



PSY 621, 01W, & Advanced Cognition  
COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer 2026  
Online

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Shulan Lu  
Office Location: Henderson 220  
Office Hours: Thurs 5-6 pm and TBA  
University Email Address: [shulan.lu@etamu.edu](mailto:shulan.lu@etamu.edu)  
Preferred Form of Communication: Email

*If you have any questions or concerns about our class, please ALWAYS contact me first. If we cannot reach a solution, I will refer you to our Department Head.*

*Communication Response Time: Typically I can respond within 1-2 days of receiving the message on the normal Monday through Friday weekday schedule, however, during weekends and holidays this process might be longer.*

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

**Textbook Required**

Video lectures, handouts and reading materials will be distributed via D2L.

**Software Required**

Microsoft office; D2L; pdf

**Course Description**

Cognition is extraordinarily central in every human's life. Cognitive approach has widespread influence on all other areas of psychology. Your mind is an impressively sophisticated piece of equipment. As the owner of this equipment, do you want to check out user's manual as you would do with your favorite gadgets? We will go in depth into some of the fundamental topics in cognition. In addition, this course will examine the relationship between technology and cognition.

## Student Learning Outcomes

- 1) Students will be able to appreciate the metaphors and the approaches to the scientific understanding of human mind.
- 2) Students will be able to appreciate and to some extent follow the discourse appropriate to how cognitive psychologists communicate about the scientific study of human mind.
- 3) Students will gain an overview of how psychologists test, interpret, and demonstrate concepts, theories and principles in empirical data.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

You need to be able to use the following:

- Microsoft Office (or an equivalent to such)
- D2L
- PDF

In addition, refer to the following.

<https://carleton.ca/online/online-learning-resources/essential-technological-skills/>

### Instructional Methods

This is an online course. Dr. Shulan Lu hosts **an online meeting every Thurs (5-6pm)**. During this time, student mini-presentations will be held and interactive learning activities will be conducted.

You will be expected to follow the video lectures, read assigned materials, take notes and review portions of lectures. You will also be expected to read the assigned materials, do the necessary research and complete the assignment. You are encouraged to discuss with your classmates or anyone who has knowledge or insights on the topic. However, you are expected to take others' input, assimilate them and compose your own work.

### Student Responsibilities /Tips for Success in the Course

Your attendance is a significant factor in student course grades. Start with attending our class and do the following basics:

- 1) Check and read class emails promptly for announcements, updates, clarifications, etc.
- 2) Take notes as you listen to lectures, read the assigned parts of the textbook to check if your listening comprehension matches with the textbook descriptions, and fill in the missing pieces.
- 3) Quiz yourself often. Can you define a concept in your own words?
- 4) Complete assigned coursework on time. Learn and discuss collaboratively, however, compose and complete your assignments independently.

## **Grading**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

## **Assessments**

If you become sick, you must schedule to retake the assigned coursework within 3 days of the due date and must provide documentation of your illness.

If you are traveling and representing the university (e.g., band members, athletes, etc.) you need to request accommodations BEFORE the exam or assignment is due, not after.

*Unless authorized by me, you are expected to complete all course assignments without assistance from any source, including artificial intelligence such as ChatGPT. Students must reply to instructor's email concerning the integrity of their coursework within 2 business days and schedule a meeting with the instructor within 4 business days from the date of the initial contact email.*

### **Assignments and Discussions (ADs): 60%**

The questions align with each of the 3 learning outcomes, in particular, SLO 2-3.

If for some REAL emergency you must delay your submission, make sure that you contact me immediately. When official documentation is provided, you can do a make-up.

You are encouraged to voice your ideas, however, you are expected to respect everyone in class. Disruptive behavior or disrespect toward other students or the instructor will not be tolerated. At the very least, it will cost a letter grade, and is subject to further penalty.

### **In Class Mini-Presentations: 40%**

Each student is expected to give 2 mini-presentations. Each presentation will cover selected concepts, theories, or experiments. Students must prepare a PowerPoint outline and present during class. If students need to make alternative arrangement, please contact me in advance.

- 1) Each mini presentation should not last longer than five minutes.
- 2) Slides should use bullet points and include diagrams, charts, or illustrations where appropriate.
- 3) Slides should not contain large blocks of text for students to read during the presentation.
- 4) Students should demonstrate their understanding through QAs with professor and the class.

### Tentative Schedule

Agenda	Topic	Notes
June 1	Syllabus / Orientation, Language, AI language models	
June 8	Technology and cognition 1	
June 15	Technology and cognition 2	
June 22	Neuroscience, technology, and cognition	
June 29	Conscious and unconscious thoughts	

Note: Attend to class announcements for due dates.

### Technology Requirements

#### LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

## Access and Navigation

You will need your Campus-Wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@etamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@etamu.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

## Communication and Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### Interaction with Instructor Statement

Typically, I will respond to your emails within 24 hours from Mon to Fri. It will take longer during the holidays and weekends. I can also meet with you via Zoom. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

## Course and University Procedures/Policies

### Course Specific Procedures/Policies

#### Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## University Specific Procedures

### Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <https://www.tamuc.edu/student-code-of-conduct/>.

If you believe someone has engaged in behaviors that do not align with the Code of Student Conduct or you have other concerns, please visit the File a Report page at <https://www.tamuc.edu/office-of-student-rights-and-responsibilities/concerns-incident-reporting/>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

### Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy  
[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

Undergraduate student academic dishonesty policy  
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Graduate student academic dishonesty policy:  
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf>

Graduate student academic dishonesty form:  
<https://inside.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

### ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage.

### Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Chatbots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

### **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Services

Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

**Phone (903) 886-5930**

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [StudentDisabilityServices@etamu.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@etamu.edu)

Website: <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

### **Mental Health and Well-Being**

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



### **East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis

assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and East Texas A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.