SYLLABUS

Instructor: Leon Lou, Ph.D.  
Office: 2313 Au Sable Hall  
Office Phone: 331-2916  
Office Hours: MWF 12:00-12:50pm, or by appointment  
E-mail: loul@gvsu.edu

Textbook

Supplementary Readings on the Blackboard
1. Sensation and Perception, a chapter of “Psychology: Exploring Behavior”, a free web textbook
5. Pinna, G. (2013). Why are paintings painted as they are? The Place of Children’s Drawings in Vision and Art, Art & Perception, 1, 75-104.

Course description
The goal of this course is to help student explore questions concerning the way the world appears to the perceiving subject from a scientific and naturalistic perspective. Important classic and contemporary studies will be introduced with a theoretical outlook that integrates scientific methodology and philosophical thinking.

Throughout this course, I will encourage independent thinking and critical questioning and discussion. Please feel free to ask questions at any time during class about the lectures and the text. Be sure to read the assigned chapters and supplementary reading material before coming to class. All students are strongly encouraged to make use of my office hours.

Prerequisite: Psychology 101
Assessment

Your final grade will be based on the total points that accrue in following categories:

Exams:

There will be three examinations----two mid-term exams (50 points each) and one final exam (100 points). The two mid-term exams will be non-cumulative, covering the material since the beginning of the class and since the first mid-term exam, respectively. The final exam will be partially cumulative, with about 50% on new material and 50% on the old material already tested in the two mid-term exams. All three exams will consist of multiple-choice questions and short-answer questions that cover materials from the lectures, the textbook, in-class and homework assignments, and the videos shown in class.

In-Class and Homework Assignment:

There will be 28-30 of them. Each question is worth 4 points and takes about 15-20 minutes to complete, assuming you have read the relevant sections of the textbook and understood most of what is covered in my lectures. You have to complete at least 25 of them to get the maximum of 100 points.

About 30% of the assignment will be in-class work. These will be scheduled during the regular class time throughout the semester. They are designed to test your understanding of the material recently covered or to be covered in class. They include definition questions, problem-solving questions. If you miss a class, you may not be able to make up for the in-class assignment. This is one of the reasons why class attendance is important.

About 70% of the assignment will be homework. All homework assignment must be typed and turned in electronically through Blackboard Assignment, which has a built-in plagiarizing detector. E-mail attachments are NOT accepted. Late work will be marked down 20% per day delayed and will not be accepted one week after its due date. No excuses whatsoever will be accepted.

Make-up Exams

No make-up exams will be given except in extreme circumstances (for example, personal illness and death of an immediate family member). You have to present valid documentation to support your request for a make-up exam, which should be made before the exam, if possible. The make-up exam may be either a written or an oral exam and may consist mostly of essay questions. Make-ups will not be scheduled after one week in any cases.

Grading Scale

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3 (Final Exam)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>300</td>
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Your total points will be converted to scores in percentage. Your final letter grade will then be determined according to the following percentage scale:

\[
\begin{align*}
A &= 93-100 \\
A- &= 89-92 \\
B+ &= 86-88 \\
B &= 82-85 \\
B- &= 79-81 \\
C+ &= 76-78 \\
C &= 72-75 \\
C- &= 68-71 \\
D+ &= 64-67 \\
D &= 60-63 \\
F &= 0-59
\end{align*}
\]

**Withdrawal**

The deadline for withdrawal from this class with a “W” grade is March 6th, 5pm. You must file an official withdrawal form at the Student Assistance Center.

**Classroom Etiquette**

- If you have to come late or leave early on a certain day for a legitimate reason, please do so in a way that disrupts the class as little as possible, and inform me by e-mail or in person, either before or after the incident.
- Please stop talking with other students after a class session has begun.
- Please make sure that your mobile phone is switched off before entering the classroom.
- Please signal by raising your hand if you have any comments or questions about any issues related to the class.
- Please do not make unnecessary noises (for example, packing your book bag) before I announce the end of a class session.

**Available assistance**

All students are encouraged to make use of my office hours. Stop by my office or talk to me after class if you have any questions or concerns about this course. If your schedule conflicts with my office hours, let me know and we can schedule an alternative time to meet. Students who have difficulty with the course should contact me as soon as possible. If you need special disability-related accommodation, please inform me and contact the Disability Support Resources (dsrgvsu@gvsu.edu, 331-2490).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>1/5, 7, 9</td>
<td>What is vision science?</td>
<td>Ch. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>1/12, 14, 16</td>
<td>What is vision science?</td>
<td>Ch. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>1/19, 1/21, 23</td>
<td>MLK Memorial Holiday, no class</td>
<td>Ch. 2; Supplementary reading 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>1/26, 28, 1/30</td>
<td>Eye and Brain</td>
<td>Ch. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>2/2, 2/4, 6</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Ch. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>2/9, 2/11, 13</td>
<td>Color</td>
<td>Ch. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>2/16, 18, 20</td>
<td>Edge</td>
<td>Ch. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>2/23, 2/25, 2/27</td>
<td>Object</td>
<td>Ch. 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>3/1-3/8</td>
<td>Spring Break; No Class</td>
<td>Drop deadline 3/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>3/9, 11, 13</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Ch. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>3/16, 18, 20</td>
<td>Space</td>
<td>Ch. 7</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>3/23, 25, 3/27</td>
<td>Imagination</td>
<td>Ch. 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
<td>3/30, 4/1, 3</td>
<td>Consciousness</td>
<td>Ch. 9; Supplementary reading 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>4/6, 8, 10</td>
<td>Hearing, Touch, Smell, Taste</td>
<td>Supplementary readings 1, 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>4/13, 4/15, 4/17</td>
<td>Synesthesia, Perceptual development, Social perception</td>
<td>Supplementary readings 3, 5, 6</td>
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4/21 Tuesday 2:00-3:50pm Same Classroom: Final Exam