



**PSY 675: Selected Memory Topics (May Mini 2014)
COURSE SYLLABUS**

Instructor: Dr. Curt A. Carlson

Office Location: Binnion 208

Office Hours: Due to the online nature of this course, it would be best to email me questions.

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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook: *Memory* (2009), by Baddeley, Eysenck, & Anderson

Recommended book: Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th edition)

Course Description:

This course provides a foundation of knowledge about select areas of human memory that I have chosen, from the perspective of cognitive psychology. Memory is quite a broad topic, therefore we will not attempt to cover it all. Rather, after introducing the broad subject matter of memory, I will focus us on the following four topics: episodic memory, semantic memory, retrieval processes, and eyewitness memory. Both basic (e.g., memory models) and more applied topics (e.g., eyewitness memory) will be covered.

For the first week, you will be introduced to different types, theories, and applications of memory, and then I will assign you a specific area on which to conduct your literature review. You will write a paper as a result of this literature review. It must be in proper APA style (based on the current 6th edition manual), which is mandatory for manuscripts submitted for publication in the field of psychology.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Your developing knowledge of the above topics will be assessed in three ways: 1) two quizzes during the first week, 2) discussion posts during the second and into the third week, and 3) literature review paper submitted on the last class day.

Quizzes

There will be two short quizzes constructed entirely of multiple-choice items available in eCollege during the first week. Their purpose is to test your knowledge of the foundational material of this course (i.e., the book chapters during the first week). You will have a particular time window in which to access each quiz, and once started, you will have a restricted time limit to take each quiz.

Discussion Posts

By the end of the first week, you will have your assigned topic for your literature review. As you conduct your review, you will need to summarize two of the empirical articles you find (about 3-4 paragraphs should suffice for each summary), and post the summary to the designated discussion board in eCollege. **The first summary is due Wednesday May 21st, and the second is due Friday May 23rd.** You will also be required to read your classmates' summaries that week, and post a response of some kind to each summary. This way, everyone in the class will get some exposure to each topic area being covered in each literature review. It will also help you to deeply digest at least two of the articles of your review, which no doubt will lead to a better ultimate paper.

Literature Review

Your literature review paper should reference approximately 8-12 articles, and be 5-7 pages in length (not including title page or references; no abstract please).

Your paper must be formatted based on APA-style (6th edition). If you are unfamiliar with this style, check out the tutorial at <http://www.apastyle.org/learn/tutorials/basics-tutorial.aspx>. Not all of it will be relevant for this paper because it is a literature review rather than a full description of an empirical study, but it will still be helpful.

Your paper must be double-spaced, with 12-point font (preferably Times New Roman), with 1-inch margins. Submit as a .doc or .docx. Also, be very careful not to plagiarize any of the literature you summarize. You must summarize in your own words, but if you feel you must include direct quotes, please do so sparingly. Surround each quote in quotation marks and put the page number source in parentheses at the end. For example, "this is the quote" (p. 576).

Grading

Your grade will be based on the following: 1) quizzes (20 points), 2) discussion posts (40), and 4) the literature review (40).

You need 90% or better for an 'A', 80% or better for a 'B', 70% or better for a 'C', and 60% or better for a 'D'. Below 60% results in an 'F'.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

You can communicate with me via email, but I will need 24 hours to respond. I might not be able to respond on Saturday-Sunday, but I will try.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES
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Course Specific Procedures:

Academic Honesty Policy: Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but

is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

Examination Policy: You are not allowed to take any quiz after its respective deadline, unless you notify me of extenuating circumstances and I give permission in advance.

Incompletes: The policy for this course is not to allow incompletes. If you cannot complete the course with a grade that you find satisfactory, it is your responsibility to drop it.

University Specific Procedures:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu
[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

Student Conduct:

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

This schedule is to be used as a guide. It is possible that it will change.

Week	Topic
<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
May 12	Introductions, Chapter 1: What is Memory?
May 13	Chapter 5: Episodic Memory
May 14	Chapter 6: Semantic Memory; Quiz 1
May 15	Chapter 8: Retrieval
May 16	Chapter 14: Eyewitness Memory; Quiz 2 ; Begin literature review
May 17-21	Continue lit review; <i>Post Article Summary 1</i> (due Wednesday the 21 st)
May 22-23	Respond to first article posts; <i>Post Article Summary 2</i> (due Friday the 23 rd)
May 24-28	Respond to second article posts; Submit paper by end of Wednesday the 28th