Cognitive and Affective Psychology  
18:820:505:M1 Summer 2018

Instructor: Robert W. Isenhower, Ph.D., BCBA

Time/Place: TW, 4:00-7:45 PM, Psychology Building A317

Contact Info: risenhow@dddc.rutgers.edu

Office/Hours: TW, 7:45-8:15 PM (Extra times by appointment)

Course Description: We will review selected theory and research in the areas of cognitive and affective psychology. The course format will be a mix of lectures to contextualize weekly readings, in-class paper presentations, discussion based on the readings, and demonstrations/activities.

Course Objectives: Develop familiarity with major historical theories and current research in cognitive and affective psychology. Understand the conduct of science in cognitive and affective psychology, and to learn how to read, interpret, and critically evaluate research in cognitive and affective psychology. Develop an appreciation of how findings from basic research in cognitive and affective psychology can influence the practice of clinical psychology.

Readings: All required readings are listed on the schedule below and will be made available through the Sakai site for the course. Supplemental readings on the Sakai site may be provided to facilitate further exploration of a topic and to help you choose a topic for your paper.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required.

Grading: In class paper presentations (2) 20%  
Questions from readings 20%  
From theory to practice 10%  
Midterm paper (draft) 20%  
Final paper 30%

Total: 100%

In class paper presentations
A large portion of your grade will come from assigned readings that you will present during the semester. I will do my best to ensure that everyone has a fair opportunity to select the readings they want to present. Please try to choose one reading from cognition and one from emotion. I suggest using PowerPoint to help structure and constrain your presentations. No more than 6 slides will be allowed per paper. You must cover the entire paper.
Questions from readings

On classes that you are not assigned an in class presentation, you are responsible for writing and handing in one question about each of the assigned readings for the class. Questions may be about either theoretical issues or empirical/methodological aspects of the readings. Questions are due before class. Please email them to me, but you may want to bring a copy to class as a reference. I will field some of your questions to the class to facilitate discussion of the readings, unless you all volunteer. So speak up!

From theory to practice

You will be asked to find a scholarly article that deals with one of the topics we discuss in the course related to cognition or emotion and write a 1-2 page summary of how and why you think applies or could apply to your clinical practice or clinical practice more broadly.

Midterm paper draft

You will be asked to write a paper based on a topic that piques your interest in cognitive and affective psychology. Topics may include, but are not limited to those covered during weekly meetings. I encourage you to write a paper that will help you for the introduction/discussion of your thesis/dissertation. I am happy to meet with you anytime during the first half of the semester to discuss your paper topic.

Final paper

You will receive feedback on your midterm paper. You will be asked to strengthen and lengthen your midterm paper to turn in at the end of the semester. Your grade will be determined by the improvement and revision of this version compared to the midterm. I am happy to meet with you anytime during the second half of the semester to discuss the revisions and specifics.

NOTE: Instructor reserves the right to modify aspects of the course (e.g., readings) during the semester to better serve the needs of the students.

Weekly Schedule

May 16th

Introductory Material

- Philosophical issues related to Cognitive and Affective Psychology
- Brief history of major figures to contextualize philosophical issues
- Definitions and semantic groundwork
- Divvying up readings and other housekeeping items

May 22nd

On the Relationship Between Cognition and Emotion


*Supplementary Reading*


May 23rd

**Foundational Theories of Emotion**


May 29th

*Send final paper topic to Rob*

May 30th

**Thought and Computation**


*Supplementary Readings*


June 5th

**Embodyment and Embeddedness in Cognition and Emotion**


*Supplementary Reading*


Social Cognition and Language


*Supplementary Reading*


Cognitive Flexibility and Executive Function


*Supplementary Reading*

Decision Making, Impulsivity, and Emotion


*Supplementary Readings*


*Midterm paper due in class*

Memory and Forgetting

June 12th


*Supplementary Reading*


June 13th

Affective Regulation and Emotional Intelligence


*Supplementary Readings*


**Cognitive Appraisal and Reappraisal**


*Supplementary Reading*


**Discrete, Dimensional, and Cultural Conceptualizations of Emotion**


*Supplementary Reading*

**Experience and Expression**


*Supplementary Reading*


June 20th

**Temporal Dynamics of Cognition and Emotion**


*Supplementary Reading*


*From theory to practice paper due*

June 26th

Closing Remarks and housekeeping

* Final Paper due*