

Unit Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School:	Institute of Health and Wellbeing
Unit Title:	COGNITIVE AND BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY
Unit ID:	PSYCB2107
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(Two of: PSYCB1101, PSYCB1102, PSYCB1003 or STATS1000)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	090701

Description of the Unit:

This unit is designed to enable students to gain an understanding of the main areas in cognitive psychology and biological psychology, and to become acquainted with the research methods employed in both fields. The unit will cover a range of topics in experimental cognitive psychology, cognitive neuroscience, and biological psychology, including the biological foundations of behaviour (functional neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and psychopharmacology), attention and perception, memory, language, and thinking. Unit content is delivered through a combination of online resources, theoretical text readings, and laboratory (lab) classes.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Work Experience:

Not wholly work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry or student is undertaking work experience in industry where learning and performance is directed by the provider.

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the Unit but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above, has completed all major assessment tasks (including all sub-components where a task has multiple parts) as specified in the Unit Description and is not eligible for any other form of supplementary assessment

Course Level:

Level of Unit in Course	AQF Level of Course					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	✓	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Identify and describe the major areas in cognitive psychology and a range of topics in biological psychology, including relevant terms, concepts, theories, and research.
- K2.** Evaluate and explain the importance of relevant research studies and advancements in cognitive and biological psychology.
- K3.** Identify and describe the main research methods used in cognitive and biological psychology.

Skills:

- S1.** Develop skills to critically review the literature and evaluate different research methodologies used in cognitive and biological psychology.
- S2.** Develop skills in conducting experimental research in cognitive psychology.
- S3.** Further develop skills in the presentation of a standard laboratory report using the required American Psychological Association (APA) structure and formatting conventions.

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply relevant skills and knowledge to critically evaluate psychological literature and concepts.
- A2.** Apply relevant skills and knowledge to prepare a report using APA conventions.
- A3.** Apply relevant skills and knowledge in linking experimental cognitive psychology and the biological bases of behaviour to real world applications.

Unit Content:

This unit is designed to enable students to gain and understanding of the main areas of cognitive and biological psychology. Topics covered may include:

Topics may include:

- Introduction to the historical background, broad issues, and methodologies of experimental cognitive psychology, cognitive neuroscience, and biological psychology.
- Biological foundations of behaviour, including an introduction to functional neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and psychopharmacology.
- Concepts and theories related to perception, attention, memory, language, and thinking (judgement and decision-making, reasoning, and problem solving), along with relevant biological correlates.

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1-3, S1-3, A1-3	Quizzes to test knowledge of practical component and experimental research related to topics covered in lectures	Quizzes	10 - 20%

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1-3, S1-3, A1-2	Produce a written assessment requiring an understanding of experimental research and a critical evaluation of the literature that follows appropriate conventions	Written Assignment	30 - 50%
K1-3, S1, A1, A3	Examination: Review of lecture, laboratory, and readings content	Exam(s)	40 - 60%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

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