

# Course Information

This course provides an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of comparative cognition for undergraduate students with an interest in the evolution and function of cognitive processes across animal species. Through a combination of online presentations, textbook reading, and online activities, topics such as memory, navigation, decision-making, theory of mind, prosocial behaviour, and communication will be discussed. With successful completion of this course, students will have a fundamental knowledge base that will promote critical thinking outside of the classroom as well as support learning in advanced psychology, biology, and neuroscience courses.

## Learning Outcomes

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After successful completion of Psychology 205, you will be able to:

- Recognize and recall experimental findings that support or do not support existing theories in comparative cognition
- Apply theories to predict outcomes of experimental manipulations
- Engage in critical reading of primary and secondary sources.
- Combine critical reading skills and conceptual knowledge of comparative cognition to create a review of experimental findings for a broad audience.

## Course Website

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All communication related to this course, including on-line presentations and activities, quizzes, and grades will be posted on the course website on OnQ. Access to this site is restricted to students who are registered in this course. In addition, course announcements may be sent through Queen's

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complex topics from the textbook and introduce new, related concepts.

## Evaluation

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Quizzes: 10%

(Information, Context, Extension). See the Course Content for specific dates and further

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According to university regulations, students must be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official examination period, as well as during any scheduled class. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting activities (e.g., travel plans, volunteer work) will NOT be accommodated. Students are advised to wait until the final exam schedules are posted before making any travel arrangements.

## Request for Academic Accommodation

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Students registered with Queen's Health, Counseling, and Disability Services who require alternative accommodation assignments should notify the Instructor as soon as possible. Students who require academic accommodation for the final exam should consult Queen's Disability Service to arrange this process: <http://www.queensu.ca/hcds/ds/students/accommodations.htm>.

## Academic Integrity

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Academic integrity is constituted by the five core fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility (see [http://www.academicintegrity.org/fundamental\\_values\\_project/index.php](http://www.academicintegrity.org/fundamental_values_project/index.php)). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the 'freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas' essential to the intellectual life of the University (see the Senate Report on Principles and Priorities)

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information on academic integrity is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see Academic Regulation 1), on the Arts and Science website (see <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academics/academic-integrity>), and from the instructor of this course.

Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

## Queen's Copyright Information

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This material is copyrighted and is for the sole use of students registered in Psychology 205. This material shall not be distributed or disseminated to anyone other than students registered in Psychology 205. Failure to abide by these conditions is a breach of copyright, and may also constitute a breach of academic integrity under the University Senate's Academic Integrity Policy Statement.

