

Psychology 415-01

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Human Memory

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Karla Lassonde

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TIME: T/TH 1:00-2:45

LOCATION: AH 123

OFFICE HOURS:

M: 1-4, T: 11-12, W: 10-1, Th:
11-12 & by appointment; see
MavConnect

Course Prerequisites: PSYC 201 Statistics and PSYC 211 Research Methods

****Please schedule Office Hour Appointments through MavConnect a student success platform used here at MSU, Mankato. Please connect using your credentials here:**

<https://mnsu.starfishsolutions.com/starfish-ops/support/login.html>

Training is available for MavConnect here: <http://www.mnsu.edu/mavconnect/students.html>

Course Undergraduate Teaching Assistant: John Walker: john.walker@mnsu.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

1.) Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce you to the concepts and theories associated with studying memory. Together we will be examining basic concepts, methods, and major findings in the following topics of human memory: memory improvement, short and long-term memory, forgetting, knowledge structures, memory reconstruction, autobiographical memory, memory development, unusual memory and several special topics in memory. A common theme of this course will be to integrate memory theory into understanding your memory.

2.) Course Objectives: It is my goal that throughout the course you will:

- 1.) **Learn** and understand basic concepts of human memory and general memory theories.
- 2.) **Distinguish** how your own ideas about memory processes differ from actual memory processes.
- 3.) **Apply** concepts to every day experiences. Throughout the course you will be encouraged to discover the personal relevance of course material.
 - a.) Apply theories of memory toward personal memory improvement.
 - b.) Apply theories of memory toward methods of student learning.
- 4.) **Synthesize** information and ideas from text, additional readings, and class discussion to facilitate your learning.

COURSE MATERIALS

1.) Required Materials:

- a.) Baddeley, A., Eysenck, M. W., & Anderson, M. C. (2015). *Memory*. New York, NY: Psychology Press. 2nd. Edition.

*Online Text Companion Site: <http://www.routledgetextbooks.com/textbooks/9781848721845/>

b.) Foer, J. (2011). Moonwalking with Einstein: The art and science of remembering everything. New York, NY: Penguin Books, Penguin Group (USA) Inc.

**A pdf copy can be found under "Content" and "Course Documents" on D2L

2.) Desire 2 Learn-Brightspace: D2L will be used for out-of-class communication, for posting course material, and for course quizzes. You should check our site several times a week. Note that all of your grades will be kept on D2L so you will have easy access to them. Please keep up with your grades. If you have a question or you think something is wrong, please contact me immediately, don't wait until the end of the semester.

LEARNING EVALUATIONS

1.) Attendance/Participation

I expect that you will attend class and arrive and leave on time. Your active participation, meaning having good eye contact, following along and listening with complete attention, and consistently answering questions in large and small groups is expected. *Being a good class participant makes you a stronger student and is the #1 aspect I think of when I consider your success.* Power points are available on D2L but my lecture notes are not available to students, so do make sure that you get contact information from another student or two so you can find out what you missed.

2.) Exams: 400 Points Total. There will be 4 exams in this course (including the Final which will be non-cumulative)

- Each Exam will be worth 100 points
- 50 points will come from multiple-choice "quiz" questions, the same concepts tested in weekly Online Quizzes (see below) and 50 points will be from in-class Readiness Assessments (see below).
- There will be no makeup exams. If you know for some reason that you will not be able to take an exam on a given date, you must see me **BEFORE** the exam to make necessary arrangements.
- **Final Exam** is online and will be available during a 2-hour window, of your choosing, any time during finals week.

3.) D2L Quizzes: 100 Points Total. Weekly quizzes are designed to ensure you are working with and learning course material.

- Quizzes will cover information in weekly assigned readings and lecture
- You will be allowed **30 minutes** for each quiz attempt.
- You can take the Quiz up to 3 times; your highest score from these 3 opportunities will be counted as your Quiz grade.
- There will be a total of **12 quizzes**. Each quiz is worth 10 points. You can elect not to take 2 quizzes or I will drop the lowest 2 quiz grades from your total quiz grade = 100 points total.
- Quizzes will be available on D2L. You can take the Quizzes from the posting date until **1:00 pm (class time)** the day of the **Exam** that quiz is tested on. For example, Quizzes 1-3 will be available from their posting day listed in the Course Outline until 1:00 pm Tuesday October 2nd, the day of Exam #1.

4.) Participation Exercises:

- **Readiness Assessments (RA) – 150 Points Total**, are short answer, quiz-style assessments that indicate you are thinking about course material and are prepared to participate in class. Assessments will occur randomly so that you prepare without notification. You should have done the chapter reading before the class it is covered on. Changes are if you read about half the chapter, as most chapters I break into parts, you can be successful breaking up the reading some. At the end of each class day, I will give you a few minutes to revisit the assessment before you turn it in.
 - You will receive 10 points for being present (IN CLASS) and participating in the RA.
 - There will be a Readiness Assessment almost every class throughout the semester. **I will record your participation in 15, for 150 total points (so you can miss 1 or 2 without penalty).** There are no make-ups

- Foer Written Assignments: Moonwalking with Einstein Book – **60 Points Total**. For each of the 6 “Foer” book days noted in the Course Outline, you will write a short response describing an idea/thought/question you had about the reading.

Here are the written requirements:

- Include your name and the Chapter # and page # of the “Foer” text that your idea is based on.
- A Reflection, no shorter than a paragraph and no longer than a page, describing the idea.
- A reference (link to website, link to short article, video) from the internet that further addresses the idea you are discussing. This does not have to be a journal article, but it should be credible.
- A sentence or two describing how the reference relates to the idea you are discussing.
- Creativity and thoughtfulness is mandatory; so is cohesive and error-free writing.
- You must submit your written work to the correct D2L drop box, before class, on the day it is due. For example, your 1st written assignment should be in the Foer #1 drop box before 1:00 on September the 6th.

5.) Learning Assessments: There will be two course projects in which you demonstrate skills related to the course objectives.

- Case Study Presentation: 75 Points Total (Draft = 25 points, Final Presentation = 50 points)**
You will be assigned a case study topic in memory. These will be completed after you have worked through the core coursework in the text. You will create a brief presentation in class. The presentation will require you to engage with your classmates.

*A complete description of the project will follow. A grading rubric will follow.

- Memory Training Outreach: 75 Points Total (Draft = 25 points, Final Program = 50 points)**
Using course knowledge, you will be asked to create a memory training program for one of three groups: children, college students, or older adults. This training program will be a tangible schedule of ideas/concepts/activities that could be completed by a member of your target population. Your final product will demonstrate a rich understanding of human memory and will require creativity on your part.

*A complete description of the project will follow. A grading rubric will follow.

5.) Extra-Credit Participation in Research: You will have the opportunity for earning up to 16 points of extra credit applied to the “Exam” portion of your grade.

- 4.) You may earn up to **16** extra credit points toward your exam point total by participating psychology research. You will receive an email with your user ID and password shortly after beginning the course. If you forget your password or username, there is a link on the bottom of the screen you can click to have it emailed to you. Please check the site often, as new research opportunities will appear throughout the semester. Do NOT wait until the last few weeks of the semester to participate, as experiments tend to fill up quickly at the end of the semester. You are responsible for signing up for research and showing up on time for appointments, or letting the researchers know if you need to cancel—if you miss more than 4 appointments, you will no longer be eligible to participate in research studies for the current semester. You will earn 1 point of SONA credit for each 15 minutes of online research you complete, and 2 points of SONA credit for each 15 minutes of in-person research you complete. If you are not 18 or need to arrange another extra credit experience, do let me know and we will plan an alternative. Opportunities for participation are posted at <http://mnsu.sona-systems.com/>

GRADING PROCEDURES

Grades will be determined by combining the following assessments into Approximately 860 Points

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| 1.) 4 Exams (4 x 100 points each) | 400 total points |
| 2.) 10 Quizzes (10 x 10 points each) | 100 total points |
| 3.) Participation Exercises (10 points each) | 210 total points |
| 4.) Learning Assessments (2 x 75 points each) | 150 total points |

Grading Scale

93-100 = A	76-73 = C
92-90 = A-	72-70 = C-
89-87 = B+	69-67 = D+
86-83 = B	66-63 = D
82-80 = B-	62-60 = D-
79-77 = C +	59 & Below = F

COURSE POLICIES

1.) Participation: Participation by asking questions and being engaged in class will improve your learning experience. If you miss a class it is your responsibility to get the notes and or work, handouts, or assignments. Check your resources first.

**Please do not email and ask "what did I miss?" You will always miss something.*

2.) Electronics: *Before coming to class I ask that you silence and put away personal electronic devices (including laptop computers). You are NOT permitted to take notes with a laptop. If you are observed using devices without prior permission, you will not earn any scheduled participation points for that day. I will notify you of any days in which I will want you to bring a device to class.

3.) Phones/Messaging: I expect you to keep your phone out of sight during the class. I will give you a break during each class. During this time, you are free to use your device. If there is an emergency and you need to take a call, quietly dismiss yourself from the classroom.

4.) Email: Please put **PSYC: 415** in the subject of your email and remember etiquette in your correspondence with me. I welcome questions/comments from you; however, please do not email me late in the evening and expect I will be able to reply to you then. I will do my best to respond to your email within 24 hours. Consult your syllabus and D2L for information first. Chances are you can find what you need there. **DO NOT EMAIL ABOUT GRADES.** Grades will only be discussed by scheduling an office hour appointment.

5.) Late Work will not be accepted. Points are spread out among many assignments to allow for the occasional missed assignment to have a small effect on your overall grade. Exceptions **WILL ONLY** be made should you arrange with me to complete a(n) assignment(s) ahead of time.

6.) Accessibility Resources: Every effort will be made to accommodate qualified students with disabilities. If you are a student with a documented disability and you will require special accommodations in this course, please see me as early in the semester as possible to discuss necessary accommodations and contact the Accessibility Resource Office at <http://www.mnsu.edu/access> (507) 389-2825 or 1-800-627-3529 for assistance in developing a plan to address your academic needs.

7.) Other Academic Support Agencies: There are a number of organizations on campus that can help you with academic and non-academic related needs. If you have a problem that you would like to discuss at any point in the course please come and talk to me and I can point you in the direction of a suitable resource.

8.) Academic Honesty: I expect that you will conduct yourselves with honesty and academic integrity while in this class. Minnesota State University students are obligated to adhere to the [Statement of Student Responsibilities](#). Students caught cheating will fail that specific assignment and may have their situation turned over to student affairs for formal discipline.

Course Outline: Information

Assignment Key: “Foer Written Assignments” put in D2L Dropbox before class at 1:00 pm. on the due date listed on D2L, **Quizzes** are posted on the date and may be completed until 1:00 pm on the Exam date the material is tested on .

DATE		CLASS TOPIC	READING DUE	ASSIGNMENT
Tuesday	8/28	Course Introduction		
Thursday	8/30	Introduction Continued	Chapter 1	
Tuesday	9/4	Improving Memory	Chapter 17	Foer Assignment #1; Quiz #1
Thursday	9/6	Improving Memory & Foer	Foer 1 & 2	
Tuesday	9/11	Memory and the Brain	Chapter 2	Quiz #2
Thursday	9/13	Memory and the Brain		
Tuesday	9/18	Short-term Memory	Chapter 3	
Thursday	9/20	Short-term Memory		
Tuesday	9/25	Working Memory	Chapter 4	Foer Assignment #2 Quiz #3
Thursday	9/27	Working Memory & Foer	Foer 3 & 4	
Tuesday	10/2	Exam #1	Chapter 6	Quiz #4
Thursday	10/4	Episodic Memory Case Study project		
Tuesday	10/9	Stored Knowledge	Chapter 7	Foer Assignment #3 Quiz #5
Thursday	10/11	Stored Knowledge & Foer	Foer 5 & 6	
Tuesday	10/16	Retrieval	Chapter 8	Quiz #6
Thursday	10/18	Retrieval	Chapter 8	
Tuesday	10/23	Case Study work		
Thursday	10/25	Exam #2		
Tuesday	10/30	Incidental Forgetting	Chapter 9	Quiz #7
Thursday	11/1	Motivated Forgetting	Chapter 10	Quiz #8
Tuesday	11/6	Autobiographical	Chapter 11	Foer Assignment #4 Quiz #9
Thursday	11/8	Autobiographical & Foer	Chapter 11; Foer 7 & 8	
Tuesday	11/13	Memory Failure	Chapter 16	Quiz #10
Thursday	11/5	Memory Failure	Chapter 16	
Tuesday	11/20	Exam #3		
Thursday	11/22	THANKSGIVING: NO CLASS		
Tuesday	11/27	Memory and Aging & Foer	Chapter 15; Foer 9 & 10	Foer Assignment #5
Thursday	11/29	Memory in Childhood	Chapter 14	Quiz #11
Tuesday	12/4	Eyewitness Memory	Chapter 12	Foer Assignment #6 Quiz #12; Memory Training plans due
Thursday	12/6	Course wrap-up & Foer	Foer 11 & Epilogue	

Final Exam (Exam #4) will be available to take during finals week online at a 2-hour window of your choosing.