



**LEAD CITY UNIVERSITY**  
*Faculty of Social and Management Science*  
*Department of Sociology and Psychology*

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### **COURSE PARTICULARS**

**Course Code:** Psy 312

**Course Title:** Cognitive Psychology

**No. of Units:** 3

**Status:** Compulsory

### **LECTURER DETAILS**

**Name:** Dr Lydia Titilayo Dada

**Qualifications:** Ph.D

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**Area of Specialization:** Clinical Psychology

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This introductory course provides an overview of the theory and application of cognition. **Cognitive psychology proposes that** our mental lives are shaped largely by cognitive (mental) processes. It investigates how we acquire, store, create and use knowledge, in almost all human activities. It is based on the theoretical approach that emphasizes the importance of people's knowledge, reasoning, and expectations for everyday activities. The course is useful for designing interventions to improve or repair mental functioning, after brain damage. Its applications are in fields like medicine, the legal system, education, and understanding mental disorders. It forms part of the active interdisciplinary field of cognitive science that also includes disciplines such as philosophy, neuroscience and artificial intelligence. It has extensive applications in education, learning, neuropsychology, man-machine interactions, and artificial intelligence.

### **COURSE DISCRIPTION:**

- Overview of cognitive psychology
- General Principle of Perception
- Thinking
- Memory
- Intelligence

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- To introduce students to cognitive psychology and its applications in law, medicine, education, government, business, and daily life.
- To become familiar with the central questions and findings of cognitive psychology.
- To learn the theories and research on cognition.
- To enable students understand man-machine interaction and artificial intelligence.

## ASSESSMENT

Class Attendance	5 marks
Test(s) and Assignments	25 marks
Final Examination	70 marks

## LECTURE PLAN

Week	Topic
Week 1	Introduction and Overview: History of cognitive psychology
Week 2	General principles of perception Perceptual organization
Week 3	General principles of perception (contd) Perceptual constancy Depth perception
Week 4	General principles of perception (contd) Visual illusion; Colour Perception
Week 5	Concepts of thinking
Week 6	Creative thinking and problem solving
Week 7	MID-SEMESTER TEST
Week 8	Memory: Information processing, theories and different types of memory Culture and memory skills and disorders of memory (Amnesia)
Week 9	Decision making: Rational models of decision making, Judging odds
Week 10	Intelligence: Different views on intelligence, Measuring intelligence
Week 11	Race/Ethnic differences in intelligence and achievement. Mental retardation and giftedness. Psychological application of thinking
Week 12	Revision

## READING LIST

- Lahey, B.B. 2007 "Psychology: An Introduction (Ninth Edition): McGraw-Hill.
- Wortman, C., Loftus, E., & Weaver, C. (1999). *Psychology* (Fifth Edition), McGraw-Hill.
- Bernstein, D.A., Penner L. A., Clarke-Stewart A. and Roy E. J. (2006) *Psychology* 7<sup>th</sup> Edition. New York.

## TUTORIAL QUESTIONS(12questions)

### Q 1

- a) Define cognition, and cognitive psychology.
- b) Give a brief overview of cognitive psychology.

### Q 2

- a) Define perception.
- b) Distinguish between sensation and perception.
- c) Describe what is meant by transduction.
- d) Define the concept of different threshold.

### Q 3

- a) List five properties of perception that all humans share.
- b) Give a brief description of each of the five principles of perceptual organization as described by Gestalt.

### Q 4

- a) List all the properties of perceptual constancy.
- b) Write short notes on each of the concepts.

### Q 5

- a) Discuss the influence of motivation and emotion on perception.

### Q 6

- a) Explain briefly the illustrative description of the following concepts: i) The Ponzo illusion, ii) The moon illusion, and iii) The Vertical-Horizontal illusion.

### Q7

- a) Describe colour?
- b) Discuss the Trichromatic theory of colour
- c) State the opponent process theory of colour perception.

### Q8

- a) What is colour blindness?
- b) What type of colour are people with inability to perceive colour usually fail to perceive?
- c) Explain the notion of multisensory perception.

### Q9

- a) What is thinking ?
- b) Define what a concept is, and describe the different types of concepts.
- c) Concepts that are based on a single common feature are called? \_\_\_\_\_
- d) Concepts that are made up of complex characteristics are known as \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Highlight the characteristics of natural concept.

### Q10

- a) Differentiate types of amnesia

- b) Describe each of the types.
- c) Explain how we organize information on long term memory?

**Q11**

- a) Write short notes on representative heuristic and availability heuristic.
- b) Explain the term decision making.
- c) List the different cognitive operations that enable problem solving.

**Q12**

- a) Define the concept of intelligence.
- c) Elaborate on a biological basis of general intelligence.
- d) Write briefly on Mental Retardation and Giftedness.

