9.65 Cognitive Processes

**Term Evaluated:** Spring 2011  
**Response Rate:** 6 responses out of 45 enrolled

**Recommended Pre-requisites:** Most said that there were no necessary pre-requisites, but a couple felt that a working knowledge of 9.00 could be helpful

**Motivation for taking the course:** Many were interested in cognitive science; one was familiar with Professor Potter, one for a psychology concentration and one because it was a HASS-C.

Most students felt that the material was too easy and lectures could be dry because much of the material was repetitive of that from 9.00. Some students enjoyed the labs, guest lectures, and fun facts from the class, but sometimes felt that they weren’t learning too much that’s substantive.

Most students felt that it was very easy, didn’t take too much time, and that most of the preparation you could do by going to class or having a background in psychology

**Best things about the course:**
- Very easy
- Interesting material, especially in the guest lectures
- Most people enjoyed the in-class labs

**Worst things about the course:**
- Lectures could be dry at times
- Some students didn’t feel like they learned very much from the course
Grading: Almost everyone agreed that grading was fair, including partial credit on assignments and exams; one person said that on the lab reports, points were taken off for reasons that weren’t clear.

Readings: Everyone agreed that the textbook was useful. Some said that it wasn't totally necessary for exams as long as you went to lecture, but others said there were a few questions straight from the textbook. Another student also said that going to lecture was important because Professor Potter covers things from her research and that of other professors in the department.

What future students should know about this course:
- “Read the book for vocabulary and pay attention to the experiments presented in lecture and you should be fine.”
- “Go to review sessions; they are quite helpful.”
- “If you're interested in cognition, take this class!”
- “Even if it's for a requirement, don't bother taking it if you've already taken 9.00. They're pretty much the same, except that 9.00 has a better curriculum.”
- “Take it if you want a fairly easy class with interesting material. Don't take it if you hate memorization/regurgitation.”