VLST 101 – Eye, Mind, Image

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**Time and Place**  
Lectures: TR 10:30-12:00, Logan Hall, room 402  
Recitations/Labs: F 10:00 (Jaffe 104), 11:00 (Jaffe 201), 1:00 (Jaffe 201),  
or 2:00 (Jaffe 113). The rooms listed above are for discussion weeks.  
Lab locations will be announced in class and on the web site.

**Synopsis**  
Philosophy and science of perception; art and the culture of seeing. The nature of seeing and visual cognition, its physiological, environmental, and cultural conditions; selected focal topics, such as color, beauty, medical imaging, and seeing and knowing.

**Requirements**  
15% -- Assignment 1: Handed out 9/22, due 9/29.  
20% -- Midterm exam: 10/? in class.  
15% -- Assignment 2: Handed out 10/6, due 11/17.  
40% -- Final exam: 12/22, 11:00-1:00.  
10% -- Participation in lectures, recitations/labs is mandatory.  
Exams will draw on material from lectures, sections/labs, and the readings.

**Academic Integrity**  
Your work and conduct will be held accountable under the University of Pennsylvania's Code of Academic Integrity. You are responsible for reading and understanding this code ([http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/osl/acadint.html](http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/osl/acadint.html)).

**Readings and Text**  
Required Texts (available at the Penn Book Center, 34th and Sansom):
Reader, available at Campus Copy.
Reading assignments below refer to the required texts and to materials in the reader.

Course Web Site
Course information and materials will be provided through the blackboard web site for the course, available through URL: [https://courseweb.library.upenn.edu/](https://courseweb.library.upenn.edu/). Please check this site periodically for course announcements and assignments.

**Syllabus**

**What is vision? (2 lectures)**
Lecture TR 9/8: The eye and light (IO)
Section F 9/9: No section
Lecture T 9/13: Theories of Vision in History (RH)
Reading: Gregory, *Eye and Brain*, Chapters 1-3.
Livingstone, Chapter 1
Lindberg, *Theories of Vision*, Chapters 2, 4.

**Foundations: Space, motion, color, etc (9 lectures)**
Lecture TR 9/15: Perception of space (IO)
Section F 9/16: Dissection of cow’s eye – Leidy Labs 117 (NS)
Lecture T 9/20: Depiction of space – overview (RH)
Lecture TR 9/22: Depiction of space – perspective (RH)
Section F 9/23: Extramission and intromission theories (AH)
Reading: Livingstone, Chapters 7, 9
Reader: Goldstein, 6th ed., Chapter 7 (pp. 225-247)
Lindberg, *Chapter 8*

Lecture T 9/27: Depiction of motion (RH)
Lecture TR 9/29: Perception of motion (IO)
Section F 9/30: Psychophysics lab – MMETS PC Lab 2 (NS)
Reading: Livingstone, Chapter 10
Gregory, Chapter 6

Lecture T 10/4: Perception of color (David Brainard)
Lecture TR 10/6: Color and culture (RH)
Section F 10/7: Color and culture (AH)
Reading: Reader: Sekuler and Blake, *Perception*, 4th ed., Chapter 7  
Reader: Gage, *Color and Culture*, Chapters 9, 10, 11  
Gregory, Chapter 7  
Livingstone 2, 3, 11

Lecture T 10/11: Shimmer (RH)  
Lecture TR 10/13: Graphics (IO)  
Section F 10/14: Color lab – Solomon Labs A3 (AH)

Reading: Livingstone, Chapter 8  
Reader: Tufte, Chapter 1  
Reader: Jensen, Chapter 1

Foundations: Space, motion, color, etc (continued)  
Fall Break T 10/15-10/18: No Lecture

**Mid-Term Review and Exam**  
Lecture TR 10/20: Conversation/Summary (IO, RH)  
Section F 10/21: Review for mid-term (AH/NS)  
Exam T 10/25: Midterm Exam

**The Brain (3 lectures)**

Lecture T 10/27: The Brain (IO)  
Section F 10/28: Neuroscience basics (NS)  
Lecture T 11/1: Cognitive Neuroscience (IO)  
Lecture TR 11/3: Do we need to learn to see? (IO)  
Section F 11/4: Cognitive neuroscience and art (NS)  
**Field Trip Sun: Dia: Beacon DATE TBA**  
Lecture T 11/8: Consciousness and construction of reality (IO)

Reading: Gregory, Chapter 4 and 8  
Livingstone, Chapter 4.  
Reader: Farah, Chapters 1, 10  
Reader: Chaterjee, Prospects for a cognitive neuroscience of visual Aesthetics

**Seeing and Believing (4 lectures)**

Lecture TR 11/10: Culture of seeing (RH)  
Section F 11/11: Seeing and culture (AH)

Reading: Nelson, Chapters 1, 2, 5  
Gregory, Chapters 9, 10.  
Reader: Kemp, Visualizations, 12-13, 14-15, 30-31, 32-33, 34-35]

Lecture T 11/15: Ideas of vision and knowledge (RH)
Lecture TR 11/17: Visual memory; eyewitness testimony (IO)
Section F 11/18: Seeing and reality (AH)
Lecture T 11/22: Seeing and subjectivity (RH)

Reading: Reader: Schacter, Chapters 4, 5

Thanksgiving TR 11/25 No lecture
Thanksgiving F 11/26 No section

**Selected Topics (3 lectures)**
Lecture T 11/29: Beauty (RH)
Lecture TR 12/1: Beauty (IO)
Section F 12/2 Medical imaging lab – MMETS PC Lab 2 (NS)
Lecture T 12/6: The moving image (RH)

Reading: Reader: Holly and Moxey, 231-250
Reader: Gage, Chapter 14

**Review (1 lecture)**
Lecture TR 12/8 Conversation/Summary (IO, RH)
Section F 12/10: Review for final (AH/NS)