ESSAY 1
DUE SEPTEMBER 21, 2004

The assignment is to write a brief essay based on the topic/question below. Please use the following format exactly:

- Three typed pages, double-spaced, 1-inch margins, no less than 11-point font and no greater than 12-point font, no more than 3 grammar/spelling errors.
- Please put your name in the top right corner of the page (within the header) and put page numbers on each of your pages (within the footer). Do not include a title page.
- Use APA-style citations and a 4th page can be included as a bibliography (in APA Style)
- No figures, tables or images may be used

Please write on the following topic:

Psychology can be thought of as a science of inferences. Researchers do not necessarily have direct access to the brain to know exactly what is happening when a stimulus is encountered for processing. Therefore, they must infer cognitive processes from the context of the situation, the individual(s) being studied, and the responses given. Use your knowledge and understanding of the precursory approaches of cognitive psychology and your knowledge (and opinion) about the reliability and validity of physiological measures (e.g., scanning) and behavioral measures (e.g., psychophysics and signal-detection measures, speed vs. accuracy, etc.) to argue the best way to study cognition. Use at least two examples of cognitive phenomena in Chapters 3 and 4 to support your argument (you may need to explore the research literature beyond your textbook).

Discussion with your fellow students and with the TA is allowed. Writing, however, must be completed on your own. There are a great number of possible ways to approach this question. If your response is highly similar to or exactly like another student's response, expect to be questioned by the instructor.

ESSAY SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Essays are to be turned in/uploaded via the ANGEL course site. The essays may be submitted either as Microsoft Word files (.doc or .rtf) or PDF files. The deadline for uploading the files is 10 am, Tuesday, September 21, 2004. Do NOT turn in a hardcopy in class.