

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

PSYC 4303 Sensation and Perception

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: Psychology major with junior standing, PSYC 2613 Research Methods in Psychology, BIOL 1153/1151 Biological Science/Laboratory, PSYC 4133 Physiological Psychology, and one of the following: ENGL 1213 Composition II, ENGL 1233 Honors Composition, or RHET 2863 Advanced Composition

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Examines sensory systems in mammals to illustrate how humans perceive the world through sensory systems. Review of research of visual and auditory systems, chemical systems, and their applications to contemporary living.

B. Additional Information

Required for majors.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Define sensation and perception, explain the difference between them, and describe the methods that scientists historically have used to study them;
2. Discuss and apply the different principles of psychophysics;
3. Describe some of the common principles of perception that apply to multiple senses;
4. Distinguish and understand critical theories concerning the perceptual processes of sensory systems (e.g., visual, auditory, gustatory, tactual, olfactory, vestibular, and proprioception);
5. Assess the functions of all sensory systems;
6. Examine the importance of sight and hearing for humans; and
7. Use electronic software and companion websites associated with texts in this course.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate effectively with a variety of audiences in any setting.

Analytical Skills**Critical Thinking Skills**

Students will draw conclusions and solve problems.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Structure and functions of sensory systems
- B. Perception and theories of perception
- C. Psychophysics
- D. Importance of sight and hearing in humans