

CGSC 2001A – INTRODUCTION TO COGNITIVE SCIENCE
INSTITUTE OF COGNITIVE SCIENCE
CARLETON UNIVERSITY
Summer 2020

Dates: July 02 – August 14 (2020)
Time: N/A
Location: Online

Instructor: Sean Riley
Office: N/A
E-mail: seanriley@cmail.carleton.ca
Office Hours: Online, and by appointment only. Please email me to arrange a time.

TA: TBA
Email: TBA
Office Hours: TBA

Course Description and Learning Objectives

This course is a broad introduction to the interdisciplinary field of Cognitive Science. We will begin with a historical introduction, followed by an investigation into the concepts of information processing and representation. Later in the term we will discuss the manner in which Cognitive Science integrates various disciplines (psychology, linguistics, philosophy, neuroscience, etc), examine information processing models of the mind, and discuss new horizons in the field (e.g., embodiment, consciousness).

Although this course serves as a core introductory credit for all Cognitive Science majors, it is also intended to be accessible to students in other disciplines, whether or not those disciplines are connected to Cognitive Science.

By the end of this class, students will be able to:

- define terms related to cognitive science
- describe historical developments that have shaped the field of cognitive science
- describe cognitive science theories and research
- compare and contrast findings from broad areas of cognitive science to explain theories of cognition

Text book required

There is no required textbook for this course. All readings will be provided via cuLearn.

Course Web Page (cuLearn)

The course website is located at <https://carleton.ca/culearn/>

On this site you will find the course syllabus, slides, and any supplementary materials.

Evaluation

Test 1*: The first test will cover content from the first portion of the course prior to test 1. More details will be provided before the test.

Test 2*: The second test will cover content starting with material after test 1 up to the content covered prior to test 2. More details will be provided before the test.

Final Exam: The final exam will be **cumulative**, and so will cover content from the entire course. More details will be provided closer to the exam date.

Paper: The paper will be short (approx. 2,000 words), and on a topic of your choosing. More details will be provided closer to the paper's due date.

*You can take each test twice, and I will count the higher of the two scores. However, each time you take the test, you will receive a different set of questions (i.e., you will not take the same exam on your second attempt as you did on your first). **The final exam can only be taken once.**

The tests and exam are based on: (i) course readings, (ii) course slides, (iii) course videos. All three will be made available via cuLearn. Watching class videos is strongly encouraged as information will be provided beyond that from the readings and slides.

Test Deferral Policy

If, for extraordinary reasons you cannot complete a test, you must notify the instructor as soon as possible **before** the deadline for the test (failure to do so will result in a grade of zero for the test). A deferred test will be permitted under only two conditions: illness or bereavement. Documentation is required in order to schedule a deferral. If no documentation is provided, you will receive a grade of zero for that test.

Weighting of the Final Grade

Test 1:	25%	[Must be taken no later than July 31]
Test 2:	25%	[Must be taken no later than August 7]
Final Exam:	30%	[Must be taken no later than August 14]
Paper:	20%	[Must be submitted no later than August 14]

You are free to complete the course requirements at your own pace, provided they are completed by the aforementioned dates. If you are unable to complete a course requirement by the listed date, please contact me as soon as possible.

E-mail Protocol and Guidelines

I will respond to e-mails within 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays). If I do not, **please send me a reminder email.**

Communication guidelines: Please write e-mails clearly using complete words, sentences and punctuation. Address your emails appropriately by using the names and titles you have asked to use when addressing your TA and professor.

Lecture Schedule

The course is broken into a series of modules that you can complete at your own pace. All readings and learning materials for each module will be available on cuLearn. **Yellow modules** comprise test 1. **Green modules** comprise test 2. The final exam is **cumulative**.

Module
Historical overview
Early theories and results
Brains and biology
Integration challenge
Intro to Physical Symbol Systems
Applying the symbolic paradigm
Other models and neural networks
Organization of the Mind
Affect
Embodiment
How are cognitive systems organized?
Consciousness
Special Topics (Academic Writing)— not part of final exam, but helpful for the paper

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar, 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

Policy on Late Papers:

Barring illness, bereavement, or other approved reasons, late papers will be penalized at a rate of 10% of the assignment value per day or part day. However, given the struggles imposed by COVID-19, I am happy to provide as much flexibility as reasonably possible, should an issue arise. Therefore, if you are running into trouble with your paper, you are **strongly** encouraged to contact me as soon as possible.

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: (i) 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; (ii) submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else; (iii) using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment; (iv) using another's data or research findings; (v) failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks; (vi) 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/>