



# Cognitive Processes

## ABOUT

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In this course, you will take a closer look at psychological science. Here we focus on cognition, where we explore the scientific study of the mind. Cognition includes attention, perception, language, imagery, memory, learning, and thinking. We will cover these topics by examining behavioural and neural phenomena. We will also discuss alterations in cognitive processes in clinical and neurological contexts.

## YOUR TEAM

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**Instructor:** Dr. Daniela Palombo (She/Her)

[daniela.palombo@ubc.ca](mailto:daniela.palombo@ubc.ca)

Hello! I am an Assistant Professor in the Psychology Department at UBC and I run a [cognitive neuroscience](#) laboratory, where we investigate memory and imagination. I joined UBC in 2018 so my lab turns 4 this summer! I enjoy teaching PSYC309A and have done so a number of times. I also teach PSYC333 from time to time. I am looking forward to getting to know all of you this term.

**TA:** Omran Safi (he/him/his)

[osafi@psych.ubc.ca](mailto:osafi@psych.ubc.ca)

Hello! I am a first year MA student working with Dr. Palombo and I study how emotion affects episodic memory and imagination. I'm a big fan of sci-fi, martial arts, and hiking. I'm not a big fan of heist movies and brunch. Feel free to ask me any questions along the way! Email is preferred but ravens and carrier pigeons are also acceptable!

See canvas home page for office hours

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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The land in which our classroom is located is the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. If you would like to learn more about respectful engagement with Indigenous communities, please consider [Respect, Sincerity & Responsibility](#) on Canvas.

## FORMAT

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As we continue to learn in a global pandemic, we will work together to make the most out of this class. **This course has been designed with flexibility to ensure we can all prioritize our health and well-being, while maximizing your likelihood for success in this class.** As of now (i.e., the time of preparing this syllabus), the first two-weeks of the class (Jan 10 – 24<sup>th</sup>) will involve online teaching due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, including the spread of the Omicron variant. Accordingly, this period will involve pre-recorded lectures, which will be posted on Canvas. Thereafter (unless told otherwise by the university), this course will include a Tuesday pre-recorded lecture (posted Tuesday before class to Canvas) and a Thursday live lecture (also recorded and posted to Canvas after class). See below for COVID-19 policies. For live lectures, students will not appear in the recorded posting unless they approach the podium. Out of respect for your privacy, I will not call on you by name when you ask a question during a live class. PDF versions of the slides will be posted on Canvas to facilitate note taking. Lectures will be based on textbook content and beyond. The latter includes relevant content (e.g., hot topics in the field), discussion of other reading material or occasional video clips. Canvas quizzes are held during regular class time but can be completed remotely. Accommodations will *not* be made for students taking other classes at the same time as PSYC309A. Please do not double book yourself! ***Out of respect for your class, and to avoid copyright violations, photographing, screenshotting, or video or audio recording of any lectures or exams is not allowed.***

## PRE-REQS

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Pre-reqs: Either (a) [PSYC 100](#) or (b) two of [PSYC 101](#), [PSYC 102](#), [PSYC 205](#), [PSYC 207](#), [PSYC 208](#), [PSYC 216](#), [PSYC 217](#), [PSYC 277](#). (Strongly recommended: [PSYC 101](#) and either [PSYC 216](#) or one of [PSYC 217](#) or 277.)

## LEARNING MATERIALS (TEXTBOOK)

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Cognitive Psychology:  
Connecting Mind, Research, and Everyday Experience (5<sup>th</sup> edition)  
Bruce Goldstein

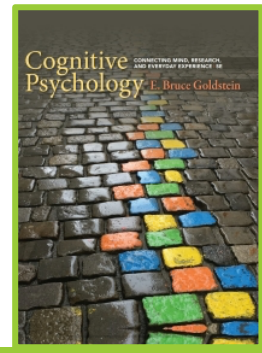
E-version required (“Mindtap”); hard copy optional. A lot of students ask me what “Mindtap” is. Mindtap is just the name used to describe the e-version of the text—it does come with extra activities but those are **not** expected or required of you.

See the links for instructions.

Getting started:

[https://www.cengage.com/coursepages/UBC\\_W22\\_PSYC309A1](https://www.cengage.com/coursepages/UBC_W22_PSYC309A1)

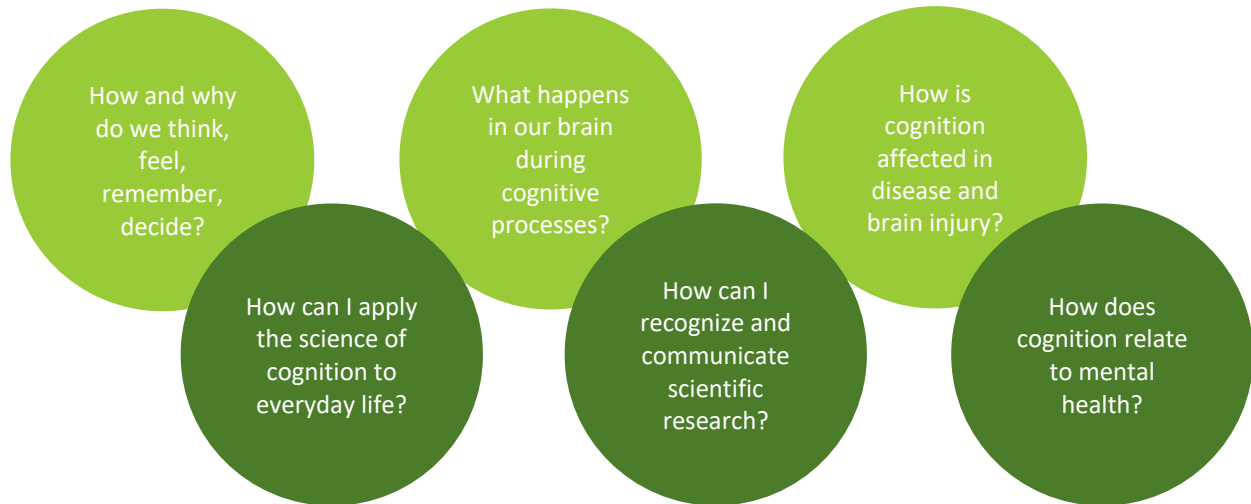
Then go to: <https://login.nelsonbrain.com/course/MTPQXN9QD3K2>



## WHY THIS CLASS?

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After taking this class you will be able to answer these Questions:



## ASSESSMENT

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All grades will be posted on Canvas as soon as they are available. See Policy section below for grading specific policies. We will try to post the grades as quickly as possible but this is a large class with only one TA and we prioritize quality of grading over speed.

**Quizzes 1-3 (30%; each worth 10%)**

The quizzes (one quiz per module) are based on material from the textbook, lectures, supplementary readings, and videos. The format of each quiz will be discussed in advance of each quiz. Quizzes take place on Canvas during class time but can be performed remotely. Students should use the terminology (and spelling) used in this course for short answer questions. **If you have an accommodation that gives you extra time to write the quiz, please email your accommodation letter to me several days in advance (this needs to be set up in Canvas manually). Quizzes will not be returned to you but can be discussed in office hours with Omran.**

**Term Paper (30%)**

The short paper involves an essay critiquing an article assigned to you (see assignment outline on Canvas).

**Final Exam (40%)**

The final exam is cumulative. The format and medium of the final exam will be discussed later in the course. If permitted by the university, and depending on the situation with COVID-19, I will strongly consider a Canvas ('remote') format for the final.

**Extra Credit (3%)**

You can gain research experience by serving as a participant in one of the many different psychological studies that are being conducted by the department. For each hour of experimental participation, you can earn one credit towards your final grade. You can sign up for studies by visiting <https://ubc-psych.sona-systems.com/>. If you prefer, you can earn these same extra credits by completing a library-writing project, in which you read and summarize a peer-reviewed research article. You can find out more about how you can earn extra credits at <https://psych.ubc.ca/hsp>. There you will find a detailed guide about how to participate in the HSP, how-to videos, and a list of frequently asked questions. **It is extremely important that you check your recorded bonus points for this course before the online system closes at the end of the term. Please ensure you assigned the credits to the correct course.**

**Library Assignment Update for Spring 2022:**

The class ID is 33005051, class name is "HSP 2021-2022 (Spring)" and password is "Research".

## COMMUNICATION

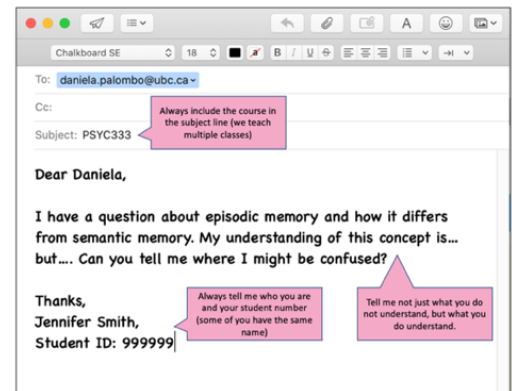
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### Website

All materials for this course are available on Canvas.

### Email

The best way to get in touch with us is through our UBC e-mails, with an expected response within 48 h on weekdays. (Please check for the information in the syllabus first.) I understand that some students do not feel comfortable emailing professors. They do not know what to say, or how to say it. Try something like this (right panel). Remember, we want to hear from you and we are here to help! **Email me for content questions and Omran for assessment questions (quizzes, assignments, etc.).** Please include the course code and section in the email, along with your name and student number.



### Zoom Office

See the home page of Canvas for weekly office hours. It is preferred that you try to make it to the office hours scheduled if you can. However, to schedule an appointment with one of us outside of this time (e.g., if you are in a different time zone), send us an email.

### Course Announcements

We will send out announcements through Canvas, which will arrive to you through email. **Please check your spam mail to make sure you have not missed any messages from us.** Please check Canvas often for other notices.

## COVID-19 SAFETY

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You are required by provincial mandate to wear a non-medical mask during live lectures, including entering and exiting the building. This is for your own protection and for the safety and comfort of everyone in the classroom. Proper wearing of non-medical masks includes covering your nose and mouth. Mask wearing is a primary tool to help combat the spread of COVID-19. **Do not attend class without a mask unless you have an approved exemption.** You can request an exemption to the mask mandate, based on one of the grounds for exemption detailed in [the PHO Order on Face Coverings \(COVID-19\)](#). Such requests must be made through the Center for Accessibility ([info.accessibility@ubc.ca](mailto:info.accessibility@ubc.ca)) and will be communicated to me thereafter. **I ask that you kindly refrain from eating during class out of respect for your classmates and myself.** If you are drinking fluids, please keep your mask on between sips.

**If you feel unwell** (see self-assessment here: <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>) or if you have tested positive for COVID-19, **please do not come to class.** Likewise, I will not come to class if I am feeling unwell and will notify you via Canvas announcement.

## DIVERSITY AND ACCESS

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Our classroom is one that is equitable, diverse, inclusive, and supportive. We respect and elevate each other. We are a team. Please remain respectful of your classmates, instructor, TA, and guest lecturers at all times.

UBC is committed to equal opportunity for all of its students including those with documented physical or learning disabilities. If you have a disability that affects your learning or performance in class, including exam writing, please visit: <http://students.ubc.ca/about/access>. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students for religious and cultural observances.

## COPYRIGHT

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All materials of this course (syllabus, course handouts, lecture slides, podcasts, assessments, course readings, etc.) are the intellectual property of either Dr. Palombo or UBC, or licensed to be used in this course by Dr. Palombo in the Winter 2 term of 2022 at UBC. **Redistribution of these materials by any means without permission of the copyright holder(s) constitutes a breach of copyright.** For example, you are not permitted to redistribute any recordings of lectures, slides, or assignments without permission (including posting online to sites off the University of British Columbia servers).

## POLICIES

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### Grading

In order to reduce grade inflation and maintain equity across multiple course sections, all psychology classes are required to comply with departmental norms regarding grade distributions. **However, in the spirit of flexibility and compassion in light of COVID-19 and the associated pivoting to online teaching, those departmental norms have been adjusted upwards by 5% for only 2020W.** According to these adjusted norms, the average grade in 100- and 200-level Psychology classes will be 72 for an exceptionally strong class, 70 for an average class, and 68 for a weak class, with a standard deviation of 14. **The corresponding figures for 300- and 400-level classes will be 75, 73, and 71, with a standard deviation of 13.** Scaling may be used in order to comply with these norms; grades may be scaled up or down as necessary by an instructor or the department. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.

### Disputing a Grade

Any complaint about a graded item should be made in writing to Omran and should detail the point of contention. All complaints should be made within **1 week** of receiving your grade. After 1 week, we will not accept complaints. If you received your mark on a Tuesday, you will have until the end of the day on the subsequent Tuesday to file a complaint.

### **Missing a Quiz or Final Exam**

There are no make-ups. If you need to miss a quiz and concession is granted (see concession links below), I will re-weight your other quizzes to equally cover the missed marks. If you receive concession for multiple quizzes (see concession links below), your final exam will be re-weighted to account for any additional missed quizzes. If you must miss the final exam, you will need to apply for deferred standing via your Faculty academic advising office. Please do not make April travel or work plans until the final exam schedule is released in February.

### **Late Assignment**

In the absence of concession (see concession links below), there is a 5% penalty per day for lateness for the term assignment and the assignment will not be accepted if it is more than one week late.

### **Obtaining Concession**

For course policies regarding in-term academic concessions, please refer to the relevant UBC [calendar entry](#). Faculty of Arts-specific information is [here](#). For your first request for concession, please fill out the [self-declaration form](#) and notify me. If you are making additional requests for concession, please contact [Arts Academic Advising](#) and notify me.

### **Academic Integrity**

“The academic enterprise is founded on honesty, civility, and integrity. As members of this enterprise, all students are expected to know, understand, and follow the codes of conduct regarding academic integrity. At the most basic level, this means submitting only original work done by you and acknowledging all sources of information or ideas and attributing them to others as required. This also means you should not cheat, copy, or mislead others about what is your work. Violations of academic integrity (i.e., misconduct) lead to the breakdown of the academic enterprise, and therefore serious consequences arise and harsh sanctions are imposed. For example, incidences of plagiarism or cheating may result in a mark of zero on the assignment or exam and more serious consequences may apply if the matter is referred to the President’s Advisory Committee on Student Discipline. Careful records are kept in order to monitor and prevent recurrences. A more detailed description of academic integrity, including the University’s policies and procedures, may be found in the [Academic Calendar](#).”

### **Additional University Policies**

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom.

## RESOURCES

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The Equity and Inclusion Office has put together a list of resources to help you when you need it, available at <https://equity.ubc.ca/resources/students/>. Here are some:

### The Centre for Accessibility

Provides support for students with a disability or ongoing medical condition (academic accommodations, exam accommodations, financial support and assistance).

**Tel: 604.822.5844**

**Email: [accessibility@ubc.ca](mailto:accessibility@ubc.ca)**

### Counselling Services

Offers a variety of services to help you manage mental health concerns

**Tel: 604.822.3811**

### The Wellness Centre

Includes a staff of trained student volunteers available to help you with mental and physical health

**Tel: 604.822.8450**

**Email: [wellness.centre@ubc.ca](mailto:wellness.centre@ubc.ca)**

### Here2Talk

A mental health service which provides free, confidential counselling as well as community referral services 24/7 via app, phone and web.

**Tel: 1-877-857-3397 (Canada-wide toll free)**

**Tel: 604-642-5212 (direct)**

## HOW CAN I DO WELL IN THIS COURSE?

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SCHEDULE

Module	Date	Medium	Topic	Lecturer	Chapter
1	11-Jan	Pre-recorded	Introduction to Cognitive Psychology 1	Palombo	Ch 1
	13-Jan	Pre-recorded	Cognitive Neuroscience 1	Palombo (Brief Guest Lecture: Leena Alkhamash)	Ch 2
	18-Jan	Pre-recorded	Cognitive Neuroscience 2	Palombo	Ch 2
	20-Jan	Pre-recorded	Cognitive Neuroscience 3	Palombo	Ch 2
	25-Jan	Pre-recorded	Perception 1	Palombo	Ch 3
	27-Jan	Live (in class)	Perception 2	Palombo	Ch 3
	01-Feb	Pre-recorded	Attention	Palombo	Ch 4
	03-Feb	Pre-recorded	Short-Term Memory	Palombo	Ch 5
	08-Feb	Canvas	Quiz 1		
2	10-Feb	Live (in class)	Long-Term Memory: Structure 1	Palombo	Ch 6
	15-Feb	Pre-recorded	Long-Term Memory: Structure 2	Palombo	Ch 6

	17-Feb	Live (in class)	Term Paper Tips	Palombo	-
	22-Feb	-	Reading Week	-	Rest
	24-Feb	-	Reading Week	-	Rest
	01-Mar	Pre-recorded	Special Topic: How to Conduct Cognitive Science Research	Palombo	-
	03-Mar	Live (in class)	Long-Term Memory: Structure 3	Palombo	Ch 6
	08-Mar	Live (in class)	Come to a live class for last minute questions about term paper	-	-
	10-Mar	Canvas	Quiz 2 (2:10 pm); ***New*** term paper deadline (midnight)		
3	15-Mar	Pre-recorded	Watch Documentary	-	Documentary (link will be provided)
	17-Mar	Live (in class)	Long-Term Memory: Encoding and Retrieval 1	Palombo	Ch. 7
	22-Mar	Pre-recorded	Long-Term Memory: Encoding and Retrieval 2	Palombo + (Short Guest Lecture: Stephanie Simpson)	Ch. 7
	24-Mar	Live (in class)	Everyday Memory and Memory Errors 1	Palombo	Ch 8
	29-Mar	Pre-recorded	Everyday Memory and Memory Errors 2	(Short Guest Lecture: Chantelle Cocquyt & Victoria Wardell)	Ch 8

	31-Mar	Live (in class)	Everyday Memory and Memory Errors 3	Palombo	Ch 8
	05-Apr	Pre-recorded	Imagination and Visual Imagery	Palombo + (Short Guest Lecture: Omran Safi)	Ch 10
	07-Apr		Quiz 3 (2:10 pm)		
Final Exam TBD					