Instructor: Jim Tanaka (jtanaka@uvic.ca)
Office: Cornett A189, x7541 (meetings by appointment)

Lab Coordinator: Alison Campbell (campbell@uvic.ca)
Lab phone: 250-472-5395
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Overview
This course will introduce undergraduate students to fundamental concepts and methods used in basic research. Students will become active research members of the Different Minds Lab (https://sites.google.com/site/diffmindslab) - a group of faculty, post-doctoral fellows, graduate students and undergraduate students interested in the cognitive and neural basis of face and object recognition. Students will participate in weekly research discussions, assist in data collection, analysis and interpretation and present findings at student research conferences. They will learn good practices for conducting behavioural research with human participants. Students will also be trained in basic EEG data acquisition methods, including application of scalp electrodes, impedance checking and data monitoring. The goal of the course is to expose undergraduate students to the excitement and challenges of conducting basic research in the cognitive sciences.

Requirements

- **Human Ethics Certification** (5%) – Students will complete the tutorial on human ethics found on the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans website: http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/eng/education/tutorial-didacticiel. The tutorial takes about 3 to 4 hours to complete. A quiz on the basic points of the tutorial will be given before our Thursday lab meeting, January 19th.

- **Seminar participation** (25% of grade) - Students are expected to contribute to the research discussion, paper presentations and attend all seminar meetings. Each unexcused absence will result in 10% deduction in the participation grade.

- **Critical think question on the readings** (20% of grade) – By 9 AM on the day of the research presentation, students will be asked to post a critical think question on the CourseSpaces blog. The question should be one or two paragraphs in length and will be evaluated based on the demonstrated understanding of the assigned article and integration of ideas.

- **Experimental participation** (30% of grade) – Students will help design and execute original behavioural experiments in visual perception. They will participate in all facets of research including stimulus design, data collection, statistical analysis and report writing. Occasionally students will be asked to serve as pilot participants for our research to critique the experiment and provide feedback on its design. It is expected that students will be available a minimum of 4 hours (in 2 hour blocks) a week for subject running and serving as subjects for pilot experiments. Based on your availabilities, the lab coordinator will assign lab shifts. If for unforeseen circumstances (illness, injury), you cannot fulfill your assigned shift, it is the research assistant ‘s responsibility to find a replacement. Missing an assigned shift or failure to find a replacement will result in a half of grade deduction (e.g., “A+” = “A”). We make
every attempt to distribute RA hours evenly across the term, but the number of hours also depends on your availability. Marks for experimental participation are determined based on total hours accumulated at the end of the term.

- **Research Paper (20%)** – Students will be asked to write a review paper summarizing the research on familiarity effects in face recognition. The paper can examine the cognitive and neurophysiological processes of how an unfamiliar person becomes familiar and studies that utilize both behavioural and neural measures (e.g., fMRI, TMS, EEG). Students might want to examine face familiarity effects in healthy adult and developmental populations, brain-damaged individuals, and clinical populations, such as individuals on the autism spectrum. The paper should be 8-10 pages of double-spaced text in length and include a minimum of 10 references.

**Grading Policy**

- **A+ = 90 - 100%**
- **A = 85–89%**
- **A- = 80 – 84%**
- **B+ = 77 – 79%**
- **B = 73 – 76%**
- **B- = 70 – 72%**
- **C+ = 65 – 69%**
- **C = 60 – 64% (min. for majors)**
- **D = 50 – 59%**
- **F < 59%**
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
Department of Psychology

Important Course Policy Information
Winter 2017-2018

Prerequisites

Students who remain in courses for which they do not have the prerequisites do so at their own risk. Students who complete courses without prerequisites ARE NOT exempt from having to complete the prerequisite course(s) if such courses are required for the degree program.

Program Requirements

For more information see pages 308-313 of the UVic Calendar September 2017.

Registration Status

Students are responsible for verifying their registration status. Registration status may be verified using My Page, View Schedule. Course adds and drops will not be processed after the deadlines set out in the current UVic Calendar.

Commitment to Inclusivity and Diversity

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

In the Event of Illness, Accident or Family Affliction (See UVic Calendar, September 2017, p. 49-51)

• What to do if you miss the final exam scheduled during the formal exam period

Apply at Records Services for a “Request for Academic Concession”, normally within 10 working days of the date of the exam. Records Services will forward the form to the instructor. If the concession is granted, the instructor will determine how to deal with the situation (for example, a deferred exam). Where a concession is not applied for or where such application is denied, an N grade will be entered on the student’s academic record. OR, you can download the Request for Academic Concession form here: http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf

• What to do if you miss an exam other than one scheduled during the formal exam period

Do not apply at Records Services for a “Request for Academic Concession”. Instead submit documentation of the illness, accident or family affliction directly to your course instructor (or designated teaching assistant).

• What to do if you require additional time to complete course requirements

Apply at Records Services for a “Request for Academic Concession”, normally within 10 working days of the end of the course. Records Services will forward the form to the instructor. If the concession is granted, the instructor will determine how to deal with the situation (for example, a deferred exam). Where a concession is not applied for or where such application is denied, an N grade will be entered on the student’s academic record. OR, you can download the Request for Academic Concession form here: http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf
Policy on Academic Integrity including Plagiarism and Cheating

The Department of Psychology fully endorses and intends to enforce rigorously the Senate Policy on Academic integrity [http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2017-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html](http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2017-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html), p. 46-48, UVic Calendar September 2017). It is of utmost importance that students who do their work honestly be protected from those who do not. Because this policy is in place to ensure that students carry out and benefit from the learning activities assigned in each course, it is expected that students will cooperate in its implementation.

The offences defined by the policy can be summarized briefly as follows:

1. **Plagiarism.** You must make sure that the work you submit is your work and not someone else’s. There are proper procedures for citing the works of others. The student is responsible for being aware of and using these procedures.

2. **Unauthorized Use of an Editor.** The use of an editor is prohibited unless the instructor grants explicit written authorization.

3. **Multiple Submission.** Only under exceptional circumstances may a work submitted to fulfill an academic requirement be used to satisfy another similar requirement. The student is responsible for clarifying this with the instructor(s) involved.

4. **Falsifying Materials Subject to Academic Evaluation.** This includes falsification of data, use of commercially prepared essays, using information from the Internet without proper citation, citing sources from which material is not actually obtained, etc.

5. **Cheating on Assignments, Tests, and Examinations.** You may not copy the work of others in or out of class; you may not give your work to others for the purpose of copying; you may not use unauthorized material or equipment during examinations or tests; and you may not impersonate or allow yourself to be impersonated by another at an examination. The Department of Psychology has a policy of not making old examinations available for study purposes. Therefore, use of old exams without the express written permission of the instructor constitutes cheating by the user, and abetting of cheating by the person who provided the exam.

6. **Being an Accessory to Offences.** This means that helping another student to cheat (for instance, by showing or communicating to them answers to an assignment, or by allowing them to view answers on an exam) is an academic offence.

Instructors are expected to make every effort to prevent cheating and plagiarism. This may include the assignment of seating for examinations, asking students to move during examinations, requests to see student identification cards, and other measures as appropriate. Instructors also have available to them a variety of tools and procedures to check for Internet and electronic media-based cheating. In instances of suspected or actual plagiarism or cheating, instructors, following prescribed procedures, are authorized to take steps consistent with the degree of the offence. These measures will range from a zero on the test or assignment or a failing grade for the course, probation within a program to temporary or even permanent suspension from the University.

Rights of Appeal are described in the Policy on Academic Integrity in the University calendar (on p. 47 in September 2017).

The definitive source for information on Academic Integrity is the University Calendar (p. 46-48 in September 2017) ([http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2017-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html](http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2017-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html))

Other useful resources on Plagiarism and Cheating include:

1. The Study Solutions Office: [https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/success/study/index.php](https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/success/study/index.php)
3. UVic Library Resources: [http://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/plagiarism](http://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/plagiarism)