

Common Course Outline

PSYC 213

Cognitive Psychology

3 Credits

Community College of Baltimore County

Description

PSYC 213 – Cognitive Psychology focuses on how the human mind processes information. The course covers the basics of human cognition, a field of study that includes perception, attention, memory, emotion, language, learning, reasoning, problem solving, decision-making, and information processing. The course also provides an overview of how and why the human mind evolves and how the human mind achieves the accomplishments necessary for day-to-day living.

3 Credits

Prerequisite: PSYC 101

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of theories in cognitive psychology as well as the complexity of cognitive processes;
2. explore and analyze research and theories of cognition from diverse fields of study, such as neuroscience, neuropsychology, and evolutionary psychology;
3. examine the use of research methods in cognitive psychology, and evaluate how cognitive psychologists approach the study of human thought;
4. find, evaluate, use, and cite academic resources pertaining to cognitive psychology;
5. explain how information is perceived, processed, and remembered;
6. apply scientific approaches toward an understanding of cognitive process and information processing;
7. analyze and critically evaluate speculations they encounter or develop regarding memory, language, and thought;
8. apply the knowledge they acquire about reasoning, problem solving, and related mental processing to better understand their own capabilities;
9. discuss the relationship between cognitive process and observable behavior; and
10. describe the impact of an individual's unique culture on cognitive development.

Major Topics

- I. Cognitive psychology
 - A. Historical perspectives
 - B. The role of multicultural, international, and global
 - C. Research methods in cognitive psychology

- II. Introduction to cognitive neuroscience
- III. Memory
 - A. Sensory registers
 - B. Attention
 - C. Working memory
 - D. Long term memory
 - E. Remembering and forgetting
 - F. Visual imagery
- IV. Thought
 - A. Mental processing
 - B. Reasoning
 - C. Problem solving
 - D. Creative thinking
 - E. Conceptual thinking
- V. History and theories of perception
- VI. Human information processing
 - A. Attention
 - B. Consciousness
- VII. Language
 - A. Historical and multicultural approach
 - B. Comprehension
 - C. Reading

Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

Grading/exams

- A minimum of three exams/assessments
- A minimum of three assignments/assessments that provide opportunities for students to practice course material before exams (e.g., quizzes, discussion postings, graded chapter assessments, etc.)
- A written critical thinking assignment worth a minimum of 10% of the total course grade on a topic in Cognitive Psychology. The written paper will be based on either of the following sources: psychological research articles found in print or electronic formats, film, television, and/or media, or a service learning experience

Written Assignments: Students are required to use appropriate academic resources

Other Course Information

This course is a program elective in the Humanities and Social Sciences Psychology area of concentration.