

## Introduction

PSY 200  
Greg Francis  
Lecture 01

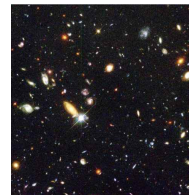
*Four great mysteries.*

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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

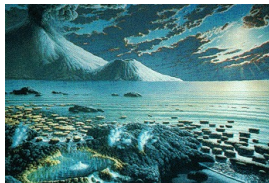


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## Four great mysteries

- 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?*

### 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

### Lecture notes

- Downloadable from the Prof. Greg Francis class web page
  - ♦ Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format
  - ♦ Reduced form (6 to a page)



### Lectures

- I will record the lecture and post the recording on the class website (Video links for each lecture will become clickable)
- Should a lecture be canceled, I will post a recording from a previous semester
- I encourage questions during lectures

### Attendance

- Class attendance is **mandatory**
- At the start of class pick up a scantron sheet and enter your information with a *pencil*
  - ♦ The scantron sheets are only available for the first 15 minutes of the class period
  - ♦ Section 008
  - ♦ You **must** correctly enter your Purdue ID, otherwise, you might not receive attendance credit
  - ♦ At the end of class, drop off the scantron sheet at the front or back of the room
- Attendance counts as 10% of your class grade
- Everyone gets 6 misses before it impacts your grade

### Course web page

- Syllabus on the web
- <http://www.psych.purdue.edu/~gfrancis/Classes/PSY200/indexS25.html>
  - ♦ updates to the syllabus
  - ♦ Links to lecture recordings
  - ♦ Links to labs
  - ♦ Study guides for the exams
  - ♦ Links to optional readings
  - ♦ Grades will be posted after the first exam
- The course does not use BrightSpace

### Course outline

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

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### Exams

- In class, on the dates listed in the syllabus
  - Exams are rescheduled only for documented and exceptional reasons (as judged by Dr. Francis)
- 30 multiple choice questions, 4 short-answer questions
- Detailed study guides are already on the class web site

Beware of the scheduling of the final exam!

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### Practice Exams

- From Spring 2016
- Available on the class website
- I purposely do not provide the answers to the practice exams, because I think you will get the most benefit by finding the answers yourself
- If you feel you must have the answers, you can see me during office hours

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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 on time, not on the quality of the data
- Make sure you see your data at the end of the lab
  - Do not close your web browser until you have seen your data!

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### CogLab

- Labs are listed on the syllabus
- They must be completed by **1:00 pm** 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
- Registration code is near the bottom of page 2
- *First lab is due at 1:00 pm on Wednesday!* (all times Eastern US)



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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 extra credit

- No rounding up: 82.99 is a B-

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### Grading

- Last semester's grades (Fall 2024)

	E1	E2	E3	E4	Final	CogLab	Attendance	Total
Average	69	65	77	85	76	83	90	76
Max	98	97	99	99	96	100	100	97

- Does not include students who dropped the course
  - Somewhat lower grades than is typical

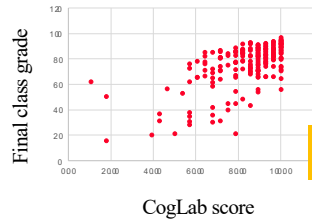
	Frequency
A	27
B	77
C	47
D	20
F	27

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### Grading

- Last semester's grades (Fall 2024)



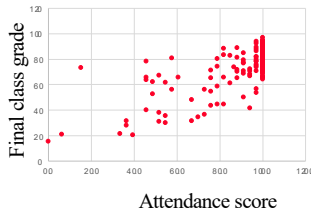
Complete all the CogLab Assignments on time!

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### Grading

- Last semester's grades (Fall 2024)



Get the full Class attendance points!

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### Instructor office hours

- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 2:00 – 3:00 pm
  - Or by appointment
  - PSYCH 3186
  - Email: gfrancis@purdue.edu

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### Teaching assistant

- Hailey Arreola
- Grades exams
- Keeps track of grades
- Has office hours (PSYCH 3196)
  - Monday 4:30-6:30 pm, Friday 4:30-5:30 pm

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### Attitude/Advice

- 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
- Get the "free" attendance points by attending every lecture
- Stay on top of the CogLab assignments, sometimes more than one lab is due for a given day. Make sure you see your data at the end of the lab.
- Don't wait till the last minute to do an assignment
- 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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