

Cognitive Systems (COGS) 401 Fall 2016
TTh 11:00-12:20 Swing 407

Instructor:

Dr. Lawrence Ward, Psychology, lward@psych.ubc.ca, 604-822-6309

Teaching Assistant:

Rose Shannon, Cognitive Systems, cogs401@gmail.com

Office hours by appointment

Course Outline

This seminar-format course is aimed at exposing advanced undergraduates (and some others) to the work of active researchers in cognitive systems here at UBC and elsewhere. Students have the opportunity to consider and discuss critically the conceptual frameworks, methods, results, and broader implications of current research.

The course will consist primarily of a weekly Presentation (usually a lecture in which a researcher presents their findings, accompanied by Question & Answer), alternating with a seminar discussion based on the Presentation and additional readings provided by the presenter. Periodically, students will write a short (750-word) research essay (4 in all) exploring a research idea raised by one or more of the presenters/authors they have heard/read over the previous several weeks.

Finally, students will prepare, present (twice), revise, and submit a more extensive research proposal that contains a review of the literature pertinent to the chosen project. Guidelines for research essays and the longer (2500 word) research proposal can be found on the cogs 401 website.

Grading

All UBC grading policies will be in effect, including those forbidding plagiarism. All questions about marks should be addressed in writing to Dr. Ward.

Grade breakdown:

Class participation	15% (attendance, contribution to discussions)
Research Essays	60% (4 x 15% = 60%)
Research proposal	25% (two presentations-pass/fail, written proposal marked)
Total	<hr/> 100%

Tentative Schedule Cogs 401

Day	Date	Event
Thursday	Sept 8	Introduction to the course
Tuesday	Sept 13	Lecture 1/Ward
Thursday	Sept 15	Seminar 1/Ward
Tuesday	Sept 20	Lecture 2/Bateson
Thursday	Sept 22	Seminar 2/Bateson
Friday	Sept 23	Lecture 3/ Anderson (3:00; Buchanan A201)
Tuesday	Sept 27	Seminar 3/ Anderson
Thursday	Sept 29	No class (work on essay/ research idea?) 1st Research Essay (750 words) due (Ward/Bateson)
Tuesday	Oct 4	Prelim Research Ideas Presented (1 minute)
Thursday	Oct 6	Lecture 4/Tomlin (3:30; Dempster 110)
Tuesday	Oct 11	Seminar 4/Tomlin
Thursday	Oct 13	TA Presentation /Research essay Feedback
Tuesday	Oct 18	Lecture 5/Illes
Thursday	Oct 20	Seminar 5/Illes
Tuesday	Oct 25	Preliminary Research Proposals: Background
Thursday	Oct 27	Preliminary Research Proposals: Background 2nd Research Essay due (Anderson/Tomlin)
Tuesday	Nov 1	Preliminary Research Proposals: Background
Thursday	Nov 3	Lecture 6/Risen (12:30; Woodward 6)
Tuesday	Nov 8	Seminar 6/ Risen
Thursday	Nov 10	Lecture 7/ Bialystok (12:30; TBD)
Tuesday	Nov 15	Seminar 7/ Bialystok 3rd Research Essay Due (Illes/Risen)
Thursday	Nov 17	Lecture 8/ TBA
Tuesday	Nov 22	Seminar 8/TBA
Thursday	Nov 24	Final Presentations
Tuesday	Nov 29	Final Presentations
Thursday	Dec 1	Final Presentations 4th Research Essay due (Bialystok/TBA8)

Friday Dec 9 Final written research proposals (2500 words) due