Cognition and Emotion (H000107)

Valid as from the academic year 2018-2019

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019
- Pourtois, Gilles, PP05 lecturer-in-charge
- De Houwer, Jan, PP05 co-lecturer

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019
- A (semester 1) Dutch lecture 30.0 h

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

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<th>Programmes</th>
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<td>Bachelor of Science in Psychology (main subject Theoretical and Experimental Psychology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linking Course Master of Science in Psychology (main subject Teacher Education and Training)</td>
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Teaching languages
- Dutch

Keywords
- cognition, emotion, experimental psychology, appraisal, action tendencies, emotional experience, facial expressions, emotion regulation, basic emotions, attentional bias, memory, judgments, decisions

Position of the course
This course focusses on the scientific analysis of the relationship between cognition and emotion. Theoretical debates concerning this topic are evaluated in the light of old and new empirical findings. Good knowledge of experimental psychology and research methodology is recommended.

Contents
The first part deals with cognition, the second part with emotion, and the third part with the relation between cognition and emotion.
The topics discussed in this course are:
- Cognition
  - What is cognition?
  - Types of cognition: automatic vs. nonautomatic, rule-based vs. associative, propositional vs. perceptual, computationalism vs. connectionism.
- Emotion
  - What is emotion?
  - What is the cause of emotion? (James, Schachter, appraisal theories, network theories, affect program theories, psychological constructivist theories, and social constructivist theories).
  - Empirical research concerning components of emotion (appraisal, subjective experience, facial expressions, action tendencies/actions, and regulation) and their interrelations.

(Approved)
Relation between cognition and emotion

• What is the relation between cognition and emotion?
• Is cognition a necessary cause of emotion?
• Empirical research about the influence of emotion on cognitive functions such as attention, perception, memory, judgments, and decisions.

Emphasis is on the link between theory and research. Theoretical choices of researchers determine the research questions that are pursued. Knowledge of theories allows to situate existing research and to understand their implications for theoretical debates.

The research methods discussed are experimental behavioural methods with indirect measures (e tasks (e.g., affective priming task, affective Simon task, IAT, emotional Stroop, dot probe task, visual search task, and Posner task) and direct measures (self-report). Some attention is also dedicated to neurophysiological methods.

Initial competences

Psychologische functieleer I
Psychologische functieleer II
Onderzoeksmethoden in de Psychologie

Final competences

1. Adopt a componential definition of the concept ‘automaticity’.
2. Diagnose the automaticity features of research paradigms.
3. Evaluate research findings in terms of automaticity conditions.
4. Be familiar with the various definitions of the term ‘cognition’ used in the literature.
5. Describe classic theories of emotion.
6. Critical evaluation of research findings in the light of classic theories of emotion.
7. Describe research findings concerning the (causal) relation between cognitions and emotions.
8. Development of a new research protocol aimed at testing classic hypotheses in the domain of Cognition and Emotion.
9. Exhibit a critical understanding of research questions and findings reported in the domain of Cognition and Emotion.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment.

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted.

Teaching methods

Lecture

Learning materials and price

Course notes in Dutch. Slides in Dutch. Articles in English. Anticipated cost: 20 EUR.

References


Course content-related study coaching

• Interactive support using Minerva.
• Via email.
• By appointment.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination with open questions, written examination with multiple choice questions

(Approved)
Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
  Written examination with open questions, written examination with multiple choice questions

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
  not applicable

Calculation of the examination mark
  The examination includes both open questions and multiple-choice questions. Each type of question accounts for 50 % of the examination mark.