

Psych 1130.101 Navigating the World Through the Senses

Time: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday @ 1:30-2:20 pm

Instructor: Jesse Werth
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Office hours by appointment in Uris 233 or over Zoom

Description: Our senses connect the brain to the outside world, and have long interested scientists and philosophers alike. This course will explore various historical and modern debates surrounding sensation and perception: Is your red the same as my red? How does the brain solve the binding problem? And are human pheromones real? To become familiar with topics like these, we will read and discuss work drawn from psychology, neuroscience, and philosophy. Students will develop their academic writing skills through assignments such as critical reviews of the readings, comparative essays, and literature reviews.

Learning outcomes: Students will develop competency in:

- Using evidence to make arguments and support theses
- Communicating at “different levels” – in the form of academic writing, as well as in language more accessible to the public
- Preparatory writing strategies such as drafting, revising, and peer review.
- Responsible and appropriate use of primary and secondary sources

Texts: Online readings will be posted to Canvas

Grading:

Attendance	10%
In-Class Participation	10%
Homework	15%
Assignment 1	10%
Assignment 2	10%
Assignment 3	10%
Assignment 4	15%
Assignment 5	20%

Attendance: Unexcused absences will affect your attendance and in-class participation grades. Two *excused* absences (due to illness, etc.) may be taken without impacting your grade, provided that you notify me ahead of class.

Homework: Homework will be comprised of various informal work that lets me know that you're staying on track with the readings and formal writing assignments. Most commonly, homework will take the form of *Perusall* annotations on assigned readings. These annotations may be comments, thoughts, or questions about the reading – as well as responses to annotations made by your classmates. This provides a means for the class to collectively interact with a reading. *Perusall* annotations should be made prior to the class session in which a reading is discussed (e.g., if a reading is assigned on Friday, leave your annotations before class on the following Monday).

Academic Integrity: You are expected to complete all assignments independently, appropriately citing any outside sources used. You are prohibited from buying or selling course materials through internet sites. At various junctures during the course, I will monitor such sites. Incidences of suspected plagiarism will be immediately reported to the student disciplinary committee.