

## Introduction

PSY 200  
Greg Francis  
Lecture 01

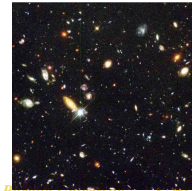
*Four great mysteries.*

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## Four great mysteries

- Humans face four great mysteries about the universe
- 1) Why is there something instead of nothing?
  - This is the domain of physics
  - Most of us are not going to understand the ideas
  - Leptogenesis



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## Four great mysteries

- Humans face four great mysteries about the universe
- 2) How did life form?
  - This question is addressed at the boundary between chemistry and biology

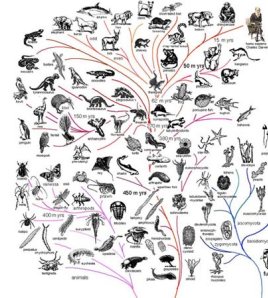


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## Four great mysteries

- Humans face four great mysteries about the universe
- 3) Why is there so much diversity of life?
  - This is the domain of biology
  - Evolution and natural selection answer this question



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## Four great mysteries

- Humans face four great mysteries about the universe
- 4) What is the basis of human intelligence and consciousness?
  - Cognitive psychology and neuroscience
  - Far from a complete answer
  - Lots of issues to discuss



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## Topics

- Discuss a sample of issues in cognitive psychology / cognitive neuroscience
- Try to relate cognitive psychology to stories you may have heard in the popular press
- Identify how the topics can help you to be a better person

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### Topics

- For example
  - ♦ *What's the deal with left and right brains?*
  - ♦ *Why does everyone love Prozac?*
  - ♦ *Why telephone operators seem rude.*
  - ♦ *Why there is a gate at the first floor stairway in the Psychology building.*
  - ♦ *What to do if you are drunk while studying for an exam.*
  - ♦ *What is the plural of walkman?*

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### Textbook

- There is no textbook
- Lecture notes are used instead
- If you want a book, borrow from a past class
- There are optional readings in the syllabus
  - ♦ Not for every subject

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### Lecture notes

- Downloadable from the class web page

- ♦ Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format
- ♦ Reduced form (6 to a page)



PSY 200 Notes on Cognitive Psychology

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### Lectures

- Lectures will be live-streamed using WebEx
  - ♦ <https://purdue.webex.com/meet/gfrancis>
- I will also record the lecture and post the recording on the class website
- Should a lecture be canceled, I will post a recording from a previous semester
- My recommendation is for you to attend the on-line lecture so that you can ask questions and can maintain a consistent study schedule

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### Lectures

- I encourage questions during lectures
- Given the format, maybe enter questions in the WebEx chat
- The TAs will monitor the chat and let me know about the question

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### Course web page

- Syllabus on the web
  - ♦ <http://www.psych.purdue.edu/~gfrancis/Courses/PSY200/indexS21.html>
  - ♦ updates to the syllabus
  - ♦ Links to lecture recordings
  - ♦ Links to labs
  - ♦ Links to writing assignments
  - ♦ Study guides for the exams
  - ♦ Links to optional readings
  - ♦ Grades will be posted after the first exam
- The course sparingly uses BrightSpace
  - ♦ Mostly for exams and writing assignments

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### Course outline

- Neuroscience -- EXAM 1 (10%)
- Perception, Attention & Memory -- EXAM 2 (10%)
- Memory & Mental representation -- Exam 3 (15%)
- Language -- Exam 4 (15%)
- Reasoning
- Cumulative Final (15%)

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### Exams

- Multiple choice (on BrightSpace)
  - Available for a 24 hour period
  - 50 minutes (2 hours for final exam)
  - Don't wait until the last minute
  - Must be taken in one seating (cannot stop and return later)
- Open notes, but not collaborative
- Detailed study guides are already on the class web site

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### Practice Exams

- Multiple choice (on BrightSpace)
  - Available until the day of the exam
- You can take the practice exams as many times as you want
- Brightspace will keep track of your highest score on each practice exam
- That score becomes your practice exam score, which counts for 5% of your class grade

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### CogLab

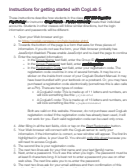
- Homework
- You participate in classic experiments
- Total lab grade contributes to 15% of your class grade.
- Grade is based solely on *completing* the experiment, not on the quality of the data

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### CogLab

- Labs are listed on the syllabus
- They must be completed by **10:00 am** at the date indicated in the syllabus
  - else you get no credit
  - Better to do it the night before
- Since I wrote CogLab, you get access to the experiments for free
  - (a \$50 value!)
- See handout for instructions on getting started (sent by email)
- Registration code is near the bottom of page 2
- **First lab is due at 10:00 am on Friday!** (all times Eastern US)



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### Writing assignments

- You need practice writing!
- Four assignments, 1500-2000 words
  - Roughly, 3-5 pages of single spaced text.
  - If you struggle to fill 3 pages of text, you probably do not understand the assignment
- Assignments are uploaded to Brightspace
- First assignment is due February 3
  - By 1:30 pm (not one second later!)
  - 15% of your class grade

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## Grading

- Straight scale
  - 98% - 100% A+
  - 93% - 97% A
  - 90% - 92% A-
  - 88% - 89% B+
  - 83% - 87% B
  - 80% - 82% B-
  - 78% - 79% C+
  - 73% - 77% C
  - 70% - 72% C-
  - 68% - 69% D+
  - 63% - 67% D
  - 60% - 62% D-
  - 0% - 59% F
- No rounding up: 82.99 is a B-

No extra credit

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## Grading

- Previous semester's grades (Spring 2020)

	E1	E2	E3	E4	Final	CogLab	Writing	Attendance	Total
Average	77	71	72	83	72	83	64	92	75
Max	100	100	100	100	98				

- Last semester's grades (Fall 2020)

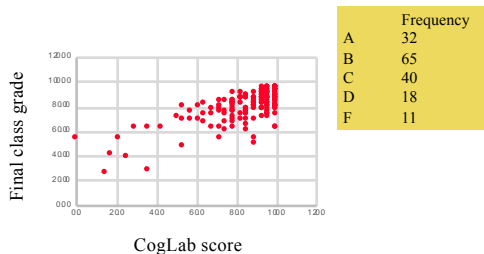
	E1	E2	E3	E4	Final	CogLab	Writing	Total
Average	78	76	75	86	81	85	85	80
Max	96	100	96	100	99			

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## Grading

- Last semester's grades (Fall 2020)



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## Instructor office hours

- During scheduled class lecture time
- Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 2:30 – 3:30 pm
  - Or by appointment
  - Via WebEx, as listed on the class web page
    - » <https://purdue.webex.com/meet/gfrancis>
  - Email: [gfrancis@purdue.edu](mailto:gfrancis@purdue.edu)

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## Teaching assistants

- Maria Kon and Corey Nack
- Grade writing assignments
- Keep track of grades
- Have virtual office hours (links on class web site)
  - ♦ Maria: MWF 9:30 - 10:30 am
  - ♦ Corey: Tuesday, Thursday 1:30 – 3:00 pm

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## Attitude/Advice

- Lectures: Watch them on the day of the regular schedule. Set aside a particular time and place to watch them. Take notes.
- Print out the lectures and bring them to class. Take notes during class. Not everything is on the slides.
- Everything we talk about in class is important
- Work on the study guide every week, so the ideas/answers from lecture are fresh in your mind.
- This class is an introductory class, but that does not mean it is easy
  - It's like *Introduction to Physics* or *Introduction to Chemistry*
  - Almost every other subtopic in psychology depends on the ideas in cognitive psychology
  - Everything is at least 10,000 times more complicated than what we discuss
- If you don't find a topic interesting, just wait a week

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### Next time

- Cognitive neuroscience
- The brain
- The modularity hypothesis
- CogLab on Brain asymmetry due!
- *What's the deal with left and right brains?*

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