

Sensation and Perception (PSY 342) Section 1
Fall 2009

Instructor: Steven W. Horowitz, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Monday 4:30 – 5:30 p.m., Wednesday 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., or by appointment.

Required Text: Schiffman, H.R. (2001). *Sensation and Perception: An Integrated Approach*,
New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Recommended Text: APA Publication manual

For this course, I will accept papers written in APA manual 5th or 6th edition style.

Prerequisites: Six credits in Psychology or permission of the instructor.

Course description: Study of the physiological, psychophysical, and psychological processes through which organisms interact with the environment. The course meets for 2.5 hours per week for the presentation of lectures, demonstrations and discussions. Students are held responsible for all announcements and information given during class and for the completion of all course work, which includes reading assignments in the text, six quizzes, two examinations, and two 5-page papers.

Exams and assignments: There will be 2 exams and six quizzes during the semester, the last exam is a final exam. Although the last exam is not a cumulative final, course material in earlier sections provides a base for later concepts. Each exam will be worth 50 points and will consist of multiple-choice questions and short-answer essays. The first paper will be worth 50 points and will be due by October 8. Late papers will receive little or no credit. The second paper (also worth 50 points) will be due December 1. Quizzes are worth 10 points each. The lowest score will be dropped. Thus, 50 points will be available from quizzes, as well.

The total number of points for the course is 250. Grades will be assigned on the basis of the number of points you have earned during the semester. There will be no extra credit work.

50% or 125 points	D range
65% or 163 points	C range
80% or 200 points	B range
90% or 225 points	A range

Make up exams: Make up exams and quizzes will be given in certain extreme cases. Please let me know immediately (call 832-3119) if you missed an exam or if you anticipate missing an exam. I would appreciate your cooperation in keeping make up exams to a minimum. Make up exams may differ from the scheduled exams in format and content.

Class participation and attendance: The success of this class depends on your participation in class. In order to participate, of course, you must attend class. I strongly urge you to make a habit of coming to class every day. I will present material in class not covered in the book.

Incompletes: Incompletes can only be given to students who have successfully completed 75% of the course material. This usually applies to a student who missed the final exam or has been excused by the Dean for medical reasons. I cannot give an incomplete to a student who is failing the course. Because of the above University regulations, very few incompletes are awarded. We must discuss incompletes before they are given.

Withdrawals: If you are not doing well in the course, you may decide to withdraw. Before the middle of the term (October 26) you may withdraw by contacting the registrar. After the middle of the term you must follow an involved procedure which requires approvals from several individuals. Be sure to check with me before filling out the withdrawal form, since the approval depends on the reasons stated on the form. You should continue to attend class until the withdrawal has been approved by the Dean. If the withdrawal is not approved, I will have to grade you for the course. The first exam is scheduled before the deadline for withdrawal so you can have some feel for what is expected.

Miscellaneous: Please feel free to ask questions in class. If you have a question about the presented or text material, others are probably wondering about the same issues. Reading assignments are found in the text and are listed on the accompanying schedule. It is expected that the assignments will be read in advance.

Papers: You are required to conduct two, simple laboratory experiments and write reports on them. Generally, I expect them to be 5 typewritten, double spaced pages in length. We will discuss possible topics at length in class. All Experiment/Paper topics must be approved in advance by the instructor. The paper should have 1 inch margins on all edges, double-spacing the entire text, including references. The paper should follow APA guidelines for format and style. If you are a Psychology major, you are expected to own, be familiar with, and consult the American Association Publication Manual. If you are not a Psychology major, you could consult

one of the following web sites for some guidelines.

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01>

<http://valencia.cc.fl.us/lrcwest/apapaper.html>

www.uwsp.edu/psych/apa4b.htm

Students with disabilities: If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

Plagiarism on your papers or cheating on quizzes and examination will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is sometimes difficult to understand. Visit this web site for a clear statement and explanation of CCSU's policy. <http://finalsite.ccsu.edu/page.cfm?p=541>

Ask about this in class if you have any questions.

Schedule

<u>Date (week of)</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
Sep 8	Introduction and Basic Neurophysiology	1
Sep 15	Neurophysiology continued Quiz 1 On Sep 17. Research Methods & Discussion of 1 st Paper	2
Sep 22	Eye Structure & Function	3
Sep 29	The Visual System Quiz 2 on Tuesday	4 and pages 158-166
Oct 6	Perceptual Organization	7 Paper 1 due Oct 8
Oct 13	Pattern & Form Perception Quiz 3 on Thursday	6 p. 142-158
Oct 20	Perception of Space	9
Oct 22	Midterm Exam	

Oct 27	Color Vision	5
Nov 3	Hearing	12
Nov 10	Quiz 4 Nov 10 Basic Auditory Functions	13
Nov 17	Orienting Senses	15
Nov 24	Quiz 5 Nov. 24 Skin Senses & Pain Paper 2 due Dec 1	16
Dec 1	Taste	17
Dec 8	Quiz 6 Dec 8 Smell	18

***** FINAL EXAM *****

Tuesday December 15 11:00 a.m.