

PSYC13016 *Cognitive Psychology*

Term 2 - 2025

Profile information current as at 08/06/2026 03:15 pm

All details in this unit profile for PSYC13016 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

Corrections

Unit Profile Correction added on 24-07-25
Assessment 2 (Online Quiz)
The 72 hour grace period does not apply to this assessment item
Assessment 3 (Take Home Test)
The 72 hour grace period does not apply to this assessment item

General Information

Overview

This unit focuses on cognitive psychology, which is the study of how the mind works. At the end of the unit, you will have a broad understanding of how people attend to and perceive items in our world, how we remember short term and long term information, how we use language and how we make decisions. You will be able to communicate your perspective on the key debates and controversies in cognitive psychology based on your examination of historical and cutting-edge research. You will explore some of the key research findings in the area through planning, executing and writing up a research study.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 3*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: *10*

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.125*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

96 credit points in CC43, CF59, CL51, CL55, CM62, or CG93.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2025

- Bundaberg
- Cairns
- Online
- Rockhampton

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

Regional Campuses

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

Metropolitan Campuses

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. Report

Weighting: 50%

2. Online Quiz(zes)

Weighting: 10%

3. Take Home Exam

Weighting: 40%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure - Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure - International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback - Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from SUTE

Feedback

Tutorials were viewed as very helpful in supporting the assessments.

Recommendation

Retain the focus on the assessments in the tutorials.

Feedback from SUTE

Feedback

Some articles in the reading list were hard to obtain.

Recommendation

Review and update the reading list.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Express a broad understanding of the fundamental concepts in cognitive psychology
 2. Communicate a clear, coherent and independent exposition of key research findings and theories in cognitive psychology
 3. Apply research methods used to study cognitive psychology.
- This unit addresses Foundational Competencies as specified by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) and specifically aligns to:
- 1.1 Comprehend and apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge of psychology, with depth of understanding of underlying principles, theories and concepts in the discipline, using a scientific approach, including the following topics: (v) learning and memory; (vi) cognition, language and perception; (vii) motivation and emotion; (viii) neuroscience and the biological bases of behaviour; and (xii) research methods and statistics.
 - 1.3 Analyse and critique theory and research in the discipline of psychology and communicate these in written and oral formats.
 - 1.4 Demonstrate an understanding of appropriate values and ethics in psychology.
 - 1.6 Demonstrate self-directed pursuit of scholarly inquiry in psychology.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

— N/A Level ● Introductory Level ● Intermediate Level ● Graduate Level ● Professional Level ● Advanced Level

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Report - 50%		●	●
2 - Online Quiz(zes) - 10%	●		●
3 - Take Home Exam - 40%	●	●	

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Communication	●	●	●
2 - Problem Solving			●
3 - Critical Thinking	●	●	●
4 - Information Literacy		●	●
5 - Team Work			
6 - Information Technology Competence	●		
7 - Cross Cultural Competence			
8 - Ethical practice			●
9 - Social Innovation			
10 - First Nations Knowledges			
11 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures			

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

PSYC13016

Prescribed

Cognitive Psychology

Edition: 8th (2020)

Authors: Eysenck, M.W. & Keane, M.T.

Psychology Press

London, United Kingdom

ISBN: 978-1-35105-851-3

Binding: Paperback

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Supplementary

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association

Edition: 7th (2019)

American Psychological Association

ISBN: 978-1-4338-3216-1

Binding: Paperback

[View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop](#)

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Chris Bearman Unit Coordinator
c.bearman@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 14 Jul 2025

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Foundational Concepts & Methods	1	

Week 2 - 21 Jul 2025

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Visual Perception	2	

Week 3 - 28 Jul 2025

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Object Recognition	3	

Week 4 - 04 Aug 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Attention	5	
Week 5 - 11 Aug 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Short-Term Memory	6	
Vacation Week - 18 Aug 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Week 6 - 25 Aug 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Learning & Long-Term Memory	7	
Week 7 - 01 Sep 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Everyday Memory	8	Research Report Due: Week 7 Friday (5 Sept 2025) 11:59 pm AEST
Week 8 - 08 Sep 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Reading	9	
Week 9 - 15 Sep 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Language Comprehension	10	
Week 10 - 22 Sep 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Problem Solving	12 & Research Papers	
Week 11 - 29 Sep 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Online Quiz Week		Online Quiz Due: Week 11 Friday (3 Oct 2025) 11:59 pm AEST
Week 12 - 06 Oct 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Take Home Test Week		
Review/Exam Week - 13 Oct 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		Take Home Test Due: Review/Exam Week Monday (13 Oct 2025) 9:00 am AEST
Exam Week - 20 Oct 2025		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Assessment Tasks

1 Research Report

Assessment Type
Report

Task Description

The primary aim of this assessment item is to enable you to design, conduct and communicate a research project in psychology. You will be provided with a research activity that describes a basic experiment in cognitive psychology. Your task is to extend this basic study (by including an additional independent variable), collect data from at least 16 friends and family (who are over 18), appropriately analyze the data and write up your findings as an academic journal style report. Please note, if you have previously attempted a research activity you must do a different one this time around.

Level of GenAI use allowed:

Level 3: You may use AI to assist with specific tasks such as drafting text, refining and evaluating your work. You must critically evaluate and modify any AI-generated content you use.

Assessment Due Date

Week 7 Friday (5 Sept 2025) 11:59 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Reports submitted by the original deadline will be returned by 19th September. Reports submitted up to 1 week late will be returned by 26th September. Reports submitted up to 2 weeks late will be returned by 3rd October..

Weighting

50%

Minimum mark or grade

50

Assessment Criteria

You will write a journal style report, between 2000 (minimum) and 2500 (maximum) words, excluding references and appendices, but including in-text citations and figure labels, etc. In other words, everything from the beginning of the title to the end of the discussion is included in the word count. Your assignment should be double spaced and should be in the form of an academic journal article. Your report should have the following sections: title page, abstract, introduction, method, results, discussion, and references. Your report should follow all aspects of the APA publication style.

The following illustrates the marking criteria that will be used to assess this assignment...

Title Page: 2 marks

- The title accurately describes what the study is about
- The title is concise yet meaningful
- Author and institution (i.e. Central Queensland University) information is included
- Three relevant keywords are provided

Abstract: 8 marks

- Around 200 words.
- Clearly and concisely written with flowing text
- Accurately summarizes the information in the research report
- Provides a brief background to the study
- Succinctly states the problem being investigated
- Accurately describes the participants
- Outlines the study method
- Accurately reports the main findings
- Reports reasonable implications of the findings

Introduction: 20 marks

- Not more than 1/3 of the word count
- States the importance of the problem
- Theories and concepts are clearly explained
- Clear, flowing and concise writing, building up from general ideas towards specific hypotheses.
- States what we currently know about the topic and what the study will contribute
- Information is clearly relevant to the research study
- Integration of ideas from different studies, not a series of linked 'abstracts'.
- References always used to support statements or descriptions of previous studies

Hypotheses and rationale: 5 marks

- A short and concise sentence or couple of sentences embedded in the final paragraph of the introduction (not a separate section)
- All relevant hypotheses are included
- Hypotheses emerge logically from the preceding sections of the introduction
- Hypotheses are clearly, accurately and simply stated

Method: 15 marks

- A well conceived method that can accurately examine the hypotheses
- Divided into sub-sections. Subsections should include: Participants, Design, Materials, and Procedure.

- Provides a detailed method that someone else could easily replicate
- Describes the design of the study and accurately identifies the independent and dependent variables
- Includes 2 independent variables (with at least 1 independent variable that was not included in the original research activity)
- Reports all relevant participant characteristics

Results: 15 marks

- Presents an analysis that appropriately tests the hypotheses
- Descriptive and inferential statistical tests used are appropriate, correctly carried out and thoroughly described
- Data is presented as evidence for all findings
- Includes between subjects and within subjects (where appropriate) effects tables

Discussion: 30 marks

- Begins with recap of key results (no numbers necessary).
- Reports how results relate to hypotheses (supportive or not)
- Provides an accurate interpretation of the results
- Considers findings in relation to previous literature on the topic
- Reports any unexpected findings and suggests explanations
- Discusses limitations of the study, including any possible confounds and how these might be overcome
- Makes clear recommendations about further research on the topic
- Includes appropriate references

Referencing: 5 marks

- All in-text references are in APA format
- Includes a reference list in APA format for all references included in the report

General

Throughout all these sections, the following criteria will be assessed:

- Grammar, spelling & punctuation
- Coherence and justification of arguments
- Use of literature
- Critical analysis
- Use of clear, flowing, and concise writing
- Structure and length of the report
- Innovation and creativity

Note:

- An assignment which fails to adhere to the word count (i.e. exceeds 2500 words), will be subject to a word count penalty of 10% of the total possible grade (i.e. 10 marks)
- An assignment that is submitted late will attract a 5% penalty per day

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submissions via Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Communicate a clear, coherent and independent exposition of key research findings and theories in cognitive psychology
- Apply research methods used to study cognitive psychology.

2 Online Quiz

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

There will be an online quiz that covers information learnt throughout the unit. The quiz will be multiple choice and consist of 15 questions. The quiz will open at 9:00 am AEST on Monday 29th September and close on at 11.59 pm AEST on Friday 3rd October.

Level of GenAI use allowed:

You must not use AI at any point during the assessment. You must demonstrate your core skills and knowledge.

Number of Quizzes

1

Frequency of Quizzes

Other

Assessment Due Date

Week 11 Friday (3 Oct 2025) 11:59 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Scores will be available at the completion of the quiz

Weighting

10%

Assessment Criteria

Questions will be marked as either right or wrong. 1 mark will be allocated to each question.

Referencing Style

- American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Express a broad understanding of the fundamental concepts in cognitive psychology
- Apply research methods used to study cognitive psychology.

3 Take Home Test

Assessment Type

Take Home Exam

Task Description

You will be required to write a 1000 word review essay of an article posted on Moodle at the beginning of the Take Home Test. The take home test will open at 9:00 am AEST on Monday 6th October and close at 9:00 am AEST on Monday 13th October.

Level of GenAI use allowed:

Level 3: You may use AI to assist with specific tasks such as drafting text, refining and evaluating your work. You must critically evaluate and modify any AI-generated content you use.

Assessment Due Date

Review/Exam Week Monday (13 Oct 2025) 9:00 am AEST

Return Date to Students

The assessment will be returned approximately 2 weeks after the deadline.

Weighting

40%

Minimum mark or grade

50

Assessment Criteria

You are required to write a 1000 word review essay of an article provided via Moodle at the beginning of the Take Home Test (excluding references, 10% margin). Your review essay should include an introduction, main body, and conclusion in one piece of writing without headings or sub-titles in the text.

The following illustrates the marking criteria that will be used to assess this assignment:

- Provides a brief summary of the article and outlines the key points in the main text of the review essay in the introduction
- Demonstrates a good understanding of the key debate/s addressed by the article
- Provides a clear, logical and coherent critical analysis of the information, arguments and research evidence presented in the article
- Identifies missing or incorrect information in the article
- Points made in the review essay are justified with reference to the research evidence
- Information in the review essay is always relevant to the topic
- References are always used to support points made in the review essay
- Uses clear, flowing, and concise writing

- Uses appropriate grammar, spelling, punctuation
- Effectively summaries the main points made in the main text of the review essay in the conclusion
- Includes full references in APA format for all references included in the review essay

Note:

- An assignment which fails to adhere to the word count (10% margin) will be subject to a word count penalty of 10% of the total possible grade, i.e. 10 marks.
- An assignment that is submitted late will attract a 5% penalty per day

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition \(APA 7th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submission via Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Express a broad understanding of the fundamental concepts in cognitive psychology
- Communicate a clear, coherent and independent exposition of key research findings and theories in cognitive psychology

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem