

Introduction to Cognitive Psychology

LMH Summer Programmes are provided by Lady Margaret Hall, a college in the University of Oxford

Course:	Introduction to Cognitive Psychology
Available:	Programme Session 2: 17 th July to 4 th August 2023
Lectures:	18 Hours
Seminars:	12 Hours
Tutorials:	3 Hours
Independent Study:	Approximately 120 Hours
Recommended Credit:	15 CATS / 7.5 ECTS / 4 US Credits

About this Course:	<p>This course will provide an introduction to Cognitive Psychology, a key area within Psychology which examines how the brain works. This course will introduce mental processes you may not have thought about: how do we focus on one thing rather than another? Why do we remember some things and forget others? And how do we make decisions?</p> <p>You will explore how these processes develop in infancy and how they depend on the neural structure of the brain. You will learn about the methods involved in studying Psychology and how to think critically about empirical research. This course offers a solid foundation for future study in Psychology and provides an opportunity to hear about cutting-edge research taking place here at the University of Oxford</p>
Course Overview:	<p>Focus and Attention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasoning, bounded rationality, and heuristics Problem spaces and the cognitive processes of problem-solving Executive control functions Models of cognitive control Experimental approaches to perception and attention <p>Memory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theoretical models of short-term memory and working memory Episodic and semantic memory Neural mechanisms of memory Memory and computational models <p>Language and the Brain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aphasia and classic neurological models of language Mechanisms of speech production and perception Models of lexical access

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dyslexia and the dual-route cascaded model of reading • Syntax and sentence processing
Key Texts:	<p>Eysenck, M., <i>Cognitive Psychology: A Student's Handbook</i>, 2020, London.</p> <p>Baddeley, A., Eysenck, M., and Anderson, M., <i>Memory</i>, 2020, London.</p> <p>Traxler, M., <i>Introduction to Psycholinguistics: Understanding Language Science</i>, 2012, Chichester.</p>
Learning Outcomes:	<p>After studying this course you will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate understanding of the key issues and topics within Cognitive Psychology, including current areas of research. • Demonstrate understanding of the psychological and biological methods behind Cognitive Psychology. • Critically evaluate empirical findings from psychological research.
Admissions Requirements:	<p>LMH Summer Programmes are designed for students who want to gain and develop knowledge in their chosen subject area. LMH Summer Programmes are intensive courses of study aimed at undergraduates who have completed one, two, or three years of their degree, or entry level postgraduate students.</p> <p>We will consider each applicant's academic ability and expect successful applicants to have a minimum grade point average equivalent to 2:1 level on the British grading scale. For example, this would mean at least a 3.2 GPA on the 4.0 grading scale in the United States, and 80% in China.</p> <p>This course would suit from a range of disciplines who are interested in the scientific study of mental processes. Prior formal academic experience in psychology is not required.</p> <p>To participate fully in the programme all students will need to have proficiency in English.</p> <p>English language requirements for students who are not native English speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall TOEFL score of 85; • or IELTS score of 6.5 (no less than 6.0 in each component); • or CET-4 at 550 or CET-6 at 520. <p>If the language of instruction in your home institution is English you do not need to provide evidence of your English proficiency.</p>
Teaching Methods:	<p>Core syllabus material will be covered in lectures. Students attend four lectures each week and each lecture lasts 90 minutes. Seminars in smaller groups offer students space to discuss and debate, to dig deeper into difficult concepts, and to explore their own ideas. Student contribution to seminars is vital, and tutors will ensure everyone takes part in discussions. Seminars last 2 hours and students will take part in two seminars each week.</p> <p>Independent study is a crucial part of an LMH Summer Programme and of the Oxford teaching model. Tutors will recommend important reading to do between lectures and seminars that will enable students to come to class equipped to understand the information presented and prepared to take part in discussion and debate. Each week students will have an assignment of independent work to complete and submit in advance of the tutorial. There is an appropriate amount of space in the timetable to complete the necessary reading, preparation, and assignments. Students should expect to do around 40 hours of independent study each week.</p> <p>The final class each week is a tutorial, a very small class typically including only 2-4 students and central to the teaching methods used by the University of Oxford and</p>

	on LMH Summer Programmes. Guided by their tutor, students will receive feedback on their assignments and be challenged to defend, justify, or even rethink their work and ideas. These rigorous academic discussions help develop and facilitate learning in a way that cannot be done with lectures and seminars alone.
Assessment:	On a three-week LMH Summer Programme students produce one piece of assessed work every week, which is submitted to the tutor and then discussed in a tutorial. At the end of each week students will receive a percentage grade for their submitted work. Each week's work counts for a third of the final percentage grade, so the final grade is an average of the mark received for each piece of work. Students who stay for six or nine weeks will receive a separate grade for each 3-week course.
Academic Credit:	Lady Margaret Hall will provide a transcript of students' assessed work, and can send this directly to your home institution if required. LMH Summer Programmes are designed to be eligible for academic credit, and we will communicate with home institution to facilitate this as needed. As a guide, we recommend the award of 15 CATS / 7.5 ECTS / 4 US Credits for each 3-week course.