

Sensation and Perception: PSY456-01W
Texas A&M University Texarkana
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Prerequisites: PSYC 2301 & 6 SCH of Life Sciences, 3 of which must be in BIOL

Course Description: Explores how individuals perceive their surroundings by various sensory modalities and signal processing capabilities of the brain.

Required Materials: Foley & Matlin (2010). Sensation and Perception (5e). Pearson. ISBN-10: 0205579809, ISBN-13: 9780205579808.

Welcome to Sensation and Perception!

In this course you will learn how we acquire physical stimuli via our sense organs (eye, ears, skin, nose mouth), and how specialized neurons called receptors transform this information into a neural signal our brain interprets as a perceptual experience. My goal is for you to walk away with an appreciation of how sensory receptors serve as an interface between the physical world and our perceptual experience and how what we perceive as reality is really a construction of our environment.

This course is broken down into five modules. Each module is contained in a folder in Blackboard and contains information and activities designed to prepare you to engage in three activities: a pretest, an assignment and an exam. For the last module you will complete a reflection instead of an assignment. You will have an opportunity to earn 200 points per module for a total of 1000 points in the course. To maximize your success, it is strongly recommended you move through the information and activities in each module sequentially. I also encourage you to take advantage of the “free” points you can earn by completing pretests and making sure you take the assignments as seriously as you do exams in this course. Since the material is heavily biologically based and can be challenging, assignments are an opportunity for you to spend as much time as you can in a week to submit the best work possible. Just be sure to read the instructions thoroughly and address everything that is asked of you and you should be fine. If you struggle with writing and/or APA style and format don't hesitate to seek out the amazing team of people in the success center to help you!

Below you will find the course schedule, along with due dates, to keep you on track. You'll also find a description of how you'll be assessed in this course. If at any time you have questions don't hesitate to reach out.

Course Schedule:

Date	Module / Topics	Assigned Reading	Pretest Due	Assignment Due	Exam Due
6/4 – 6/10	1: Intro to S&P / Ways to study S&P / Intro to vision	Ch. 1-3	6/6	6/10	6/10
6/11 – 6/17	2: The visual system - fundamental processes	Ch. 4 – 6	6/13	6/17	6/17

6/18 – 6/24	3: Color & motion / Intro to the auditory system	Ch. 7 – 9	6/20	6/24	6/24
6/25 – 7/1	4: Auditory pattern perception / Somatosensation	Ch. 10 – 12	6/27	7/1	7/1
7/2 – 7/6	5: Taste & olfaction / Perceptual development	Ch. 13 - 14	7/6	7/6	7/6

- 1. Pretest (PT, 50 points - 5% of your total grade).** Each pretest is worth 10 points. It is designed to get you thinking about the material you are about to learn and for you to get an idea of where your understanding of the material is right now. You will have up to three attempts to get the maximum number of points. The highest of the three scores will be used as your final PT score.
- 2. Assignment (A, 400 points - 40% of your total grade):** Each assignment is worth 100 points. Assignments are designed for you to integrate all the material learned during a module into a single piece of work. Each assignment will involve obtaining a minimum of two supplementary sources in addition to your text. One source must be a professional journal article. Specific details about each assignment will be provided in the module’s folder in Blackboard. The assignment must be 2 – 3 double spaced pages written in APA style. In addition, you must include an APA-formatted title page and reference page. You will submit your assignment via Turnitin.com in the appropriate module in Blackboard. If your work has a high similarity rate in Turnitin.com I may initiate disciplinary action on grounds of academic integrity. Please familiarize yourself with how to properly cite sources and paraphrase to minimize your risk of plagiarizing.
- 3. Exam (EX, 400 points - 40% of your total grade):** Each exam is worth 80 points. The exams are multiple choice and timed. It is expected that you do not use any resources while you take the exam. In other words, you may not use notes, your text book or a friend to assist you in taking the exam. At the beginning of each exam you will be required to accept these terms. If it is discovered that you have used other resources to complete the exam, you will receive an automatic 0 on the exam.
- 4. Course Reflection (CR, 150 points - 15% of your total grade):** For this assignment you will complete a 2 – 3 page essay about what you’ve learned over the past five weeks and how the information is relevant to the field of psychology and to our lives. I expect the reflection to demonstrate critical thinking and insight, not just a regurgitation of facts. APA format is NOT required for the reflection.

Grading: You may earn up to 1000 points in this course:

Points Earned	Percent	Grade
900 - 1000	90 – 100%	A
800 - 899	80 – 89%	B
700 - 799	70 – 79%	C
600 - 699	60 – 69%	D
Less than 600	59 – 0%	F

Late/Missed Work: It is expected that ALL work will be completed on time. I do not accept late work unless you have documentation of an emergency that prohibited you from submitting the work on time.

Extra Credit: Extra credit is not available in this course.

Attendance: This is a web course so there is no face-to-face instruction. However, it is expected that you enter the Blackboard course room frequently. Blackboard is the primary method in which I will communicate with you. If you fail to enter the course room regularly you may miss very important information.

Disability Accommodations: Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.

Academic Integrity: Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and undocumented use of materials from any source constitute academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a grade of 'F' in the course and/or disciplinary actions. For additional information, see the university catalog.

A&M-Texarkana Email Address: Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.

Drop Policy: To drop this course, a student needs to complete the Drop/Withdrawal Request Form; this form is located on the University website at: <http://tamut.edu/Registrar/droppingwithdrawing-from-classes.html> or obtained in the Registrar's Office. Students must submit the signed and completed form to the faculty member for each course indicated on the form for their signature. The signature is not an "approval" to drop, but rather confirmation that the student has discussed the drop/withdrawal with the faculty member. The form is submitted to the Registrar's office for processing either in person, email (Registrar@tamut.edu), or fax (903-223-32140). Incomplete forms missing any of the required information will not be accepted by the Registrar's Office for processing. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the form is completed properly before submission.