

CEDAR CREST COLLEGE

NEU 220 - Sensation and Perception Lab

Spring, 2010 Syllabus

- Instructor:** Dr. Kent Fitzgerald, Miller 27, 610-606-4666 x3609, kkfitzge@cedarcrest.edu
- Office hours:** Mon, Wed, Fri 9-10 AM; Mon 4-5 PM; Thu 11AM-12 PM
- Time, place:** Wednesday, 1:00 - 4:00 PM (1 credit)
- Prerequisites:** PSY 100 or NEU 200; NEU 220 must be taken concurrently
- Required texts:** Neuroscience: Exploring the Brain (3rd ed), Bear et al. 2007; Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.

Objectives

The objectives for students in this course are to:

- Understand the research methods used in historical and modern investigation of perception
- Demonstrate mastery of the course material through participation in class and lab and written lab reports

Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students will:

- Demonstrate the ability to engage in scientific and quantitative reasoning and to apply information literacy by conducting lab exercises and interpreting their results
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate these concepts orally and in writing

Assessment

The outcomes described above will be assessed through:

- Participation in lab exercises: scientific / quantitative reasoning, information literacy
- Written lab reports: scientific / quantitative reasoning, written communication ability
- Participation in class discussion: scientific / quantitative reasoning, oral communication ability

Student Responsibilities

Attendance: Attendance is required for all lab sessions, except in case of documented illness or emergency.

Laboratory exercises: This lab will involve a number of participatory experiences intended to demonstrate and explore various aspects of sensation and perception. These experiences are designed for educational purposes, and are not intended to be diagnostic of normal or abnormal sensory function. If for any reason you are unable to participate or uncomfortable participating in these exercises, please discuss alternative arrangements with the instructor.

Classroom protocol: Appropriate classroom behavior is implicit in the Cedar Crest Honor Code. Such behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations and any other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students' access to their Cedar Crest College education.

Scholarship and Integrity: I fully support the Cedar Crest College Honor Code and the Classroom Protocol Code as stated in the Customs Book. You are required to abide by the accepted practices of scholarship and integrity. All writing and other material that you submit must be your own, original work, unless otherwise acknowledged.

- Material that is quoted from another source must be clearly indicated as a quotation and must be followed immediately by a citation to the original source.
- Paraphrasing should be avoided; changing a few words in someone else's writing does not make it your own work.

Cheating or plagiarism will result in a grade of F for the assignment or the entire course, at the instructor's discretion. If you have any questions about these issues, please discuss them with the instructor.

Students with Disabilities: Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with their professors during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center.

Assignments and Evaluation

Lab Grade: Lecture and lab grades are separate. The lab grade will be determined by:

- Twelve written lab reports: 7% each. See the course schedule for due dates.
- Attendance, preparation, and participation: 16%

Course Grade: The course grade will be calculated to the nearest 0.1%, and the letter grade determined by the table below. Late assignments will be deducted 1% per calendar day.

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	F
93-100%	90-92.9%	87-89.9%	83-86.9%	80-82.9%	77-79.9%	73-76.9%	70-72.9%	67-69.9%	60-66.9%	<60%

NEU 220 Lab Schedule

Lab	Date	Topic	Report due
1	Jan 20	Introduction, Objectives, Thought Exercises in Perception	
2	Jan 27	Threshold, Difference Threshold, and Weber's Law	Lab 1
3	Feb 3	Light and Color	Lab 2
4	Feb 10	Eye, Retina, and Eye Dissection	Lab 3
5	Feb 17	Mapping Visual Receptive Fields	Lab 4
6	Feb 24	Visual Feature Processing	Lab 5
7	Mar 3	Depth Perception	Lab 6
	<i>Mar 8-12</i>	<i>Spring break</i>	
8	Mar 17	Outward Bound: Perception Beyond the Lab	Lab 7
9	Mar 24	Properties of Sound	Lab 8
10	Mar 31	Pitch and Loudness Perception	Lab 9
11	Apr 7	Auditory Localization	Lab 10
12	Apr 14	Touch and Temperature	Lab 11
13	Apr 21	Perception in other species	Lab 12
14	Apr 28	Taste and Smell	Lab 13