratory Assignments:	
Journal Summary	10%
Annotated Bibliography	10%
Paper based on Experiment 1	20%
Paper based on Experiment 2	30%
Research Proposal Report:	25%
Class Presentation on Proposal	5%

A rubric will be distributed for each assignment. Your grade on an assignment will be a percentage of the points earned on the rubric.

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

93% or better	A	77% to 79%	C+
90% to 92%	A-	73% to 76%	C
87% to 89%	B+	70% to 72%	C-
83% to 86%	B	60% to 69%	D
80% to 82%	B-	50% or less	F

Supplemental Readings (on Reserve in the library)

Broadbent, D. E., Cooper, P. E., FitzGerald, P., & Parks, K. R. (1982). The Cognitive Failures Questionnaire (CFQ) and its correlates. *British Journal of Clinical Psychology*, *21*, 1-16.

Craik, F. I. M., & Lockhart, R. S. (1972). Levels of processing: A framework for memory research. *Journal of Verbal Learning and Verbal Behavior*, *11*, 671-684.

Graf, P., & Schacter, D. L. (1985). Implicit and explicit memory for new associations in normal

and amnesic subjects. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, 11, 386-396.

Murdock, B. B. (1962). The serial position effect of free recall. *Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 62, 482-488.

Paivio, A. (1969). Mental imagery in associative learning and memory. *Psychological Review*, 76, 241-263.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Honesty in our academic work is vital, and we will not knowingly act in ways which erode that integrity. Accordingly, we pledge not to cheat, nor to tolerate cheating, nor to plagiarize the work of others. (UWF Student Handbook, page 46)

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense and will be taken seriously. Please refer to the UWF Student Handbook (page 48) for information about procedures that will be followed with cases of academic dishonesty.

ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Students with special needs who require specific accommodations for examinations or other course activities should contact Barbara Fitzpatrick, Director of Disabled Student Services (DSS) (e-mail: dss@uwf.edu, telephone: 474-2387). DSS will provide the student with a letter for the instructor that will specify recommended accommodations.

Memory & Cognition Laboratory

Schedule of Activities and Assignments		
Date	Activity / Assignment	Assigned Reading / Assignment Due
Jan 13	Course Mechanics	Syllabus
Jan 20	Attention/ Perception Demonstrations Journal Summary Assignment	
Jan 27	Data Collection: Experiment 1 - Memory for Words Searching PsycINFO and PsycARTICLES	
Feb 3	Discuss Methods for Experiment 1 Data Collection: Cognitive Failures	Journal Summary Assignment Due Reading: Serial position effects; Paivio reading
Feb 10	Discuss Research Proposal; Annotated Bibliography	
Feb 10	EXAM 1 (lecture)	
Feb 17	Data Analysis for Experiment 1 Assignment for Lab Report for Experiment 1	
Feb 24	Data Collection: Experiment 2	Annotated Bibliography Due
March 3	Data Analysis for Cognitive Failures Data	Broadbent, et al. CFQ paper Lab Paper for Experiment 1 Due
March 10	Discuss Methods for Experiment 2	Reading: Levels of processing; Implicit & Explicit memory
March 17	Open lab	
March 17	EXAM 2 (lecture)	
March 20	Spring Break – March 20 - 24	
March 31	Data Analysis for Experiment 2 Assignment for Lab Report for Experiment 2	
April 7	JDM Demonstrations	Lab Paper for Experiment 2 Due
April 14	Consultation on Research Proposal Methods	
April 21	Open lab for work on research proposals	
April 28	Student Presentations of Research Proposals	Research Proposal Due
May 1	EXAM 3 (lecture)	