

Psychology 394 Memory: Fall 2018 Syllabus

Meetings: Mondays 7:00-10:00pm Olin-Rice 300

Instructor: Dr. Katrina B. Schleisman, Visiting Professor

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Office hours: by appointment via email

Why should you study memory?

Memory is fundamental to our lives. It underlies our ability to share experiences and culture; it defines how we are unique. In this course we will explore various types of memory that have been identified through research into human and non-human animal behavior. We will explore questions such as: how can we have vivid, movie-like memories for events that never happened? We will see how this mis-match between experience and memory can be viewed both as a problem that can result in memory errors, and as a positive form of cognitive flexibility. How are memories stored and retrieved in the brain? We will discuss research that relates behavior to brain function and gain a better understanding of how the structure of our nervous system enables key insights into how our memory systems work.

Course Format

The course will be delivered in-person in discussion format. In addition to attending class you will be responsible for completing weekly assigned readings outside of class time (30-40 pages per week). Your overall performance in Psyc 394 will be evaluated on the following:

Class attendance and participation (25% of grade): You must be in class to earn credit for participation, no exceptions. Coming to class prepared for discussion and contributing questions and comments to the group during each class period is expected.

Discussion leading (15% of grade): Each class period will include careful review of the assigned readings. Discussions of articles will be led by students. You will be provided with a sign-up sheet each week for leading the discussion on a selected section of one or more of the assigned readings for class.

Out-of-class scheduled quizzes (20% of grade): There will be 36 brief quizzes spaced throughout the course. Quizzes will be sent via email (Google forms) on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning at 10:00am each week. You will have until 10:00pm the following day (36 hours) to complete each quiz, and each one should take roughly 10 minutes. All quizzes will relate to the assigned readings for that week. No late or make-up quizzes are permitted. Credit on each quiz will be given half for on-time completion, and half for completeness/correctness.

Final written research proposal (40% of grade): You will create a written research proposal for a scientific study on a specific topic within memory research. The proposal will be created throughout the weeks in sections and through multiple draft revisions. The written report must be approximately 20 double-spaced pages in 11pt font and must develop and defend a well-specified research proposal. Further details on the project will be discussed in class.

Grading Policy (%)

Your course grade will be determined according to the following rubric:

100 - 93	A	82.9 - 80	B-	69.9 - 67	D+
92.9 - 90	A-	79.9 - 77	C+	66.9 - 60	D
89.9 - 87	B+	76.9 - 73	C	59.9 <	NC
86.9 - 83	B	72.9 - 70	C-		

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, learning, or psychological disabilities. Contact the Dean of Students Office (x6220) within the first two weeks of the semester to ensure accommodations are made.

Academic Honesty in Psyc 394

Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class and will result in automatic failure of that assignment, potential notification of the offense to the Dean of Students office and the possibility of failing Psyc 394. It is assumed that you use your own words and are the sole author of every assignment that you submit. Use paraphrasing, quotes or rewrite the ideas in your own voice, *but always cite your source.*

General class schedule (subject to change):

Week	Day	Date	Schedule
1	M	9/10	intro to learning & memory
2	M	9/17	long-term potentiation (LTP)
3	M	9/24	TBD
4	M	10/1	TBD
5	M	10/8	TBD; proposal topic due
6	M	10/15	TBD
7	M	10/22	TBD
8	M	10/29	TBD
9	M	11/5	TBD
10	M	11/12	TBD
11	M	11/19	first complete draft due, 7:00pm
12	M	11/26	TBD
13	M	12/3	TBD
14	M	12/10	last day of class, peer review
	M	12/12	final draft due, 11:59pm