

Psychological Processes: Memory

Code: 102604
 ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2502443 Psychology	OB	2	2

Contact

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Use of languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)

Some groups entirely in English: No

Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes

Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Teachers

Josep Baqués Cardona

Dolores Sáiz Roca

Sergio Mora Montserrat

Rocio Pina Ríos

Prerequisites

It is convenient to have some reading skills in English and to have passed the subjects on psychological processes from previous semesters.

Objectives and Contextualisation

In previous semesters, different psychological processes have been studied, including perception, attention, motivation, emotion and learning. In this subject, the systems, processes and types of representation of human memory and their relationship with the processes studied previously are studied.

Therefore, our aim is that at the end of the subject the student will be able to:

1. To understand the functions of memory in human behaviour, its importance, the basic mechanisms of its functioning and the factors that can affect memory.
2. To recognize different systems, processes and forms of representation involved in memory.
3. To relate the functioning of memory with other psychological processes.
4. To identify the implications of memory mechanisms in some areas of daily life such as education, advertising, witness memory and aging.
5. To know some practical applications that can improve mnemonic processes: mnemonic rules and factors that improve the processes of coding, storage and retrieval of information.

Content

Unit 1. Memory: defining aspects.

Topic 1. Definition of memory.

Definition of memory. Memory within cognitive processes. Main aspects of memory performance. Unitary memory or memory systems. The phases of memory.

Topic 2. Measurement of memory.

Measurement of memory and its different parameters. The measurement of memory through tests. Direct measures and indirect measures.

Topic 3. Traditions in the study of memory.

Ebbinghaus and Bartlett. The cognitive point of view about memory.

Topic 4. Factors and variables that affect the mnemonic process.

Individual factors. Temporary factors. Factors related to the material. Factors related to strategies. Contextual factors. Mnemonic strategies: mnemonics.

Unit 2. Structures and processes of memory.

Topic 5. Memory systems.

The pioneering works. Multi-warehouse models. The sensory memory. Short-term memory Working memory (working memory). Long term memory.

Topic 6. The processes of memory.

Structural models versus procedural models. Encoding and registration processes. Recovery processes.

Topic 7. Forgetting.

Classical theories about forgetting: repression, disuse and interference. Cognitive point of view about forgetting. Schacter's point of view

Unit 3. The representation of the information in the memory.

Topic 8. Episodic memory and semantic memory.

Differences between episodic memory and semantic memory. The models or theories of semantic memory. Network models. Feature models.

Topic 9. The mental representation.

Concepts and schemes. The mental image as mental representation. The dual theory of Paivio. Debate on mental representations.

Unit 4. Other issues of research on memory: current fields of application.

Topic 10. Applications of the psychology of memory.

Everyday memory (memory for faces, memory of scenes, autobiographical memory). The application of memory in the judicial context: accuracy of the memory of witnesses. Memory in the advertising context. Memory and comprehension, memory and reading. Memory in the old age. Development and enhancement of memory.