Cognitive Science 101C
Language & Reasoning
http://www.cogsci.ucsd.edu/~coulson/Courses/101c/

Introductions

- **Instructor**
  - Dr. Coulson
  - coulson@cogsci.ucsd.edu
  - Office Hours in CSB161
    - Mon 11:30am - 12:30pm
    - Fri 11:30am - 12:30pm
- **TAs**
  - Ben
  - Jenny
  - Kensy

Goals and Objectives

- Learn about the formalisms cognitive scientists have used to study language and reasoning
  - Frames and Schemas
  - Logic
  - Probability Theory
  - Grammar
- Learn some of the many facts cognitive scientists have discovered about how people think and talk

Topics

- **Reasoning:** March 31 – May 2
  - Knowledge Representation
  - Deductive Reasoning and Mental Models
  - Statistical Reasoning and Decision Making
  - Induction and Analogy
  - Metaphor and Blends
- **Language:** May 7 – June
  - Grammar
  - Talking
  - Speech Perception
  - Reading
  - Language and Reasoning

Required Reading

- **Textbook**
  - *Cognitive Psychology*
  - Medin, Ross, & Markman
  - Used last quarter in COGS 101b
- **Online Readings**
  - Check the course website

Course Requirements

- **Problem Sets**
  - Short answer and essay questions
  - Designed to help you understand course material
  - 5 total, together worth 50% of your grade
  - Discuss in section, turn in during lecture
- **Midterms**
  - Format: Short Answer and Essay Questions
  - Similar to problem sets
  - Covers material outlined in study guides
  - Monday May 5
  - Friday June 6 (comprehensive)
- **Attendance**
  - Lecture
  - Section
  - Experiment Participation
    - Experimentix
  - 2 hours total (or 2 summaries) required
  - Try to “turn in” at least 1 hour at each midterm
- **Final Paper (5 pages)**
  - Monday June 9 by 10 am
  - No late papers (early okay)
  - Place in Coulson’s mailbox in the Cognitive Science Building
  - Did I mention, no late papers?
Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Midterms</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Problem Sets</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Final Paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Straight Scales and Happy Curves

- 90-100% A
- 80-89% B
- 70-79% C
- 60-69% D
- <60% F

- If the straight scale seems to harsh, we will employ a “happy curve” to improve your grades
- The happy curve never results in a lower grade than we would obtain from the straight scale

On-Line Resources

- Course Web Page
  - Syllabus
  - PDF version of slides
  - Links to online readings
  - Links to assignments
  - Links to Study Questions (hopefully)
  http://www.cogsci.ucsd.edu/~coulson/Courses/101c/