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Curricular Unit Cognitive Psychology

Regent

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Learning Outcomes

In view of the growing mental demands in work and the areas of ergonomics design and usability, ergonomics must stress elements about human cognition. A complete ergonomic analysis may not dispense knowledge about human information processing. Therefore, cognitive psychology aim's the study of cognitive structures and processes related with human information processing. In short the issues explored in this discipline are; how do we gather information, store it, represent it and process it in order to solve problems and make decisions.

Syllabus

Introduction to Cognitive Psychology; Perception; Mental Imagery; Attention; Memory; Knowledge Representation; Language; Thinking; Methodological issues in cognitive psychology.

Evaluation

Theoretical concepts are presented and discussed orally, backed by PowerPoint and various multimedia contents. These are articulated with a theoretical and practical component where students experience some psychological assessment instruments and also perform replications of cognitive psychology classic experiments. Besides the material made available online by the teacher, several literature sources in the area of cognitive psychology are advised. Students can choose either continuous or final exam review. In continuous evaluation students have a practice-laboratory component and one theoretical. The practice-laboratory component, with a weighting of 30% of the final grade is assessed using two tests and the theoretical one, with a weighting of 70% is assessed in four trials. The assessment by exam is conducted only one exam worth 100% of the grade.

Almeida, L.; Freira, T. (2007). Metodologia da Investigação em Psicologia e Educação. Braga: Psiquilibrios.

Anderson, J. (2005). Cognitive psychology and its implications. Worth publishers: New York.

Eysenck, M. & Keane, T. (2010). Cognitive psychology: a student's handbook. Psychology Press. London.

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Esgate, A., & Groome, D. (2005) An introduction to applied cognitive psychology .Psychology press. Hove and New York.

Gleitman, H., Fridlund, A.J., & Reisberg, D. (2009) Psicologia. Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian: Lisboa.

Solso, R., Maclin, M. & Maclin, O. (2004). Cognitive Psychology. Allyn & Bacon. Wickens, C., Gordon, S., Liu, Y. & Gordon-Beckr, S. (2003) An introduction to human factors engineering: Longma: Prentice Hall.

Norman, D. A., (2013). The design of everyday things. Revised Edition. Basic Books: New York.