Introduction to Cognitive Science (PPLS08002)

Course organisers: Dr. Hannah Rohde (`hannah.rohde@ed.ac.uk`)
Dr. Alex Doumas (`alex.doumas@ed.ac.uk`)

Hannah Rohde's office:	Dugald Stewart Building, 2.06
Office Hours:	Thursday 10-11am, or by appointment

Course Meetings: attendance at both lectures and both labs is mandatory

Lecture times:	Tuesday/Thursday 11:10-12	Location details on next page
Lab times/place:	Wednesday/Friday 1:10-2pm	7 George Square, Basement Concourse

Course secretary: Fiona Graham, `f.graham@ed.ac.uk`

What's this course all about?

This course introduces students to the study of Cognitive Science as the intersection of an array of interrelated disciplines including philosophy, psychology, linguistics, anthropology, computer science, human-computer interaction, and neuroscience. Cognitive Science is an interdisciplinary effort to uncover the relationships between brains, minds, computation, and behaviour. The course combines a high-level perspective on key questions that the field of Cognitive Science aims to address along with a nuts-and-bolts training in computational skills that will serve as a necessary foundation for future courses in PPLS and Informatics. Classes and assignments will cover topics in areas such as language, learning, perception, action, and thought and will be taught by research-active staff from across Philosophy, Psychology, and Linguistics. Students will receive hands-on training in the transferable skills of computer programming.

Readings

There is no required textbook. All readings will be listed on Learn: some as recommended reading at the end of lecture slides and some as linked web readings. You will be told when readings need to be completed BEFORE class in order to support class discussion.

Assessment

Course Component	% of Final Mark
Programming assignments: 2 assignments related to programming (15% each)	30%
Essay writing assignments: 2 assignments related to readings and class lectures (15% each)	30%
Final exam:	40%

SCHEDULE

Structure: 3 themes presented from 3 perspectives (philosopher, psychologist, linguist)
Note: Always check class locations and pre-class readings for each lecture. Readings will be available on Learn.

INTRODUCTION			
	Tuesday 7 George Square F21	Thursday 50 George Square G.05	Notes
Week 1	Welcome ALEX DOUMAS	Computation MARK SINCLAIR	Do tasks on lab handout before 1st lab on Friday 25th

THEME 1: NATIVISM & EMPIRICISM

	Tuesday CMB, Room 4	Thursday 50 George Square G.02	Notes
Week 2	Framing of theme HANNAH ROHDE ★**Readings before class**★	Philosophy ALISTAIR ISAAC ★**Readings before class**★	
Week 3	Psychology HUGH RABAGLIATI ★**Podcast before class**★	Psychology HUGH RABAGLIATI ★**Podcast before class**★	
Week 4	Linguistics ROB TRUSWELL	Linguistics ROB TRUSWELL	Start HW#1 (Program) Start HW#2 (Essay)

THEME 2: REPRESENTATION

	Tuesday CMB, Room 4	Thursday 50 George Square G.02	Notes
Week 5	Framing of theme HANNAH ROHDE ★**Readings before class**★	Philosophy DAVE WARD	
		HW#1 Due 22 Oct submit by 2pm	
Week 6	Computation PATRICK STURT	Psychology ROBERT LOGIE	
		HW#2 Due 29 Oct submit by 2pm	
Week 7	Psychology ROB LOGIE	Linguistics ROB TRUSWELL	
Week 8	Linguistics ROB TRUSWELL	Computation PATRICK STURT	Start HW#3 (Program)

THEME 3: EMBODIMENT

	Tuesday CMB, Room 4	Thursday 50 George Square G.02	Notes
Week 9	Framing of theme HANNAH ROHDE ★**Readings before class**★	Philosophy ANDY CLARK ★**Readings before class**★	Start HW#4 (Essay)
Week 10	Psychology MARTIN PICKERING	Psychology MARTIN PICKERING	
		HW#3 Due 26 Nov submit by 2pm	

	Tuesday 31 Buccleuch Place 3.10	Thursday 50 George Square G.02	
Week 11	Linguistics HANNAH ROHDE ★**Readings before class**★	Linguistics HANNAH ROHDE ★**Readings before class**★	
		HW#4 Due 3 Dec submit by 2pm	
Exam: date to be announced			