

Psychology 205, Perception
 Spring, 2008
 Professor James Cutting

305 Uris Auditorium
 TR, 11:40-12:55

SYLLABUS

Text: J. Wolfe et al (2006) *Sensation & Perception*
 1st ed. Sutherland, MA: Sinauer Assoc.

Course Website: register and
 go through <http://blackboard.cornell.edu>

Office Hours (all in Uris Hall): & email

J. Cutting	270, M 9:45-11:15,	jec7
Claudia Gilson	B101 Th 1:30-3:30	cmg56
Shanette Porter	G72, T 4-6	scp39
Supriya Syal	B107, T 2-4	ss572

Week	Day	Date	Lecture topic	Reading assignment
1	T	22 Jan:	Doctrine of the specific qualities of nerves.	no reading assignment
	R	24 Jan:	Two metaphors for cognitive neuroscience.	Chapter 1: 2-25. Introduction
2	T	29 Jan:	Two psychophysical phenomena, plus an experiment.	No reading assignment
	R	31 Jan:	Signal detection theory.	Chapter 13: 314-339. Olfaction.
3	T	5 Feb:	Chemical senses.	Chapter 14: 340-361. Taste
	R	7 Feb:	Three kinds of adaptation.	No reading assignment.
4	T	12 Feb:	Skin, pain, and phantom limbs.	Chapter 12: 286-313. Touch
	R	14 Feb:	Haptics, posture, and movement.	Chapter 9: 204-233. Hearing: Physiology and psychoacoustics
5	T	19 Feb:	Sounds, the ear, and deafness.	Chapter 10: 234-259. Hearing and the environment
	R	21 Feb:	[no lecture]	Chapter 11: 260-285. Music and speech perception
6	T	26 Feb:	Parapsychology.	No reading assignment
	R	28 Feb:	FIRST PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION , during class time.	Question answering session to be arranged. No makeups.
7	T	4 Mar:	Light and the eye.	Chapter 2: 26-45. Light and the eye
	R	6 Mar:	Lateral inhibition.	No reading assignment

[1st prelims handed back]

- 8 T 11 Mar: Visual pathways.
Chapter 3: 46-73. Spatial vision
R 13 Mar: Hemispheric specialization.
No reading assignment

Spring break

- 9 T 25 Mar: Acuity reconsidered.
Chapter 4: 74-97. Perceiving and recognizing objects
R 27 Mar: Form and Gestalt qualities.
No reading assignment
- 10 T 1 Apr: Color, history, and physiology.
Chapter 5: 98-125. The perception of color
R 3 Apr: Color, luminance, and pathways.
No reading assignment
- 11 T 8 Apr: Depth and layout.
Chapter 6: 126-153. Space perception and binocular vision
R 10 Apr: Invariants, gradients, and fractals.
No reading assignment
- 12 T 15 Apr: Motion and film.
Chapter 7: 154-175. Motion perception.
R 17 Apr: The structure and perception of events.
No reading assignment
- 13 T 22 Apr: **SECOND PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.** material since 1st prelim.
Question answering session to be arranged. No makeups.
R 24 Apr: Illusions.
Chapter 8: 176-203. Attention and scene perception
- 14 T 29 Apr: Perception of faces.
no reading assignment
R 1 May: The common sensibles and sensory substitution. [2nd prelims handed back with provisional final grades]
no reading assignment
- W 14 May: **FINAL EXAM**, 2:00-4:30. Comprehensive.
Question answering session to be arranged. No early exams.

Contract: Your grade will be determined by the mean of your two highest grades. Thus, if you are happy with your two prelim grades, you need not take the final. But, there are no makeups for the prelims or for the final. [Members of athletic teams and others away on Cornell University business during the prelims may take the exam while they are away under the supervision of a trainer, coach, or faculty sponsor. Please notify me well in advance so that arrangements can be made.]

Extra credit: Given that the bulk of the presentation of material in this course is experimental, I have found it useful for students to participate in experiments. To this end, you may earn up to three points of extra credit towards your grade should you choose to participate in these experiments, as sponsored through this class. These points would be added to your second lowest grade, after the lowest has been dropped.