

CGSC 6801: *Proseminar in Cognitive Science*

Course Outline

Winter 2021

Class Information

Dates: Thursdays, Jan 14 – April 8
Time: 2:35pm-5:25pm
Location: TBA

Instructor Information

Instructor: Raj Singh
Office: DT2206A
Phone: 613-520-2600 x1778
E-mail: raj.singh@carleton.ca (students should use a Carleton email address when corresponding with the instructor and the TA).
Office Hours: TBA

Course Description

This class will focus on *knowledge and its acquisition* by humans and machines (and animals where relevant). We will examine various kinds of knowledge with a focus on (i) characterizing what the knowledge consists of and (ii) how it could have been acquired from the evidence available to the learner. The course will examine topics including innateness, learning from experience, the representation of knowledge, symbolic and versus non-symbolic approaches to cognition. After working through various kinds of knowledge throughout the term (concepts, language, and others), we will highlight in the final couple of classes knowledge of mathematics as a particularly puzzling kind of knowledge that humans somehow come to possess.

The class is a seminar and will involve interactive in-class discussion. You will be expected to do the readings and actively participate.

Readings

There is no required textbook. All relevant materials will be given by in-class discussion and journal articles that I will direct you to that are freely available.

Course Web Page

The course website is found on CULearn. Here you will find relevant announcements, the syllabus, relevant course materials, and a space in which you can discuss course content with your peers.

Evaluation

Your evaluation is based on three components: (i) A final paper due at the end of the term, (ii) Being responsible for leading in-class discussion twice in the term, (iii) General attendance and participation in classes. and (iv) attendance at other students' presentations.

Here is a tabular summary:

Item	Weight of Grade	Due date
Final paper	50%	April 8
Leading in-class discussion	30%	Two times per student
Attendance and participation	10%	All classes

Additional Information

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

Grades entered by Registrar:

WDN = Withdrawn from the course

DEF = Deferred

Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Etc.

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here:

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 more details see the Student Guide

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 see the Student Guide

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, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation 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). After requesting an accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodations arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadlines to request accommodations for the formally - scheduled exam (if applicable).

Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include: · 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; · submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else; · using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment; · using another’s data or research findings; · failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks; · handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

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.

Important Information

- Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
 - All final grades are subject to the Dean’s approval.
 - 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/>
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For a list of dates and deadlines, including holidays and exam dates, please visit:

<https://carleton.ca/registrar/registration/dates-and-deadlines/>