**Introduction**

**PSY 310**

Greg Francis

Lecture 01

What’s coming up?

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**Course outline**

- Syllabus on the web
  - [http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~gfrancis/Classes/PSY310/index.html](http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~gfrancis/Classes/PSY310/index.html)
- Low-level vision and physiology -- EXAM (20%)
- Mid-level vision and experimental methods -- EXAM (20%)
- Action and audition -- EXAM (20%)
- Touch, olfaction, and taste
- Cumulative Final (20%)

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**Topics**

- Most of the course focuses on visual perception
  - Best theories and data
  - Many of the ideas translate well to other areas of perception
  - Easiest to show demonstrations and main ideas
- Many applications to every day life
- The topics listed on the syllabus are tentative and may change
- The exam dates are solid, they will not change

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**Required textbook**


You can find many used copies at half.com.

Some versions come with a multimedia CD, this is not required (although you might find it useful). You can also find versions with the CD at half.com. Some are cheaper than without the CD.
**Required textbook**

- It’s a good book for neurophysiology and experimental methods
  - Stay up to date on the reading assignments
- Has very little about computational models
  - The lectures will be especially important for this topic

**Exams**

- Mix of multiple choice (25 questions) and short answer (5 questions)
- Exams cover both the material in lecture and in the textbook
- Detailed study guides will be provided at least one week in advance of an exam
- Beware the scheduling of the final exam!

**Class participation**

- Occasionally I need assistance during a lecture
- I will randomly select names from the class list
  - Other times the whole class will participate
- If you are absent, you lose class participation points (few excuses)
- Contributes to 10% of class grade.
- Approximately 10 checks per semester

**At-home labs**

- Cognitive psychology on-line laboratory (CogLab)
  - Java-based programs that can be run through a web browser (e.g., NetScape, Firefox, IE Explorer, Opera, Safari).
    - You may need to upgrade your version of Java. See the CogLab Browser Check page for details
- Note, we are using a development site located at Purdue
  - Do not go to the official CogLab site. Your registration code will not work.
- You participate in classic experiments
- Grade is based solely on completing the experiment, not on the quality of the data

**At-home labs**

- Labs are listed on the syllabus
- They must be completed by 9:00 am at the date indicated in the syllabus
  - else you get no credit
- Total lab grade contributes to 10% of your class grade.
- Since I wrote CogLab, you get access to the experiments for free
  - (a $20 value!)
- See handout for instructions on getting started
- First lab is due at 9:00 am on Friday!

**Grading**

- Straight scale
  - 90% - 100%  A
  - 80% - 89%  B
  - 70% - 79%  C
  - 60% - 69%  D
  - 0% - 59%  F
- No rounding up.
Grading

- Typical grades from PSY 200 (Cognitive Psychology)
- I expect the grades in this course to be similar

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<th>E2</th>
<th>E3</th>
<th>E4</th>
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Importance of attending class

- Counts for 10% of final class grade
- Correlates well with final class grade ($r=0.78$)

Instructor office hours

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 2:30 - 3:20 pm
  - Or by appointment
  - Psych 3174
- Email: gfrancis@psych.purdue.edu
- WWW:
  - http://www2.psych.purdue.edu/~gfrancis/Classes/PSY310/index.html
  - updates to the syllabus
  - links to labs

Lecture notes

- Downloadable from the class web page
  - Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format
  - Reduced form (6 pages)
  - Usually on reserve before the lecture
    - but no promises

Teaching assistants

- Grade exams
- Keep track of grades
- Will lecture when I am out of town
  - Not planned for this semester
- Have office hours
- Provide out-of-class study sessions for exams

Teaching assistant

- Sufen Chen
  - Office: Psychological Sciences Building., Room 3190
  - Office hours:
    - TBA
  - Phone: 494-8667 (shared by several students)
  - Email: sufen@psych.purdue.edu
Teaching assistant

- Huijun Wang
- Office: Psychological Sciences Building, Room 3198
- Office hours:
  - MW: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
- Phone: 494-8667 (shared by several students)
- Email: huijun@psych.purdue.edu

Next time

- Basic background on perception
- Techniques for studying perception
- Some
  - Philosophy
  - Neurophysiology
  - Experimental methods