### Unit Outline

**BIOL3005 Cognition**  
**Semester 1, 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit study package code:</th>
<th>BIOL3005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mode of study:</strong></td>
<td>Internal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Tuition pattern summary:**  | Note: For any specific variations to this tuition pattern and for precise information refer to the Learning Activities section. Lecture: 1 x 2 Hours Weekly  
Computer Laboratory: 1 x 1 Hours Weekly  
This unit does not have a fieldwork component. |
| **Credit Value:**             | 25.0     |
| **Pre-requisite units:**      | 13020 (v.0) Psychology 124 or any previous version  
OR  
313460 (v.0) Foundations of Psychology 124 or any previous version  
OR  
PSYC1001 (v.0) Foundations of Psychology or any previous version  
AND  
311587 (v.0) Perception 221 or any previous version  
OR  
BIOL2005 (v.0) Perception or any previous version |
| **Co-requisite units:**       | Nil      |
| **Anti-requisite units:**     | Nil      |
| **Result type:**              | Grade/Mark |
| **Approved incidental fees:** | Information about approved incidental fees can be obtained from our website. Visit fees.curtin.edu.au/incidental_fees.cfm for details. |
| **Unit coordinator:**         | Dr  
Name: Mara Blosfelds  
Phone: +61 8 9266 7127  
Email: M.Blosfelds@curtin.edu.au  
Location: Building: 401 - Room: 214 |
| **Teaching Staff:**           |          |
| **Administrative contact:**   | Teaching Support Officer  
Name:  
Phone: +61 8 9266 7279  
Email: psych-office@exchange.curtin.edu.au  
Location: Building: 401 - Room: 220 (reception) |
Learning Management System: Blackboard (lms.curtin.edu.au)
Acknowledgement of Country

We respectfully acknowledge the Indigenous Elders, custodians, their descendants and kin of this land past and present.

Syllabus

Examination of human cognitive processes from neuropsychological and behavioural perspectives with a particular emphasis on memory and language. Other topics include imagery, capacity limitations in mental functioning, and the cognitive neuroscience of higher mental functions.

Introduction

Cognition concerns the scientific study of how we attend, perceive, remember, imagine, think logically, solve problems, communicate, and plan and execute actions. In this unit the lectures and laboratory classes will focus on a particular selection of topics: the nature of memory, the psychology of language, explanations for the mind’s limited capacity for cognitive processing, visual imagery, and the relation between mental activity, brain structure, and function.

Unit Learning Outcomes

All graduates of Curtin University achieve a set of nine graduate attributes during their course of study. These tell an employer that, through your studies, you have acquired discipline knowledge and a range of other skills and attributes which employers say would be useful in a professional setting. Each unit in your course addresses the graduate attributes through a clearly identified set of learning outcomes. They form a vital part in the process referred to as assurance of learning. The learning outcomes tell you what you are expected to know, understand or be able to do in order to be successful in this unit. Each assessment for this unit is carefully designed to test your achievement of one or more of the unit learning outcomes. On successfully completing all of the assessments you will have achieved all of these learning outcomes.

Your course has been designed so that on graduating we can say you will have achieved all of Curtin’s Graduate Attributes through the assurance of learning process in each unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>On successful completion of this unit students can:</th>
<th>Graduate Attributes addressed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Explain major theories and studies in cognitive psychology</td>
<td><img src="ctl.curtin.edu.au" alt="Graduate Attributes" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Describe, compare and contrast a range of theories and approaches to cognitive psychology</td>
<td><img src="ctl.curtin.edu.au" alt="Graduate Attributes" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Critically evaluate psychological theory on the basis of available evidence</td>
<td><img src="ctl.curtin.edu.au" alt="Graduate Attributes" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Apply cognitive psychological concepts to real life events</td>
<td><img src="ctl.curtin.edu.au" alt="Graduate Attributes" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Curtin’s Graduate Attributes

| ![Graduate Attributes](ctl.curtin.edu.au) | Apply discipline knowledge |
| ![Graduate Attributes](ctl.curtin.edu.au) | Thinking skills (use analytical skills to solve problems) |
| ![Graduate Attributes](ctl.curtin.edu.au) | Information skills (confidence to investigate new ideas) |
| ![Graduate Attributes](ctl.curtin.edu.au) | Communication skills |
| ![Graduate Attributes](ctl.curtin.edu.au) | Technology skills |
| ![Graduate Attributes](ctl.curtin.edu.au) | Learning how to learn (apply principles learnt to new situations) (confidence to tackle unfamiliar problems) |
| ![Graduate Attributes](ctl.curtin.edu.au) | International perspective (value the perspectives of others) |
| ![Graduate Attributes](ctl.curtin.edu.au) | Cultural understanding (value the perspectives of others) |
| ![Graduate Attributes](ctl.curtin.edu.au) | Professional Skills (work independently and as a team) (plan own work) |

Find out more about Curtin’s Graduate attributes at the Office of Teaching & Learning website: ctl.curtin.edu.au
Learning Activities

Lectures in this unit are designed to provide you with both general and specific details of each topic covered. Your lecturers will use practical examples and current research to illustrate the topics covered.

The laboratories are designed to be interactive. "More effective learning occurs when the learning experiences are engaging, that is, when the students are ‘doing’ rather than just ‘listening’." Therefore, you will be participants in experiments similar to those discussed in the lectures, and the ensuing discussions will allow you to understand better the concepts being covered in the unit.

Lecture: Tuesday 2.00pm – 4.00pm 403.101

Laboratories:
  Monday 9.00am – 10.00am 308.104
  Monday 10.00am – 11.00am 308.104
  Monday 11.00am – 12.00pm 308.104
  Monday 12.00pm – 1.00pm 401.151
  Monday 1.00pm – 2.00pm 401.151
  Tuesday 8.00am – 9.00am 308.104
  Tuesday 9.00am – 10.00am 308.104
  Wednesday 11.00am – 12.00pm 401.151
  Wednesday 2.00pm – 3.00pm 401.151
Learning Resources
Library Reserve
There are resources for this unit in the library Reserve collection. To access these resources, please click on the following link:
http://link.library.curtin.edu.au/primo/course?BIOL3005

Essential texts
The required textbook(s) for this unit are:


Other resources
The learning resources for Cognition can be found within Blackboard. These resources include:

- Lecture notes which can be downloaded and printed prior to each lecture
- Link to on-line Textbook resources
- Assessment Materials (including assignment questions and guidelines)
- Link to Unit Outline

I will post important information about the unit on this site so it is recommended that you check it weekly. Blackboard also includes a Discussion Board which may be used for communication between staff and students enrolled in the unit. This discussion board should only be used for matters relevant to THIS unit. If you have a question you would like to direct to me about the content of the unit, please use the discussion board so that all students can benefit from the information provided. If you have a question or query that only concerns you, please use the Email facility, or contact me using any of the above means (see p. 1).

You do not have to purchase the following textbooks but you may like to refer to them.

Assessment

Assessment schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Value %</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
<th>Unit Learning Outcome(s) Assessed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>20 percent</td>
<td>Week: 7, Day: Wed 13 April - Fri 15 April, Time: TBA</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>30 percent</td>
<td>Week: 11, Day: Monday 9 May, Time: 4.30pm</td>
<td>1,2,3,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination</td>
<td>50 percent</td>
<td>Week: Exam, Fortnight, Day: TBA, Time: TBA</td>
<td>1,2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Detailed information on assessment tasks

1. TEST: The mid semester test will take place in the Assessment Centre in Week 7. The test will comprise 40 multiple choice questions and students will be allowed 40 minutes to complete their answers. The test will cover the lecture content, the material in any assigned readings and the laboratory exercises, for the first five teaching weeks of semester (Weeks 1-4, 6).

   The textbook companion site has practice multiple choice questions for each chapter to help you prepare for these tests (see link on Blackboard).

2. ASSIGNMENT: Information about this component of the assessment will be available on Blackboard.

3. EXAMINATION: The exam will be two hours long and will take place at the end of Semester 1, during the University Examination Period (Monday 13 June - Friday 24 June, 2016). The times and dates of these examinations are scheduled by the University Administration. It is your responsibility to establish the date, time, and place of your examinations. Note: You MUST keep these two weeks free of other commitments.

   The examination will assess material that was covered in the unit in Weeks 7-14, including material from the lectures, laboratory classes, textbook, and any additional required readings.

Pass requirements

In order to pass the unit you must:

1. Complete and submit ALL pieces of assessment
2. Obtain an overall mark of 50% or higher

Fair assessment through moderation

Moderation describes a quality assurance process to ensure that assessments are appropriate to the learning outcomes, and that student work is evaluated consistently by assessors. Minimum standards for the moderation of assessment are described in the Assessment and Student Progression Manual, available from policies.curtin.edu.au/policies/teachingandlearning.cfm

Late assessment policy

This ensures that the requirements for submission of assignments and other work to be assessed are fair, transparent, equitable, and that penalties are consistently applied.

1. All assessments students are required to submit will have a due date and time specified on this Unit Outline.
2. Students will be penalised by a deduction of ten percent per calendar day for a late assessment submission (eg a mark equivalent to 10% of the total allocated for the assessment will be deducted from the marked value for every day that the assessment is late). This means that an assessment worth 20 marks will have two marks deducted per calendar day late. Hence if it was handed in three calendar days late and given a mark of 16/20, the student would receive 10/20. An assessment more than seven calendar days overdue will not be marked and will receive a mark of 0.

Assessment extension

A student unable to complete an assessment task by/on the original published date/time (eg examinations, tests) or due date/time (eg assignments) must apply for an assessment extension using the Assessment Extension form (available from the Forms page at students.curtin.edu.au/administration/) as prescribed by the Academic Registrar. It is the responsibility of the student to demonstrate and provide evidence for exceptional circumstances beyond the student's control that prevent them from completing/submitting the assessment task.

The student will be expected to lodge the form and supporting documentation with the unit coordinator before the assessment date/time or due date/time. An application may be accepted up to five working days after the date or due date of the assessment task where the student is able to provide an acceptable explanation as to why he or she was not able to submit the application prior to the assessment date. An application for an assessment extension will not be accepted after the date of the Board of Examiners' meeting.

Please note: Applications for assessment extensions for this unit should be submitted to the Student Support Officer at psych-office@exchange.curtin.edu.au. Students will be notified of the outcome of extension requests via the OCC (Official Communications Channel) located within OASIS.

If the circumstances for your extension application are likely to impact on multiple units, please also make an appointment to see the Course Coordinator (A/Professor Natalie Gasson: n.gasson@curtin.edu.au)

Deferred assessments

If your results show that you have been granted a deferred assessment you should immediately check your OASIS email for details.

Deferred examinations/tests will be held from 19/07/2016 to 20/07/2016. Notification to students will be made after the Board of Examiners’ meeting via the Official Communications Channel (OCC) in OASIS.

Supplementary assessments

Supplementary assessments are not available in this unit.

Referencing style

The referencing style for this unit is APA 6th Ed.

More information can be found on this style from the Library web site: http://libguides.library.curtin.edu.au/referencing.

Copyright

© Curtin University. The course material for this unit is provided to you for your own research and study only. It is subject to copyright. It is a copyright infringement to make this material available on third party websites.

Academic Integrity (including plagiarism and cheating)

Any conduct by a student that is dishonest or unfair in connection with any academic work is considered to be academic misconduct. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offences that will be investigated and may result in penalties such as reduced or zero grades, annulled units or even termination from the course.

Plagiarism occurs when work or property of another person is presented as one's own, without appropriate acknowledgement or referencing. Submitting work which has been produced by someone else (eg. allowing or contracting another person to do the work for which you claim authorship) is also plagiarism. Submitted work is subjected to a plagiarism detection process, which may include the use of text matching systems or interviews with
students to determine authorship. Cheating includes (but is not limited to) asking or paying someone to complete an assessment task for you or any use of unauthorised materials or assistance during an examination or test.

From Semester 1, 2016, all incoming coursework students are required to complete Curtin’s Academic Integrity Program (AIP). If a student does not pass the program by the end of their first study period of enrolment at Curtin, their marks will be withheld until they pass. More information about the AIP can be found at: https://academicintegrity.curtin.edu.au/students/AIP.cfm

Refer to the Academic Integrity tab in Blackboard or academicintegrity.curtin.edu.au for more information, including student guidelines for avoiding plagiarism.

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Expectations

Curtin students are expected to have reliable internet access in order to connect to OASIS email and learning systems such as Blackboard and Library Services.

You may also require a computer or mobile device for preparing and submitting your work.

For general ICT assistance, in the first instance please contact OASIS Student Support: oasisapps.curtin.edu.au/help/general/support.cfm

For specific assistance with any of the items listed below, please contact The Learning Centre: life.curtin.edu.au/learning-support/learning_centre.htm

- Using Blackboard, the I Drive and Back-Up files
- Introduction to PowerPoint, Word and Excel

Additional information

Enrolment

It is your responsibility to ensure that your enrolment is correct - you can check your enrolment through the eStudent option on OASIS, where you can also print an Enrolment Advice.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of every student to be aware of all relevant legislation, policies and procedures relating to their rights and responsibilities as a student. These include:

- the Student Charter
- the University’s Guiding Ethical Principles
- the University’s policy and statements on plagiarism and academic integrity
- copyright principles and responsibilities
- the University’s policies on appropriate use of software and computer facilities

Information on all these things is available through the University’s “Student Rights and Responsibilities” website at: students.curtin.edu.au/rights.
Student Equity

There are a number of factors that might disadvantage some students from participating in their studies or assessments to the best of their ability, under standard conditions. These factors may include a disability or medical condition (e.g. mental illness, chronic illness, physical or sensory disability, learning disability), significant family responsibilities, pregnancy, religious practices, living in a remote location or another reason. If you believe you may be unfairly disadvantaged on these or other grounds please contact Student Equity at eesi@curtin.edu.au or go to http://eesi.curtin.edu.au/student_equity/index.cfm for more information.

You can also contact Counselling and Disability services: http://www.disability.curtin.edu.au or the Multi-faith services: http://life.curtin.edu.au/health-and-wellbeing/about_multifaith_services.htm for further information.

It is important to note that the staff of the university may not be able to meet your needs if they are not informed of your individual circumstances so please get in touch with the appropriate service if you require assistance. For general wellbeing concerns or advice please contact Curtin’s Student Wellbeing Advisory Service at: http://life.curtin.edu.au/health-and-wellbeing/student_wellbeing_service.htm

Recent unit changes

Students are encouraged to provide unit feedback through eVALUate, Curtin’s online student feedback system. For more information about eVALUate, please refer to evaluate.curtin.edu.au/info/.

To view previous student feedback about this unit, search for the Unit Summary Report at https://evaluate.curtin.edu.au/student/unit_search.cfm. See https://evaluate.curtin.edu.au/info/dates.cfm to find out when you can eVALUate this unit.

Recent changes to this unit include:

The assessment format has been changed so that the exam assesses only the second half of the semester, while the assignment and mid-semester test assess the content of the first half of the semester.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Begin Date</th>
<th>Lecture Topic (Textbook pre-readings)</th>
<th>Laboratory</th>
<th>Assessment Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>22 Feb</td>
<td>Orientation Week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>29 Feb</td>
<td>Introduction to Cognition (CH 1) Cognition and the Brain (CH 2)</td>
<td>Cognition &amp; the Brain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>7 Mar</td>
<td>Attention (CH 4)</td>
<td>Attention</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>14 Mar</td>
<td>Short Term &amp; Working Memory (CH 5)</td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>21 Mar</td>
<td>Long Term Memory: Structure (CH 6)</td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>28 Mar</td>
<td>Tuition Free Week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>4 Apr</td>
<td>Long Term Memory: Encoding &amp; Retrieval (CH 7)</td>
<td>Memory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>11 Apr</td>
<td>Everyday Memory (CH 8)</td>
<td>Plain Writing Activity Test (13-15 April)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>18 Apr</td>
<td>Tuition Free Week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>25 Apr</td>
<td>Knowledge (CH 9)</td>
<td>NO LABS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>Visual Imagery (CH 10)</td>
<td>Imagery</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>9 May</td>
<td>Language (CH 11 &amp; Carroll)</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Assignment (Mon 9 May)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>16 May</td>
<td>Language (CH 11 &amp; Carroll)</td>
<td>Language</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>Problem Solving, Reasoning, and Decision Making (CHs 12 &amp; 13)</td>
<td>Reasoning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>30 May</td>
<td>Cognition Topics</td>
<td>Decision Making</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>6 June</td>
<td></td>
<td>Study Week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>13 June</td>
<td></td>
<td>Exams Week 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>20 June</td>
<td></td>
<td>Exams Week 2</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>