Course Outline (Higher Education)

School: School of Science, Psychology and Sports

Course Title: COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

Course ID: PSYCB3104

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): (At least two of the courses listed as prerequisites) (PSYCB2101 or PSYCB2102 or PSYCB2103 or PSYCB2104)

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED: 090701

Description of the Course :

Students will gain an understanding of the main areas of cognitive psychology: attention, perception, memory, language and thinking; and will become acquainted with research methods employed in the area. They will also be made aware of the practical value of the insights produced by cognitive psychology as they relate to their own actions, particularly remembering, problem solving and decision making.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, etc.)

Work Experience:

No work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry.

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the course but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above and submitted all major assessment tasks..

Program Level:

Level of course in Program	AQF Level of Program					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory						
Intermediate						
Advanced			✔			

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

K1. Identify, examine and evaluate the main areas of cognitive psychology: attention, perception, memory, language, thinking (problem solving, reasoning, judgment, decision-making) (GA 1)

K2. Identify and describe the main research methods used in cognitive psychology (GA 2, 3)

K3. Discuss and assess the history and development of cognitive psychology within psychology (GA 1)

Skills:

S1. Further develop skills to critically review the literature and evaluate different research methodologies used in cognitive psychology

S2. Develop skills in conducting experimental research in cognitive psychology

S3. Further develop skills in the presentation of a standard research report using the required American Psychological Association (APA) structure and formatting conventions

S4. Be able to facilitate one's own thinking through awareness of problem solving heuristics and decision-making, and of particular fallacies or biases in the areas of reasoning, judgment, and decision making

Application of knowledge and skills:

A1. ASK1 - Apply relevant skills and knowledge to critically evaluate psychological literature and concepts

A2. ASK2 - Apply relevant skills and knowledge to prepare a report using APA conventions

A3. ASK3 - Apply relevant skills and knowledge in thinking about problems related to cognitive psychology

A4. ASK4 – Apply relevant skills and knowledge in linking experimental cognitive psychology to real world applications

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Introduction to the historical background, broad issues, and methodologies of cognitive psychology
- Attention: bottleneck and resource models
- Perception: pattern recognition, including specific deficits such as dyslexia and prosopagnosia
- Memory: multistore model, working memory, theoretical divisions in memory (semantic/episodic; declarative/procedural), theories of forgetting, depth of processing, mnemonics, representation of information in memory, amnesia
- Language: nature of language, role of innate mechanisms, speech perception and production, relation of language and thought
- Thinking: theories and experiments in problem solving, reasoning, judgment, and decision making

Values:

V1. Appreciate the complexity of human mental processes

V2. Develop a longer-term interest in the human mind, including the fallibilities of process such as memory, reasoning, and problem solving

V3. Appreciation of the necessity for the development of independence, critical thinking, and motivation

Graduate Attributes

The Federation University FedUni graduate attributes (GA) are entrenched in the Higher Education Graduate Attributes Policy (LT1228). FedUni graduates develop these graduate attributes through their engagement in explicit learning and teaching and assessment tasks that are embedded in all FedUni programs. Graduate attribute attainment typically follows an incremental development process mapped through program progression. **One or more graduate attributes must be evident in the specified learning outcomes and assessment for each FedUni course, and all attributes must be directly assessed in each program**

Graduate attribute and descriptor		**Development and acquisition of GAs in the course**			
		Learning Outcomes (KSA)	**Code** A. Direct B. Indirect N/A Not addressed	**Assessment task (AT#)**	**Code** A. Certain B. Likely C. Possible N/A Not likely
GA 1 Thinkers	Our graduates are curious, reflective and critical. Able to analyse the world in a way that generates valued insights, they are change makers seeking and creating new solutions.	K1-3, S1-2, S4, A1, A3-A4	A	AT1-3	A
GA 2 Innovators	Our graduates have ideas and are able to realise their dreams. They think and act creatively to achieve and inspire positive change.	K2, S1-2, A1-4	B, A, A	AT2	B
GA 3 Citizens	Our graduates engage in socially and culturally appropriate ways to advance individual, community and global well-being. They are socially and environmentally aware, acting ethically, equitably and compassionately.	K1, S1, A1	B	AT2-3	C
GA 4 Communicators	Our graduates create, exchange, impart and convey information, ideas, and concepts effectively. They are respectful, inclusive and empathetic towards their audience, and express thoughts, feelings and information in ways that help others to understand.	K2-3, S1, S3, A1-2	A	AT2	A
GA 5 Leaders	Our graduates display and promote positive behaviours, and aspire to make a difference. They act with integrity, are receptive to alternatives and foster sustainable and resilient practices.	K1-2, A1	B	AT2-3	C

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1-3, S4, ASK1,3,4	Attendance at, and participation in, lectures and laboratory sessions.	Online quizzes consisting of multiple choice questions based on prescribed readings, laboratory activities and lecture material.	10 - 40%
K1-2, S1-3, ASK1-4	Ability to conduct independent work and to demonstrate critical thinking in accordance with APA requirements.	One 1500 - 2500 word Laboratory Report on set topic.	10 - 40%
K1-3, S4	Mastery of course content: theories and research findings	Final examination	20 - 50%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA