Courses for Cognition Students

In addition to courses required by the Department (PSYCO 502, 531, 532), the following courses are recommended for graduate students in Cognition:

PSYCO 560   Memory and Cognition
PSYCO 620   Topics in Cognition

PSYCO 560 is typically offered every other year, and covers basic history, theory, and concepts in cognitive psychology. PSYCO 620 is offered every other year or so and content varies across topics in Cognition. It is important that Cognition students take advantage of PSYCO 620 offerings. Another option is PSYCO 505 (Conference Course in Psychology), which is focused occasionally on cognitive issues.

The study of Cognition is related to many other areas of Psychology and to other disciplines. Solid preparation in Cognition therefore requires familiarity with the issues and concepts in those areas and disciplines. There are many courses within the Department of Psychology that students should consider taking to fulfill their course requirements in related areas. A full list of these courses appears on the departmental website. In addition, Cognition students should consider taking courses in other departments on topics relevant to their research interests.

Finally, Cognition students are expected to have a solid background in advanced statistics and data analysis, which contributes to the quality of the students' research and enhances the competitiveness of students as they go on the job market. In addition to methods courses offered within the Department of Psychology, Cognition students should consider one or more of the following courses offered outside of the Department:

STAT 502   Applied Regression Analysis
EDPY 605   Multivariate Statistical Methods in Education Research
LING 603   Quantitative Methods in Linguistics

The array of available and relevant course offerings makes it easy to fulfill the minimal departmental requirements for one course in the student's focal domain of knowledge and two courses in related areas. With careful planning, courses beyond the minimal requirements will provide Cognition students with a strong background that will enhance their careers.

Recommendations adopted by the Cognition faculty, September 2009.