

PSY 336 Sensation and Perception
Fall 2007
Credit hours: 3
Mo We Fr 3 8.00 - 8.50
AB4 Rm 302

Instructor: T. C. Sim, Ph.D.
Office: Rm. 333, AB4
Tel: 294-1507
Office hours: Refer to grading policy.

Required Text: *Sensation and Perception*. (7th ed.) by E. Bruce Goldstein.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Please take note that this is a proposed schedule. Any changes in the schedule (especially EXAMS) will be announced in class. If a student is absent from class, it will be his/her responsibility to get information on any updated changes from classmates. In addition to the scheduled chapters, there will be numerous classroom CD-Rom demonstrations of the various phenomena mentioned in the text.

Part 1.	Introduction to perception. Receptors and Neural Processing The Lateral Geniculate Nucleus and Striate Cortex Higher Level Visual Processing FIRST EXAM	Sep 28
Part 2	Perceiving objects and forms Perceiving color Perceiving depth and size SECOND EXAM	Oct 26
Part 3	Perceiving Movement Perception and Action Sound, the Auditory System and Pitch Perception Clinical aspects of vision THIRD EXAM	Nov 14
Part 4	The cutaneous senses The chemical senses FINAL EXAM	week of Dec 10 (Refer to Final Schedule)

OBJECTIVES.

The last two decades have seen the fields of sensory and perceptual processes exploding into major subdivisions in psychology and neurophysiology. The five basic senses that we possess, we use incessantly and yet we rarely pause long enough to appreciate the complexities and intricacies that are involved in each sophisticated operation. This course is designed to provide us with an understanding of the processes underlying each of the senses. If we were to believe what we see, we would be turned into the most cynical skeptic in an illusory world. We will come to grips with well-known perceptual problems -- why, for instance, in a geometrical illusion figure, one line looks longer than another of equivalent length. In addition to exploring the human senses, we will also consider the sensory and perceptual processes of some other members of the animal kingdom. By the end of the semester, we may perceive the world differently (perhaps with a sense of awe and wonder, or with a greater sense of skepticism) but we will have gained a better understanding and appreciation of ourselves, and especially of the sensory world in which we exist.

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no individuals otherwise qualified shall, solely by reason of their disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic program or activity. Students with a disability which affects their academic performance are expected to arrange for a conference with the instructor as soon as possible. This is so that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired since there will be no retroactive accommodations"