SENSORY PROCESSES Psych2E03

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Department of Psychology
office hour: Monday 11am-12pm

Lectures: Tuesday 7:00-10:00pm CNH-104
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• Introduction to the study of sensory and perceptual processes. Chapter 1
• Introduction to the Visual System Receptors and Neural Processing. Chapter 2
• The Lateral Geniculate Nucleus and Striate Cortex-- anatomy, physiology, and perceptual processing of the central visual system. Chapter 3

• Mid-term Test Thursday October 9 7:00-9:00pm -- 25% of final grade

• Higher Level Visual Processing -- parallel processing streams and specialized neural processing of visual stimuli. Chapter 4 (NOT pg. 130-137).
• Psychophysics -- the experimental methods used to study the relationship between sensations and physical stimuli. Chapter 1 pg. 11-18.
• Perceiving Objects -- extraction and recognition of features and objects in the visual environment. Chapter 5 (NOT pg. 165-168)
• Perceiving Colour -- physiological and psychophysical studies. Chapter 6
• Perceiving Depth and Size -- various cues to depth and the underlying physiological mechanisms. Chapter 7
• Perceiving Movement -- eye movements, vestibular system; the detection and discrimination of objects moving in the environment. Chapter 8
• The Cutaneous Senses-- the receptors, neural pathways, thresholds, and adaptation of the sensations of touch. Chapter 13
• The Chemical Senses -- the anatomy, physiology, and psychophysics of the sensations of taste and smell. Chapter 14
• Auditory system -- sound; structure of the ear and arrangement of the central auditory pathways. Chapter 10
• Perception of Sound -- the detection and subjective dimensions of sounds. Chapter 11
• Speech Perception-- speech stimulus and perception. Chapter 12
• Attention -- the various methods used to select among the numerous stimuli available in our
• Perceptual constancy -- objects in the environment have a relatively constant set of properties, such as size, shape, colour. However, a number of factors can influence our perception of those properties. Chapter 6 pg 206-215; Chapter 7 pg 25-260.

Final Exam -- All Course Material, 40% of final grade

In-Class Laboratories -- Write-up one of the two in-class labs (approximately 5 typed double-spaced pages), 20% of final grade.

• In-Class lab 1 -- October 14 - due October 28
• In-Class lab 2 -- November 4 - due November 18

Definition of Terms -- Write-up 2 definitions (2 typed double-spaced pages), total 15% of final grade. Definitions will be weighted 50-50% or 30-70% which ever gives the better final grade.

Definitions due:

• Definition 1 -- September 30
• Definition 2 -- November 4

Evaluations:

90-100 A+
85-89 A
80-84 A-
77-79 B+
73-76 B
70-72 B-
67-69 C+
63-66 C
60-62 C-
57-59 D+
53-56 D
50-52 D-
0-49 F

Final marks may be adjusted up or down, on an individual basis, in light of special circumstances and/or the student’s overall performance in the course.

Lab reports or Definitions handed in late will lose one letter grade for each day past the due date.