

Perception and Mind

CLPS 0500 - Spring 2013

Professor Leslie Welch

336 Metcalf Research, 863-3294

email: Leslie_Welch@brown.edu

Office hours: Tu, W 3-4 pm

Required text: *Sensation & Perception* 3rd edition, Wolfe et al. (2012)

If you buy it used, make sure you get the 3rd edition

Available at the Brown Bookstore in 2 formats:

hardback (ISBN 978-0-87893-572-7), loose leaf (ISBN 978-0-87893-876-6)

also available eBook (<http://www.sinauer.com/detail.php?id=5727>)

Recommended: PsyCog CD (<http://www.sinauer.com/detail.php?id=9504>)

Class meets: TuTh 6:30 – 7:50 pm

CIT 219

Requirements:







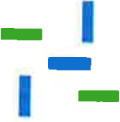






- 1) One paper: 2500-4000 words [5% for outline, 25% for final paper]
- 2) Two short-answer exams [30% each]
- 3) Class participation/ attendance [which I do notice! 10%]

Paper topic: Develop a variation on a perceptual illusion, or if you are really daring, develop a completely new perceptual illusion [many Brown students are daring, how is that for a challenge?!]. Note that this doesn't have to be a long paper – it could be a very cool demo you built, or web pages, or whatever, just so you scientifically explain why it works and what it tells us (with references!!).

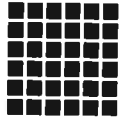
Your research paper will involve library research from *primary* sources, such as academic journal articles, book chapters, and books (at least 10 sources). You may also use internet sources (not Wikipedia) as long as you cite them properly. You are NOT expected to perform experiments (i.e. collect data) for this assignment. You will need to read about how others have studied your illusion and/or illusions similar to the one you are interested in. That will allow you to be able to discuss your illusion in the context of how others have studied your and similar illusions. Some illusions do not have a well-accepted explanation, and it is more difficult to discuss an illusion that is not well understood, but that means you will need to look at the various explanations offered and see which makes the most sense to you (it could even be your own explanation). Then you discuss the various results in terms of your preferred explanation.

Reading assignments: Readings for each class are denoted by the [chapter number]. Chapters are relevant for multiple lectures, but it is useful to review surrounding material so try and read more than just the bit relevant to a given lecture.

Tentative Schedule

Jan 24		Intro to the course [1]
Jan 29		Light and eyes [2]
Jan 31		Simple spatial vision [3]
Feb 5		Higher visual pathways [4]
Feb 7		Object recognition [4]
Feb 12		Color vision [5]
Feb 14		Color vision [5]
Feb 19		Holiday
Feb 21		Monocular cues to depth [6]
Feb 26		Binocular cues to depth [6]
Feb 28		<u>Exam 1 (in class)</u>
Mar 5		Attention [7]
Mar 7		Scene perception [7]
Mar 12		Motion perception [8]
Mar 14		Sound and ears [9]
Mar 19		Auditory system [9]
Mar 21		Hearing [10]
		<u>Two-page paper proposal + at least 5 references due</u>
Mar 26		Spring break
Mar 28		Spring break
Apr 2		Listening [10]
Apr 4		Speech perception [11]
Apr 9		Music perception [11]
Apr 11		Taste [15]
Apr 16		Taste [15]
Apr 18		<u>Exam 2 (in class)</u>

Apr 23



Presentation of Illusions

You should be prepared to show off your illusion to the class. Note: This is extremely useful for forcing you to do some of this earlier than the night before it is due, and you get feedback from the person grading the paper before you turn it in – such a deal.

Apr 25

Presentation of Illusions

Apr 30



Presentation of Illusions

May 2

Reading period – Complete paper

May 7

Reading period – Complete paper

May 13

**Paper due in 336 Metcalf Research [before 4:30 pm]!
or electronically before midnight**