

# Course Syllabus

## PSY 3150 | SENSATION AND PERCEPTION

### SPRING 2021



Class meets on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 2:00 – 2:50 pm in u108.

Course website on Canvas: <https://utah.instructure.com/>

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*This syllabus is not a binding legal contract. With reasonable notice to students, the instructor may modify the syllabus and course schedule at any time, to accommodate the needs of the class.*

## Dr. Carina Pals

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*Office hours:* Thursdays 4:00 – 5:30 PM or by appointment

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*E-mail hours:* Mon-Fri 9:00AM-5:00PM

**\* Office hours subject to change: check schedule on my office door for most up-to-date hours**

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## COVID-19 NOTICE

Please always make sure to be a few minutes early to allow for delays at the entrance, ALWAYS scan your IGC ID at the entrance *even if the door is already open*, take the stairs as much as possible, and the elevator with at most 4 people at a time. For the safety of yourself and your classmates, please use hand sanitizer before class, and consider carrying disinfecting wipes to wipe down your desk before and after use.

In-person classes can be moved to IVC at any time if the situation in Korea demands it, and will be moved back to in-person if/when the situation permits this.

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## Teaching Philosophy

The most valuable thing you will learn in university is how to acquire new skills & knowledge, and how to apply that knowledge well. My goal for the courses that I teach is therefore not simply to teach you to reproduce the information in the book on multiple choice exams, but rather to help you understand the material covered in the course. The aim is to create the foundation of skills and knowledge that will allow you to critically evaluate new information in the field as well as re-evaluate what you know in the light of new findings.

In the end, however, you are responsible for your own learning and I can only facilitate the process. I would encourage you to ask questions whenever something is not clear, when you don't understand my feedback on a test or writing assignment, or when you are curious about something in general.

## Catalog Course Description

PSY 3150 - Sensation and Perception

3 Credit(s)

Components: Lecture/Discussion

Sensory systems and perceptual processes with respect to vision, audition, and other sense modalities. How we see, hear, feel pain and temperature, and in general receive information from the environment; how our perceptions are affected by expectancy, knowledge, and higher-level organizational factors.

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## Required Materials

Text (required):

E. Bruce Goldstein (2016). "Sensation & Perception." 10<sup>th</sup> (International Student) Edition

Be advised:

Anything that is in the book may appear on the exams. *Even if it was not covered in the lectures.*

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## Course Overview

This course explores how we experience and understand the world around us. For example, how do we perceive color, recognize faces, or navigate through a space? You will learn about (1) properties of the environment, such as light and sound, that are necessary for sensation and perception, (2) physiological processing by the sensory and neural systems that allows for detection of these environmental properties, and (3) perceptual experience—what you think, feel, and do with the world! We will cover visual perception for about two-thirds of the course, with an introduction to other senses—audition, touch, taste, and smell—in the last portion of the course.

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## Course Format

The class format will be mostly lecture with interactive elements. However, I also strongly encourage questions and active participation during class. This makes it a more enjoyable class for everyone. If you are having any difficulties with the material, be sure to get in touch with me.

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## Course Outcomes

After completing this course, you should be able to:

- (1) Explain how perception is as much about the *perceiver* as it is about the world.
  - (2) Understand how physiological mechanisms support sensation and perception.
  - (3) Analyze different theories/accounts of higher-level perception such as perceiving objects, space, and motion.
  - (4) Relate the phenomenology (experience) of perception to the processing involved.
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# Evaluation Methods

## Attendance & Participation, In-class Activities, and Homework (5% of final grade)

Normal attendance (missing one or two lectures is no problem!) and non-disruptive classroom behavior are expected and will not affect your grade. Poor attendance (missing more than 20% of lectures) and/or disruptive classroom behavior can lead to a 0% participation score regardless of your performance on in-class activities and homework assignments.

**Disruptive classroom behavior:** structurally arriving late for class, coming to class unprepared (no book or writing implements), using your phone in the classroom, taking bathroom breaks long and/or often, sleeping in class, whispering to your neighbor when someone else is speaking/during a movie/quiz, etc.

Note that this attendance policy means that sometimes it can be preferred to skip one lecture over arriving late and sleeping in the classroom. However, coming to class is a strong predictor of doing well in the course, so attendance is expected even if not graded: Poor attendance will most likely lead to lower exam scores.

## Weekly Quizzes (10% of final grade each)

Weekly quizzes will give you the opportunity to test your understanding of the material covered that week. The best 10 scores out of 12 will count towards the final grade.

## Midterm Exams 1 and 2 (25% of final grade each)

The two mid-term exams will consist of approximately 20 multiple choice questions and 5 short answer questions. These tests will be graded and each make up 25% of your final grade.

## Final Exam (35% of final grade)

The final exam will be longer than the first two and you will have more time to complete the exam.

The final exam will consist of two parts: The first part covers the last chapters of the book and is structured the same as the midterms, i.e. 20 multiple choice questions and 5 short answer questions. The second part will assess what you have learned in the course as a whole: some big/important concepts from also the earlier chapters, and what have you learned about the topic in general, the methods used in the field, how the different sub-topics covered in the course are related, etc...

### Weighting:

Attendance & Participation:	5%
Quizzes:	10%
Exam 1:	25%
Exam 2:	25%
Final Exam:	35% +
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

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## Grade Scale/Point Scale

The following list shows point totals (x) and their corresponding letter grades.

Letter	Percentage	Letter	Percentage
A	$93\% \leq x \leq x$	C	$73\% \leq x < 77\%$
A-	$90\% \leq x < 93\%$	C-	$70\% \leq x < 73\%$
B+	$87\% \leq x < 90\%$	D+	$67\% \leq x < 70\%$
B	$83\% \leq x < 87\%$	D	$63\% \leq x < 67\%$
B-	$80\% \leq x < 83\%$	D-	$60\% \leq x < 63\%$
C+	$77\% \leq x < 80\%$	E	$x < 60\%$

As the greater than or equal signs suggest: these category boundaries are cut-off points.

That implies: e.g. a final grade of 89.99 % is a B+.

Grades will not be rounded up, please don't ask, I will make no exceptions.

## Week Schedule

WEEK	TOPIC	READING	EXAMS
1	Introduction to Sensation and Perception	CH 1	Quiz0
2	Light, Eyes, and Retina	CH 2	Quiz1
3	(Retina&) Neural Organization	CH 3	Quiz2
4	Neural Organization-higher level	CH 4	Quiz3
5	(Mo) Q&A + (We) EXAM1 + (Fr) Perceiving Objects	CH 1-4 + CH 5	EXAM 1
6	Perceiving Objects	CH 5	Quiz4
7	Attention + Perception and Action	CH 6+7	Quiz5
8	Perceiving Motion and Events	CH 7+8	Quiz6
9	Perceiving Color and Brightness	CH 9	Quiz7
10	Perceiving Depth and Size + (Fr) Q&A	CH 10	Quiz8
11	Exam 2	CH 5-10	EXAM 2
12	The Ear and Hearing + Hearing and Localization	CH 11+12	Quiz9
13	Hearing and Localization + Speech	CH 12+13	Quiz10
14	Touch and Pain	CH 14	Quiz11
15	Taste and Smell	CH 15	Quiz12
16	FINAL Part 1: Exam 3 + Part 2: Cumulative	Everything	FINAL EXAM

### Exam Dates & Times:

All Quizzes on Fridays

Exam 1: **Wednesday** March 24th, regular class time & location

Exam 2: **Friday** May 7th, regular class time & location

Final Exam: **[date, time, & location: tba]**

# COVID-19 Policies

## Covid-related Absences

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, including fever or respiratory symptoms such as cough, phlegm, sore throat, and nasal congestion, you should notify your instructor immediately, call the KCDC for testing guidance, and stay home based on the KCDC's directive. You can return to class if you are clear from COVID-19 symptoms. In order to be excused from your courses, you will need an official medical certification. (For non-covid related absences see UAC policies below)

## Self Quarantine

The University of Utah Asia Campus expects regular attendance at all class meetings. Given the current situation with COVID-19, we have created the following guidelines.

1. If a student has completed less than 50% of the course and is required to self-quarantine, we suggest that the student withdraw from the course. In this situation, all tuition will be refunded with appropriate medical documentation
2. If a student has completed 50-75% of the course and is required to self-quarantine, the Assistant Dean of Students Office will work with the faculty and student to determine the best scenario. If the decision is to withdraw from a course, all tuition will be refunded with appropriate medical documentation.
3. If a student has completed over 75% of the course and is required to self-quarantine, the student and faculty will work together to ensure that the student is able to complete the course. If the student is unable to finish all coursework during the course, a student may receive the mark "I" (incomplete) and work to complete all remaining coursework in consultation with the instructor.

## Social Distancing Level 3

If Incheon, the greater Seoul metropolitan area, or all of Korea move to social distancing level 3, this course will move to interactive video conference (IVC) instruction (synchronous lectures on ZOOM, online assignments and exams). The course may return to in-person instruction when the social distancing level is lowered again.

## ZOOM Sessions

If this course must host Zoom sessions, the University of Utah Asia Campus requires that all students turn on their cameras during the entire course and post their full name in English. We ask that students try to locate a quiet space which will allow for ample social distancing and that students not wear a mask if possible. If a student has financial difficulty obtaining the appropriate equipment for online courses, the UAC can help provide resources.

It is recommended that Zoom sessions be conducted synchronously. Faculty are not required to record their zoom sessions, this is an individual faculty decision.

# UAC Policies and Resources

## Academic Calendar

<https://registrar.utah.edu/academic-calendars/asia20-21.php>

Last Day to Drop/Add Classes/Elect CR/NC: Friday March 5

Last Day to Withdraw from Classes (with W on Transcript): Friday April 16

## Language policy

The University of Utah Asia campus is committed to providing and fostering an environment that is safe and free from prohibited discrimination. The following language policy applies to all academic and administrative units of the University and to all members of the University community, including faculty, staff, and students. English is recognized as the official language of instruction, assessment, and curriculum. In addition, English is the official language for all administrative and business-related matters of the University.

## University Attendance Requirements

The University expects regular attendance at all class meetings. Instructors must communicate any particular attendance requirements of the course to students in writing on or before the first class meeting. Students are responsible for acquainting themselves with and satisfying the entire range of academic objectives and requirements as defined by the instructor.

## Make-up Exams and Excused Absences

There will be no make-up exams, except in rare pre-approved situations and last-minute emergencies, both of which require documentation and an excused absence. If you will be absent from an exam, you must email the Assistant Dean of Students at [kevin.darco@utah.edu](mailto:kevin.darco@utah.edu) **prior to the exam**.

Not feeling well on the day of the exam, including having a headache, stomach ache, or a cold is not sufficient to be allowed a make-up exam. In order to be excused from an exam due to medical condition, a student's illness must be severe and require hospitalization. In addition, *a scheduled or unscheduled doctor appointment is not an excused absence*. A note from the IGC medical clinic does not qualify a student for an excused absence.

## Learners of English as an Additional/Second Language

Sign-up for an appointment with the writing center online at <https://utahasia.mywconline.com>

You are encouraged to visit the Writing Center to discuss your writing assignments. You can go to the Writing Center during any stage in the writing process. Typically, the earlier in the process you come, the better. You should bring any materials you have with you to the Writing Center, such as an outline, an initial draft, a complete draft, the assignment handout, and/or even just preliminary notes. The Writing Center is not an "Editing Center," which means that it is not there to "correct" or "fix" your papers; rather, the Writing Center can help you develop your ideas for your paper, identify strategies and resources to help you with your grammar, identify strategies for organizing your papers, among other writing-related support.

## **LGBT Resource Center**

If you are a member of the **LGBTQ community**, I want you to know that my classroom is a safe zone\*. Additionally, please know that the U of Utah has an LGBT Resource Center on the main campus. They are located in Room 409 in the Oplin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm. You can also visit their website to find more information about the support they can offer, a list of events through the center and links to additional resources: <http://lgbt.utah.edu/>. Please also let me know if there is any additional support you need in this class.

## **Americans with Disabilities Act.**

The University of Utah Asia Campus seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the UAC Office of the Dean of Students – [randy.mccrillis@utah.edu](mailto:randy.mccrillis@utah.edu). The UAC Office of the Dean of Students will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the UAC Office of the Dean of Students.

## **Addressing Sexual Misconduct**

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the UAC Office of the Dean of Students – [randy.mccrillis@utah.edu](mailto:randy.mccrillis@utah.edu). For support and confidential consultation, contact the UAC Mental Health Counseling, 3052 Multi-complex Building, 032-626-6142.

## **Wellness Statement**

Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah Asia Campus. For helpful resources, contact the UAC Mental Health Counseling Center; [asiacampus.utah.edu/mental-health-counseling-center/](http://asiacampus.utah.edu/mental-health-counseling-center/); 0326266142. You can make an appointment using this link: <https://appointmentwithjan.as.me/schedule.php>.

## **Student Code of Conduct**

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting as outlined in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, Policy 6-400 of the University Regulations Library (<http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.html>).

## **Department of Psychology Undergraduate Academic Misconduct Policy**

The Department of Psychology has a **zero tolerance policy** for academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarizing, recycling one's own work, research misconduct, misrepresenting one's work, and inappropriately collaborating. Even if these happen on accident, it is your responsibility as a student to understand and prevent academic misconduct. This applies to

any work students turn in for evaluation or course credit. Definitions can be found in the Student Code at <http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.html>

If you're not sure if something is plagiarism – **ask me before submitting.**

Assignments turned in on Canvas will be screened using Turnitin, and the above policy will be followed when misconduct is found. If you are suspected of academic misconduct, the process proceeds according to the rules found in the Student Code, University Policy 6-400(V). **If you are found responsible for misconduct, consequences range from failure on the assignment to dismissal from the program**, consistent with both University and Psychology Department Policy. Minor offenses include failure to use citations correctly, because of lack of understanding of proper procedures for crediting ideas, rather than intention to cheat with no evidence of lifted/stolen text.

Major Offenses include:

1. Cheating on a test, quiz, problem set, or other independent work
2. Plagiarism in written work: Copying any quantity of text from another source or another student without quoting and citing the copied text.
3. Plagiarism in written work: Flagrant misuse of citations, such that a student clearly attempted to represent ideas that were not his/hers as if they were, even if the ideas were presented in the student's own words.
4. Recycling one's work: You may not "re-use" your own writing or paper from another class without expression permission from both instructors

Both minor and major offenses will have consequences, as outlined in the full Psychology Department Policy (failing the assignment with a "0" – first offense, failing the course with an "E" grade – second offense in ANY class, expulsion from the Psychology Department or University – third offense in ANY class).

Cheating during an exam will result in a score of 0 on that exam. A score of zero will be assigned if a student has displayed a test for others to see, looked at another student's exam, or attempted to communicate in any manner with another student during the exam. You are not allowed to leave the testing room and return once the exam has been distributed (no bathroom breaks). No bags, notebooks, cell phone, computers, or other electronic devices may be out or on during an exam. For exams, keep your eyes on your own paper, come prepared with writing materials so you don't have to ask your neighbor for a pen. Students may not wear hats, headphones, hoods, etc.

\*\*Gross dishonesty on any graded portion of the course, including exams and assignments, will result in a grade of F for the entire course even if it is a first offense. Gross dishonesty includes behaviors such as, but not limited to, using previous tests, notes, or answer sheets during an exam, having someone else take an exam for you, or submitting written assignments which are not your own work. Please note that the University has a strict policy on academic integrity and I cannot make any special exceptions for students.