

## Summer Grant Proposal – 2020

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Psychology Department

### **New Course Development Grant:**

1) Tentative name of course: Canine Cognition (upper level seminar?)

I expect the course would be offered in the Spring of 2021, and perhaps every other year after the first offering.

This course is related to my area of expertise, cognition, but is substantially outside of my main area of study – humans. Developing this course would require some substantial time spent reading and researching the topic, and developing assignments and activities for the course.

I'm also planning to explore the idea of partnering with an animal shelter, dog trainer, service dog training group, or other animal group to have an applied component to the course. What exactly that partnership might look like would depend on what group(s) would be interested in partnering with the course. For example, students could potentially work with a group who train service animals – either seeing eye dogs or other service animals or even therapy dogs - to understand how they are trained and what the criteria are for them to receive their licenses. I'm also hoping to work with a veterinarian to offer some guest lectures on the more biological aspects of dogs relevant to their cognitive abilities.

Here is a list of resources that I plan to read and evaluate for use in the course:

Popular Science -

- Inside of a Dog: What Dogs See, Smell, and Know  
by Alexandra Horowitz
- Being a Dog: Following the Dog Into a World of Smell  
by Alexandra Horowitz
- What the Dog Knows: Scent, Science, and the Amazing Ways Dogs Perceive the World  
By Cat Warren
- The Genius of Dogs: How Dogs Are Smarter Than You Think  
By Brian Hare and Vanessa Woods
- Dog Is Love: Why and How Your Dog Loves You  
By Clive Wynne
- How Dogs Love Us: A Neuroscientist and His Adopted Dog Decode the Canine Brain  
By Gregory Burns
- What It's Like to Be a Dog: And Other Adventures in Animal Neuroscience  
By Gregory Burns
- Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?  
by Frans de Waal
- Animals in Translation: Using the Mysteries of Autism to Decode Animal Behavior  
By Temple Grandin

Textbooks -

- Animal Cognition: Evolution, Behavior and Cognition  
by Clive D.L. Wynne and Monique A. R. Udell
- Animal Learning and Cognition: An Introduction  
by John M. Pearce

2) I would like to request 8 weeks of support, given the amount of background research that I would like to do. Money will be a stipend for time spent developing new course content, however some of that stipend would be spent purchasing books (see above).

3) I have previously received a course development grant from FCT.

I received a new course development grant in the summer of 2018 for my FYS (2018 – titled War of the Words, 2019 – titled Very Bad Words) from FCT. [I am having difficulty finding a record of whether it was 4 week or 8 weeks of support (I think it was 4, so \$2000)] This grant was crucial in allowing me to devote time to developing the course. I have now taught that FYS twice, and plan to offer it again in the Fall of 2020. My course evaluations in 2018 and 2019 have been strong, indicating that students found the course to be useful in learning to adjust to college level writing, that they have enjoyed the readings and discussions, and the assignments have facilitated their learning.

I have also received money (\$4000 for 8 weeks) from the ARC regarding the development of the LA training course in the summer of 2016, PSY305: Adult Cognitive and Personal Development. The impact of having support while taking over the teaching of that course and redesigning course content (previously taught by an ARC staff member) was very important, and has allowed the course to be much more pedagogically appropriate and useful to the LAs. I have taught this course in the Fall of 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019, and it is scheduled for Fall 2020.

4) I will be teaching a summer course (intended for summer session I), as I am currently a participant in the Online Learning Pedagogical Learning Community. I am developing Sensation and Perception (PSY214) as an online course to be offered in summer sessions.

5) see separate attachment for my CV.

6) My chair, Alan Tjeltveit, has said that he supports the creation of this course. I have sent him a copy of this proposal and asked him to submit a letter of support on my behalf.

7) I would be more than willing to consider a reduced award amount should that be deemed necessary.