

FYSM 1607 B: Thinking and Knowing  
Fall/Winter 2022/23  
Course Syllabus

**Instructor Information**

**Course instructor:** Dr. Nalini Elisa Ramlakhan

**E-mail:** naliniramlakhan@cunet.carleton.ca

Please email me using your Carleton email address with the subject line: FYSM 1607 B.

**Office hours:** Virtual hours Wednesdays from 5:30pm-630pm or by appointment

**Course Information**

Fall/Winter 2022/2023

**Course title:** Thinking and Knowing

**Course time:** Mon & Wed 16:05-17:25

**Room Location for in-person lectures:** Fall: Richcraft Hall 3110 Winter: Canal Building 2104

**Course number:** 1607 B

**Delivery:** Blended in-person and online

**Department:** Cognitive Science

**Additional Information:** Only students with first year standing in a BA, BCogSci, BGINs, BCoMS or BEcon program can register in a FYSM, up to a maximum of 1.0 credit (either one 1.0 credit or two 0.5 credit courses)

**Teaching Assistant Information:** TBA

**Course Website:**

Bright Space will be used for access to course content, grades, announcements, etc. Bright Space is our virtual course space, and students must ensure they have full access to Brightspace and are familiar with navigating the learning platform. It is recommended that students regularly check Bright Space for course updates and other information. Students are responsible for keeping current with the information on Bright Space.

**Official Course Description**

Interdisciplinary examination of discoveries in linguistics, psychology, philosophy, and computer science concerning the question “What is cognition”? Issues may include the mind-brain controversy, the role of language in thought, and artificial versus natural intelligence.

**Learning Outcomes**

In this course, students will be introduced to different theories on cognition in the field of cognitive science, and apply these theories to many different real-world activities, daily

interventions, etc. Students will assess these theories, formulating their own views about the theories and their applicability to daily life and issues arising in the field of cognitive science.

On completion of this course the student should demonstrate competencies in:

1. Understanding and applying theories in cognitive science to daily interventions and real-world issues.
2. Applying theoretical frameworks.
3. Defining and identifying issues in cognition.
4. Critical thinking skills by questioning, analyzing, interpreting and applying the course content and completing assignments and tests.
6. Identifying and evaluating personal and professional thoughts regarding issues in cognition.
7. Applying forms of inquiry to theoretical and practical issues.
8. Deepening and broadening their understanding of cognitive science.
9. Developing independence of thought.
10. Time management and organizational skills by completing assigned readings, attending in-person workshops/tutorials and live online lectures, participating in groups, and completing assignments on time.
11. Critical reflection by developing a deep understanding of different theories in cognitive science and related disciplines, and how it applies/can be applied in their own life.

### **Delivery Method**

This course is held synchronously in-person and synchronously online. Every week, students will attend an in-person tutorial/workshop, where they will contribute to discussion questions raised by their TA and peers, and attend a live online lecture held via Zoom by the course instructor. Attendance is mandatory for both in-person workshops and online lectures. During the fall term, in-person tutorials/workshops take place every Monday and the live synchronous lectures take place on Wednesdays. A Zoom link for the live lectures and the instructor's virtual office hours can be found on Bright Space. Blended courses that include both in-person interaction and online components include a variety of teaching and learning techniques that are highly beneficial for a thriving learning environment.

### **Course Texts**

Primary textbook

Cacioppo, J., Freberg, L. & Waggoner Denton, A. (2021). *Discovering psychology: The science of the mind, First Canadian edition*. Cengage. This book can be purchased at the University bookstore. Ebooks can be purchased through Cengage following this link:

<https://www.cengage.ca/c/etextbook-discovering-psychology-1e-cacioppo-frebergdenton/9781774747124/>

## Secondary textbook

Blackmore, S. (2012). *Consciousness* (2nd edition). Oxford University Press. This textbook is made freely available on Carleton's library portal. If you would like a physical copy, you can purchase it on Amazon or the OUP website: <https://global.oup.com/ushe/product/consciousness-9780199739097?cc=ca&lang=en&>

I may suggest optional readings outside of the course textbooks. They are recommendations for students who wish to further their interest in a specific topic.

Articles and other course materials: accessed via Google Scholar, Carleton's Library Portal, or links provided on Bright Space.

Disclaimer: I reserve the right to change the readings or topics assigned. Changes will not add substantial workload.

## Evaluation

### Participation

**Value:** 20% (10% per term)

**Due Date:** Ongoing

**Description:** Participation will be taken collectively per term from the weekly in-person tutorials/workshops. You must both attend **and participate** in these workshops in order to achieve a fair grade on this evaluation. If you miss a tutorial and have a valid reason for doing so, you may be excused from that tutorial/workshop. There is no way to 'make up' participation since your grade for this is based on weekly in-person participation with your peers and TA.

### Assignment 1

**Value:** 10%

**Due Date:** September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Description:** Students will be evaluated on their understanding of the course content. Students will be given 5 short answer questions to respond to. Further information will be provided on Bright Space. Assignments must be submitted on Bright Space. Assignments not submitted through Bright Space will not be accepted. Should students encounter any technical errors, they should contact Bright Space support. Late submissions will have a penalty of 5% per day, including weekends. Assignments that are 7 days past due will not be accepted and will receive a 0.

**Assignment 2****Value:** 15%**Date:** November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Description:** Students will be evaluated on their understanding and application of the course content. Students will be given 3 long answer questions to respond to. Further information will be provided on Bright Space. Assignments must be submitted on Bright Space. Assignments not submitted through Bright Space will not be accepted. Should students encounter any technical errors, they should contact Bright Space support. Late submissions will have a penalty of 5% per day, including weekends. Assignments that are 7 days past due will not be accepted and will receive a 0.

**Test 1****Value:** 15%**Date:** December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Description:** Students will be evaluated on their understanding and application of course material. Students will be tested on the material presented in lecture, weekly content, and course readings to date. Students may use class notes to take the test (open book). Test questions will include multiple choice and T/F questions. The test will be written online during scheduled class time. Further instructions will be provided closer to the date of the test. See 'Notes' section for missed evaluations.

**Assignment 3****Value:** 10%**Date:** February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Description:** Students will be evaluated on their understanding and application of the course content. Students will be given 2 long answer questions to respond to. Further information will be provided on Bright Space. Assignments must be submitted on Bright Space. Assignments not submitted through Bright Space will not be accepted. Should students encounter any technical errors, they should contact Bright Space support. Late submissions will have a penalty of 5% per day, including weekends. Assignments that are 7 days past due will not be accepted and will receive a 0.

**Test 2****Value:** 15%**Date:** March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Description:** Students will be evaluated on their understanding and application of course material. Students will be tested on the material presented in lecture, weekly content, and course readings to date. Students may use class notes to take the test (open book). Test questions will include multiple choice and T/F questions. The test will be written online during scheduled class time. Further instructions will be provided closer to the date of the midterm. See 'Notes' section for missed evaluations.

**Final Paper****Value:** 15%**Due:** April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Description:** You are required to write a final paper for this course. Details will be provided on Bright Space. Final papers can be submitted on Bright Space from April 5<sup>th</sup>-April 12<sup>th</sup>. Papers must be submitted via Bright Space on or before the due date. Papers not submitted through Bright Space will not be accepted. Late submissions will have a penalty of 7% per day, including weekends. Papers that are 5 days past due will not be accepted and will receive a 0. Papers should be roughly 5-7 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 point or a similar font (1250-1750 words). Further instructions will be provided in class and on Bright Space. A grading rubric will be posted on Bright Space.

## NOTES

1. The standard time for returning graded assignments is two weeks from the date of the assignment. If additional time is needed for grading, an announcement will be made on the course website.
2. If you miss a test, you must contact the instructor within 48 hours of missing the test. If a verifiable reason (see below) is provided, a make up test may be provided. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor within the specified time frame if they would like to make up the test.
3. Extensions may be provided, but are not guaranteed, only upon presentation of verifiable documentation or by completing the [self-declaration form](#) available on the Registrar's Office website. This form allows students to request academic accommodation for missed course work including exams and assignments. A failure to provide one will result in a zero if the assignment is not handed or late penalties may apply. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor in advance if they need an extension. This is the student's responsibility. Arrangements must be made directly with the instructor.
4. The deadline for each assignment is the due date indicated before 11:59 PM EST. If you are in a different time zone, note EST when submitting. Anything submitted after the deadline, even a minute after, is considered late.
5. Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
6. Students should keep up with course readings as per the schedule below. Students will be responsible in managing their time in approaching textbook material and concepts selected by the professor. The professor is available throughout the semester to meet with students. It is strongly recommended that students consult with her as needed. You are expected to plan your time wisely and complete evaluations on time.
7. Reweighting of course material is not possible.
8. All evaluations will be submitted through Bright Space. All feedback will be provided through Bright Space. Save copies of your work and back up your files.
9. Be sure you have access to internet throughout the duration of this course.

10. If you ask a question where the answer can be found on the syllabus or a document/announcement posted in the virtual classroom, I will direct you to the document. As university students, you are meant to be resourceful and thoroughly read course documents.
11. Email is used for brief exchanges. If you have a question that requires a lengthy response, please visit me during office hours or feel free to ask after class.
12. 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.
- 13. The instructor and teaching assistant are here to support your learning as first year students. Please ask us questions (there are no silly questions) and ask for help if and when you need it.**

**Class Schedule:** Each class contains required readings (listed below). It is recommended that students complete the weekly readings before attending weekly in-person and online meetings.

Week 1 (short week), September 7

Welcome information

Introduction to the course and expectations

Week 2, September 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>

The Mind and Consciousness

*Reading:* Blackmore, Introduction; Cacioppo et al., Chapter 1

Week 3, September 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>

The Mind and Consciousness

*Reading:* Blackmore, Chapters 2 and 3

Week 4, September 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

The Mind and Consciousness

*Reading:* Blackmore, Chapter 3; Cacioppo et al., Chapter 6

Week 5, October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>

Altered States of Consciousness

*Reading:* Blackmore, Chapter 22; Cacioppo et al., Chapter 6

**October 10<sup>th</sup>: Holiday**

Week 6, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>

Emotion and Cognition

*Reading:* Cacioppo et al., Chapter 7

### **Fall Break**

Week 7, October 31<sup>st</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Learning and Cognition

*Reading:* Cacioppo et al., Chapter 8

Week 8, November 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>

The Thinking Mind (Thoughts and Cognition, Language and Cognition)

*Reading:* Cacioppo et al., Chapter 10

Week 9, November 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

The Thinking Mind (Thoughts and Cognition, Language and Cognition)

*Reading:* Cacioppo et al., Chapter 10

Week 10, November 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>

Catch up week

*No readings*

Week 11, November 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>

Artificial Consciousness

*Reading:* Blackmore, Chapters 16 and 17

Week 12, December 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>

Artificial Consciousness

*Reading:* Blackmore, Chapter 18

Week 13, (short week) Dec 9<sup>th</sup> (classes follow and Monday Schedule)

### **Test 1**

### **Winter 2023 (Unofficial Schedule)**

Week 1, January 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>

Personhood and Personality

*Reading:* Blackmore, Chapters 7-9; Cacioppo et al., Chapter 12

Week 2, January 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

Personhood and Personality

*Reading:* Blackmore, Chapters 7-9; Cacioppo et al., Chapter 12

Week 3, January 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>

The Connected Mind

*Reading:* Cacioppo et al., Chapter 13

Week 4, January 30<sup>th</sup> and February 1<sup>st</sup>

Cognition and Psychological Disorders

*Reading:* Cacioppo et al., Chapter 14

Week 5, February 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

Cognition and Psychological Disorders

*Reading:* Cacioppo et al., Chapter 14

Week 6, February 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

First-Person Approaches to Consciousness

*Reading:* Blackmore, Chapter 25

**Winter Break**Week 7, February 27<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>

First-Person Approaches to Consciousness

*Reading:* Blackmore, Chapters 26 and 27

Week 8, March 6<sup>th</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup>

Healing the Troubled Mind and First-Person Approaches

*Reading:* Cacioppo et al., Chapter 15

Week 9, March 13<sup>th</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup>

The Healthy Mind

*Reading:* Cacioppo et al., Chapter 16

Week 10, March 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>

Catch up week

*No readings*



Week 11, March 27<sup>th</sup> and March 29<sup>th</sup>

The Healthy Mind

*Reading:* Cacioppo et al., Chapter 16

**Test 2 held on March 29<sup>th</sup>**

Week 12, April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>

Writing workshop

Week 13, (short week), April 10: Easter Monday, No class.

Wrapping up, final thoughts

**April 12<sup>th</sup>: classes follow a Friday Schedule**

### **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;

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.

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### **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:

**Emergency Resources (on and off campus):** <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

#### **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/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.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>

### **Statement on Pandemic Measures**

It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you’re sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

**Feeling sick?** Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or

campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you should follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

**Masks:** Masks are no longer mandatory in university buildings and facilities. However, we continue to recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. We are aware that personal preferences regarding optional mask use will vary greatly, and we ask that we all show consideration and care for each other during this transition.

**Vaccines:** While proof of vaccination is no longer required to access campus or participate in in-person Carleton activities, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact [covidinfo@carleton.ca](mailto:covidinfo@carleton.ca).

## 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](mailto: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 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.
- All final grades are subject to the Dean's approval.
- The last day for academic withdrawal for winter or fall/winter courses is March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- 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://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/>