



COURSE UNIT INFORMATION SHEET (*SYLLABUS*)

2021/2022

Study Programme: Undergraduate degree in psychology

Name Face perception and person identification
Teaching staff (Also indicate the Professor in charge) Paulo Ventura
ECTS 6
Functioning 1º semester – third year
Learning goals <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know and understand the cognitive processes underlying the processing of information extracted from the faces in the context of social interaction.• Know and understand how the brain processes the different messages transmitted by the faces.• Know and understand the processes of development of the perception of faces and their disturbances after injury or illness.• Know the main applications of the study of face perception.• Know and value the joint contributions from cognitive, social, developmental and neuroscience perspectives.
Skills to be developed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquisition of a multidisciplinary conceptual framework - including cognitive, social, developmental and cognitive neuroscience perspectives - for the study of the perception of faces and the identification of people.• Understand the specificity and importance of the different study methods in the area of face perception and recognition• Acquisition of core knowledge in the area of face perception and people identification.• Understand the application areas of the study of the perception of faces and the identification of people.



- Autonomy in bibliographic research / literature review.
- Ability to analyze and critically reflect on research in the area of face perception and people identification.
- Efficient oral and written communication skills

Prerequisites (precedences) *

Contents

- Introduction
- Myth: the infallibility of eye testimony
- Exemplary empirical data on face perception research
- Research methods in the field of face perception and recognition
- Physical categorization of faces: age, gender, race
- Inference of attractiveness, reliability, intelligence from the faces
- Inference of social information from the faces
- Direction of the eye, visual attention to people and social cognition
- Inference of emotions from the faces and lip reading
- Perception of the mind and mentalistic attributions from the faces
- Recognition of familiar faces and recall of unfamiliar faces
- Retrieving semantic information from faces and retrieving names
- Facial recognition and criminal identification
- Development of face recognition
- Disorders in face recognition: prosopagnosia, super-recognizers, Capgras syndrome
- Disturbances in extracting information from the faces
- Cognitive neuroscience of face processing and the extraction of different types of information

Bibliography

Bruce, V., & Young, A. (1998). *In the eye of the beholder: The science of face perception*. Oxford University Press.

Bruce, V., & Young, A. (2012). *Face perception*. Psychology Press.



Calder, A. J., Rhodes, G., Jonson, M. H., & Haxby, J. V. (2012). *The Oxford Handbook of Face Perception*. Oxford University Press.

Ward, J. (2010). *The student's guide to cognitive neuroscience* (2nd ed.). Psychology Press.

Teaching methods

Theoretical classes

Theoretical-practical classes

- Exposition and discussion of the text (s) of the class by groups of students.

Evaluation Regimes (General and/or Alternative)

General

Evaluation Elements

(Dates due, weights, minimum required grades)

- Theoretical classes: Two tests carried out during the academic period (the frequencies focus on different syllabus); 7.5 each frequency
- Theoretical-practical classes:
- Presentation of all texts on the theme of a class (5 points)

- To obtain approval in the UC, students must reach a minimum of 8.5 values (on a scale of 0 to 20) in each of the evaluation elements and the sum of all elements must reach a minimum of 9.5 values (on a scale of 0 to 20).
- In order to be evaluated in the UC, students must carry out all the elements of evaluation.

Rules for grade improvement

- Grade improvement can only be done for the frequencies (taking a test at the time of exams)

Rules for students having previously failed the course unit *

- Repeating students who have had a positive evaluation in the practical component of the UC are exempt from the same evaluation. The presence in the theoretical classes is not mandatory, although this presence is advised

Requirements on attendance and punctuality



- Mandatory presence in two thirds of the theoretical-practical classes

Rules for special students

(workers, elite athletes, student body leaders, military, fathers/mothers, with special needs) *

According to the legislation in force

Language of instruction

Portuguese

Disciplinary violations and penalties

According to the Evaluation of Learning Regulation of the Faculty of Psychology of the University of Lisbon, the following behaviors are considered as disciplinary offenses subject to disciplinary action:

- a) To use or attempt to use materials, information, notes, study resources or other objects and equipment not authorized in academic exercises;
- b) To help or try to help a colleague in committing a disciplinary offense;
- c) To submit the same written work for evaluation in different course units without permission from the instructors, even if with minor changes;
- d) To present someone else's work as one's own;
- e) To forge, or change without permission from the author, any information or citation in an academic work;
- f) To interfere, change or attempt to change grades;
- g) To try to prevent or interfere with the proper functioning of classes, research or other academic activities;
- h) To make false accusations regarding instructors, governance bodies, other students or non-teaching staff of the FPUL;
- i) To falsify signatures in attendance sheets, documents relating to evaluation elements or in any official document relating to an academic process or status.

Disciplinary offenses committed in any assessment element can lead to its annulment, and must be reported to the Pedagogical Council or, considering their gravity and repetition, may lead to other penalties, to be determined by the Rector of the University of Lisbon.

* If applicable