



**Psychology 301, Section 2 Syllabus
Sensation & Perception
Fall 2014**

Mon., Thurs. 4:10pm-5:25pm, HW 619

Instructor: Jonathan Benichov

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Office Hours: By appointment, HN 621

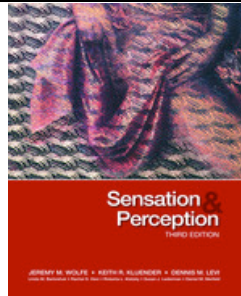
Course description

We will cover the methods, theories and empirical data relating to stimulus detection, encoding and perception as a function of variables including current stimuli and past history.

Learning Objectives

1. Be able to describe the major concepts and theories of sensation and perception.
2. Become familiar with the methods used for studying sensory/perceptual processes.
3. Explain the rationale and methods of psychophysics.
4. Describe some commonalities and differences in structure and function of sensory systems.
5. Understand the mechanisms of signal transduction for each of the senses.
6. Describe the mechanisms of sensory coding, neuronal transmission, and information processing.
7. Demonstrate the ability to critically assess original research communications.
8. Demonstrate proficiency in both oral and written scientific presentations.

Text

<p><i>Sensation & Perception</i> Wolfe, J., et al. 3rd Edition Student site: sites.sinauer.com/wolfe3e - For sale or "rental" at the bookstore - Cheaper/Used on Amazon - Looseleaf and CourseSmart e-book versions available</p>	
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Grading Scheme

	Percent of Final Grade
Exam I	25%
Exam II	25%
Exam III	25%
Presentation	20%
Attendance/Participation	5%
Optional Extra Credit	(1-2%)

Exams

There will be 3 exams given throughout the semester. They will consist of a combination of multiple choice and short essay questions. Although the three exams will not be cumulative, an *optional* cumulative final exam will also be given during the scheduled final exam period. If you choose to take the final exam, that grade will be substituted for the lowest of your three previous exam grades. As a general rule, make up exams will **only** be given in the event of illness or family crisis, provided that proper documentation is submitted to me.

Presentation

Find a relevant research article published within the past 10 years in a peer-reviewed academic journal (via Google Scholar, PsychInfo, PubMed, etc.). In a 5-10 minute presentation, summarize and critically assess the paper. Be sure to include discussion of at least one hypothesis, methods used to test the hypothesis, results, and implications of the findings. Material from presentations will appear on the final exam. You must submit your article of choice for approval by 11/24.

Attendance and Participation

Please make every effort to arrive on time to each class and participate in class discussions. Consistent absences or failures to arrive on time will be reflected in your final grade.

Extra Credit

There will be an opportunity to earn up to 2 extra credit points. Details to come.

Class Policies

Cell phones must be off or set to "silent mode" during class. Repeated failure to comply will result in a 1 point deduction from your final grade. If you are taking notes on a laptop, please be responsible enough to limit your laptop use to actual note-taking or class related material and to keep your volume muted.

Hunter College Grading System

Letter Grade	%	Letter Grade	%
A+	97.5 - 100.0	B-	80.0 - 82.4
A	92.5 - 97.4	C+	77.5 - 79.9
A-	90.0 - 92.4	C	70.0 - 77.4
B+	87.5 - 89.9	D	60.0 - 69.9
B	82.5 - 87.4	F	0.0 - 59.9

Statement regarding academic dishonesty

Hunter College Senate statement:"Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures."

Cheating is NOT allowed and will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Any student caught engaging in any form of academic dishonesty will receive an "F" for the course, period. Please note that during exams, you may not have any electronic equipment (cell phones, calculators, iPods, etc) or papers other than those given out by me on your desk. Keep your eyes on your own papers, and no talking is allowed. You may NOT leave the room during an exam for any reason; if you do, you must turn in your exam before your departure; you will not be allowed to re-enter the room.

From the Office of AccessABILITY:

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (emotional, medical, physical, and/or learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY located in Room E1124 to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call (212-772-4857) / TTY (212-650-3230).

Course Schedule:

Date	Day	Topic	Reading
8/28	Thursday	Introduction & Overview	
9/1	Monday	No Class	
9/4	Thursday	History and Methodologies	Chapter 1
9/8	Monday	Vision: Signal Transduction	Chapter 2
9/11	Thursday	Receptive Fields	Chapter 2/3
9/15	Monday	Spatial Vision	Chapter 3
9/18	Thursday	Object Recognition	Chapter 4
9/22	Monday	Color Perception 1	Chapter 5
9/25	Thursday	No Class	
9/29	Monday	Exam I	
10/2	Thursday	Color Perception 2	Chapter 5
10/6	Monday	Binocular Vision	Chapter 6
10/9	Thursday	Attention	Chapter 7
10/13	Monday	No Class	
10/16	Thursday	Motion Perception	Chapter 8
10/20	Monday	Auditory Physiology	Chapter 9
10/23	Thursday	Psychoacoustics	Chapter 9
10/27	Monday	Auditory Scene Analysis	Chapter 10
10/30	Thursday	Exam II	
11/3	Monday	Music & Speech Perception	Chapter 11
11/6	Thursday	Vestibular System	Chapter 12
11/10	Monday	Somatosensory System	Chapter 13
11/13	Thursday	Online Assignment 1	
11/17	Monday	Online Assignment 2	
11/20	Thursday	Olfaction	Chapter 14
11/24	Monday	Gustation, Journal Article Submitted	Chapter 15
11/27	Thursday	No Class	
12/1	Monday	Exam III	
12/4	Thursday	Presentations	
12/8	Monday		
12/11	Thursday		
12/15	Monday		
12/17	Wednesday	Final Exam (optional) 3:00-5:00	

NOTE: Lecture schedule is subject to change throughout the semester. Any modifications to the above schedule will be announced during class and posted on BlackBoard.