

Psychology 343
Judgement and Decision-Making, Fall 2021
REMOTE ASYNCRONOUS VERSION

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Virtual office hours: Wed 10 AM to noon EST (other times available upon request)
Virtual office hours link: [here](#) (be aware that clicking this will basically drop you straight in the meeting)

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Required Texts:

- x *Predictably Irrational* by Dan Ariely (Revised and Expanded Edition, First Harper Perennial Edition published 2010)
- x *Thinking, Fast and Slow* by Daniel Kahneman (Anchor Canada Edition, published 2013)

(Sorry, I do not know whether old versions of the textbook are OK. I am using the versions described above. If you wish to use an older version of these books, you are responsible for any discrepancies in content).

Course Overview:

This course is focused upon classic and current issues judgment and decision-making (JDM). We will draw upon and compare perspectives from cognitive and social psychology as well as behavioral economics. Many of the topics should help students improve the quality of their own decisions. Assignm

Participation assignments for weeks 1 through 5 will be assessed on the day of the Midterm Exam, and participation assignments for weeks 7 through 12 will be assessed on the day of the Final Exam. For each participation assignments that you complete the day before the assessment date, you get one point. There are 17 participation assignments total, but I am only counting the 15 assignments with the highest point totals. Thus, you can skip 2 participation assignments and

Late exams will be penalized 10 percentage points (off the total exam grade) for each 1-60 minute time period they are submitted past the deadline. So, with a deadline of midnight, exams submitted at 12:05, 12:54, and 1:05 are penalized -10, -10, and -20 percentage points.

Regrading policy for papers and exams

Sometimes, the TAs and I, but usually me, make mistakes in grading. If either of us made a

- x If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please do not hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you. Remember that you can also submit anonymous feedback (which will lead to me making a general announcement to the class, if necessary, to address your concerns).

I (like many people) am still in the process of learning about diverse perspectives and identities. If something was said in class (by anyone) that made you feel uncomfortable, please talk to me about it. (Again, anonymous feedback is always an option.)

As a participant in course discussions, you should also strive to honour the diversity of your classmates.

Accommodations for Disabilities

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its extensive database of content, and produces a similarity report and a similarity score for each assignment. A similarity score is the percentage of a document that is similar to content held within the database. Turnitin does not determine if an instance of plagiarism has occurred. Instead, it gives instructors the information they need to determine the authenticity of work as a part of a larger process.

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Course Schedule:

Week opens	Topics	Readings*	Participation assignments	Assessments due
Sept 7	Introduction to JDM	A** intro K** intro, K1	Airplane decision	
Sept 13	System 1 and system 2	K1 ±K5***	Math test, product choice	
Sept 20	Norms, confirmation bias, and quick judgments	K6 ±K8	Memory test, card test	
Sept 27	Heuristics pt 1	K9 ±K11 A2	Which test helps you more and why?	Paper 1 due Oct 1
Oct 4	Heuristics pt 2	K12 ±K17	How to get a better grade; How to commit the conjunction fallacy	
Oct 11	Fall break, no content, Happy Thanksgiving!			
Oct 18	Midterm Exam – Oct 20			Midterm Exam
Oct 25	Illusions of validity	K19 ±K24	Draw a bike, pick a door	
Nov 1	Prospect theory & its implications pt 1	K25, K26	Computing expected values	
Nov 8	Prospect theory & its implications pt 2	K27		

Readings chapter names:

Thinking, Fast and Slow by Daniel Kahneman

1. The characters of the story
2. Attention and effort
3. The lazy controller
4. The associative machine
5. Cognitive ease
6. Norms, surprises, and causes
7. A machine for jumping to conclusions
8. How judgments happen
9. Answering an easier question.
10. The law of small numbers
11. Anchors
12. The science of availability
13. Availability, emotion, and risk
14. Tom W's specialty
15. Linda : less is more
16. Causes trump statistics
17. Regression to the mean
18. Taming intuitive predictions.
19. The illusion of understanding
20. The illusion of validity
21. Intuitions vs. formulas
22. Expert intuition : when can we trust it?
23. The outside view
24. The engine of capitalism.
25. Bernoulli's errors
26. Prospect theory
27. The endowment effect
28. Bad events
29. The fourfold pattern
30. Rare events
31. Risk policies
32. Keeping score
33. Reversals
34. Frames and reality.
35. Two selves
36. Life as a story
37. Experienced weli 12 Tf 1 0 0 1 108.02 199.1 Tm [(L)11(if)m ET BT /F3m>> BDC B 1 108.02 323.33

7. The problem of procrastination and self control
8. The high price of ownership
9. Keeping doors open
10. The effect of expectations
11. The power of price
12. The cycle of distrust
13. The context of our character pt 1
14. The context of our character pt 2
15. Beer and free lunches