1 General Information

1.1 Class Time and Location
Wednesdays 11:35-2:25, DT 2203

1.2 Instructor’s Contact Information
Instructor Ida Toivonen
Email ida.toivonen@carleton.ca
Phone 613-520-2600 x1202
Office 2206 Dunton Tower

1.3 Office Hours
Mondays 2:30-3:30 (DT 2206) or by appointment (DT 2206 or Zoom)

2 Course Description
The course is a brief introduction to cognitive science, with a focus on specific topics and research areas.
This is a graduate seminar and not a primarily lecture-based class. This means that you will learn not only from the lectures, but also from the readings, your own research, and your classmates questions and comments.

3 Prerequisites
This is a graduate-level course.
4 Readings

4.1 Required readings


Plato. *Theaetetus*. (I recommend borrowing or buying a physical copy of *Theaetetus*, but it is also available online. Please let me know if you have trouble finding a copy.)


4.2 Recommended textbooks

There are several good textbooks in cognitive science. I list a few below. You are not required to consult a textbook for this class, but it might be useful to have access to one, especially if you have not previously taken classes in cognitive science.


5 Evaluation

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short reaction paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research proposal</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Draft paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
<td>35%</td>
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*September 20*  
*November 29*  
*December 22*
5.1 Reaction paper (10%)
This paper should be a short (500-1000 words) reaction to the Gentner article or the Bender & Koller paper. Your paper can be any type of reaction to something in one of the papers. Suggestions: You can connect the paper to some other reading. You could focus on something you disagree with and explain why. You might want to add an argument to support one of the points the authors make.
Due: September 20.

5.2 Research proposal (10%)
Your research proposal should be one page long (or as specified by OGS, NSERC...). Propose a research project. See advice for OGS/SSHRC/NSERC/CIHR applications (Plan of study, Statement of interest...)
Due: Whenever it is useful for you. Most of you will apply for an OGS, SSHRC or NSERC scholarship, and you can view this as an opportunity to get feedback on a draft of your application.

5.3 Presentation (15%)
You will give a brief presentation on a topic of your choice. Your presentation should be no longer than 30 minutes including a question period. Cognitive science encompasses many different topics and we cannot cover them all in class. If there is a topic you feel should be covered, you can present that. You can also present the topic of your term paper.
Please let me know what topic you want to talk about. Also let me know what date suits you.

5.4 Draft of your term paper (15%)
Due: November 29

5.5 Term paper (35%)
Your paper should be at least eight pages long. It is due at the end of the finals period (December 22). Papers will also be accepted early.
Suggested topics:
(1) Examine a recent journal article that refers to one of the assigned earlier readings from this class (e.g., Miller 1956 or Turing 1950). Discuss the two papers together. How has the field advanced? Which of the original claims have been refuted?
(2) Write a draft of your thesis proposal.
More topic suggestions will be provided throughout the term, but it is really up to you what you write about.
Due: December 22

5.6 Participation (15%)
Participation is crucial. Everybody comes to the class with a unique background and you will learn from each other. Your in-class comments and questions are an important part of the course. If you feel very anxious about speaking in class, please let me know and we will sort something out. There will be a multiple-choice test at the end of the term that will count towards participation.
The following also counts towards the participation marks:
- attendance
- careful reading of the assigned reading material
- completion of assignments in a timely manner

What I mean by “a timely manner” is by the deadline if there is one and well before the scholarship applications are due for the research proposal. I also expect you to let me know about your presentation date and topic by mid-semester or earlier.
6 Brightspace

This class will make use of Brightspace for slides and handouts. You will also be able to submit assignments there.

7 Student requirements

Students are required to complete the assigned readings before each class.

7.1 Submission Policies

You can submit your work either on Brightspace or in class, and you are encouraged to do both.

7.2 Late assignments

All assignments and papers should be submitted by the deadline. If you think you will not be able to submit your assignment in time (because of illness or bereavement, for example), contact me before the deadline to make alternate arrangements.

7.3 Policy on collaborative work

Students are allowed to discuss their work with other students. However, each student must write up their papers and assignments individually. In other words, you can get together and discuss the issues and share ideas, but the work you submit must be your own. If a classmate or someone else has provided help and information, that should be acknowledged in your write-up. Clearly cite all sources. Copying is not allowed.
# Course Schedule

**Note:** This outline is subject to change. If there are changes, it will be announced in class and the revised outline will be posted on Brightspace.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Introduction, History of Cognitive Science</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Gentner (2019)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Computer science &amp; AI</td>
<td>Turing (1950); Bender &amp; Koller (2020)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td>Miller (1956)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Speech sounds</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Tillmann (2005)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Perception, sensation, attention</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>READING WEEK (no class)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Epistemology</td>
<td>Plato’s <em>Theaetetus</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Semantics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Animacy</td>
<td>Komar et al. (2023)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>[ZOOM] 22</td>
<td>Animal cognition</td>
<td>Townsend et al. (2022)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Neuroscience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Cognitive development, TEST</td>
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PLAGIARISM

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT);
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course.

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar (p 34), the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

- A+ = 90-100
- A  = 85-89
- A - = 80-84
- B+ = 77-79
- B  = 73-76
- B - = 70-72
- C+ = 67-69
- C  = 63-66
- C - = 60-62
- D+ = 57-59
- D  = 53-56
- D - = 50-52
- F  = Below 50

Grades entered by Registrar:
- WDN = Withdrawn from the course
- DEF = Deferred
Statement on Student Mental Health
As a University student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:


Carleton Resources:
• Mental Health and Wellbeing: https://carleton.ca/wellness/
• Health & Counselling Services: https://carleton.ca/health/
• Paul Menton Centre: https://carleton.ca/pmc/
• Academic Advising Centre (AAC): https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/ 
• Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): https://carleton.ca/csas/ 
• Equity & Inclusivity Communities: https://carleton.ca/equity/

Off Campus Resources:
• Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/
• Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/
• Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, https://good2talk.ca/
• The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: https://walkincounselling.com

Requests for Academic Accommodations
ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form (click here).

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details click here.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, please request your accommodations for this course through
the Ventus Student Portal at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). Requests made within two weeks will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. For final exams, the deadlines to request accommodations are published in the University Academic Calendars. After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

Survivors of Sexual Violence
As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton’s Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services

Accommodation for Student Activities
Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf

Important Information
- Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
- Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean
- For us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid CARLETON address. Therefore, in order to respond to your inquiries, please send all email from your Carleton CMail account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting http://carleton.ca/ccs/students/
- November 23, 2023: Last day for academic withdrawal from full fall and late fall classes
- March 15, 2024: Last day for academic withdrawal from full winter, late winter and fall/winter courses.

For a list of dates and deadlines, including holidays and exam dates, please visit: https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/