

KIN 377 - Motor Learning

Spring 2026 Syllabus

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1 Instructor Info

Dr. Furtado received a B.A. in Physical Education from the Federal University of Parana, Curitiba, PR - Brazil. He earned his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Motor Behavior from the University of Pittsburgh, PA. Dr. Furtado's research focuses on:

1. Validation of observational models in psychomotor assessment instruments
2. The relationship between motor skill competence, perceived motor competence, physical activity levels, and body composition
3. The application of artificial intelligence to enhance movement assessment

Instructor: Ovande Furtado Jr, Ph.D.

Office: RE 289

Email: Use Canvas Inbox for communication

Phone: 818-677-5968

Office Hours:

In person: Tuesdays: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM - in person

Online: Wednesdays: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM - via Zoom - <https://csun.zoom.us/my/drfurtdo?pwd=Febo4uLpRZOp3Xuu4ypawN4jzRYVYY>.

Meeting Times/Location:

Tu 7:00PM - 9:40PM (RE 276 - Computer Lab)

Important

All course communications will be conducted via Canvas. Please use the Canvas Inbox for all email correspondence. Weekly announcements with assignments and activities will be posted on Canvas. For questions, please reply to the relevant announcement so all students can benefit from the response.

Meeting Times/Location:

Asynchronous Fully Online (18878)

Asynchronous Fully Online (18910)

Asynchronous Fully Online (19211)

2 General Information

2.1 Course Description

The study of principles, theories, and research evidence regarding the nature of motor performance and learning, with particular emphasis on factors that impact learning a skill through practice.

2.2 Course Prerequisite

[KIN 200](#): Foundations of Kinesiology (3)

2.3 Course Format

This is an asynchronous, fully online (OF) course offering in which all class sessions and assignments are presented online. Fully online courses have no on-campus meetings.

2.4 Important Notice

Caution

This is not a self-paced course! You must: 1. Check in regularly 2. Complete weekly assignments on time

2.5 Course Expectations and Goals

After completing this course, students should be able to:

1. Differentiate between motor learning and performance
2. Understand various control theories explaining motor skill performance and learning
3. Comprehend mechanisms and processes in movement production and control
4. Analyze the relationship between attention and performance
5. Demonstrate how individual and environmental factors influence learning
6. Understand the impact of feedback types and schedules on motor skill learning
7. Apply knowledge of practice schedules to motor skill learning
8. Recognize the importance of individual differences in skill acquisition
9. Develop and implement performance assessment methods
10. Design practice sessions for teaching/learning novel motor skills

2.6 Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

1. Apply kinesiological principles to promote healthy lifestyles across diverse populations
2. Utilize evidence-based practices in human movement studies
3. Demonstrate problem-solving strategies through intentional practices
4. Understand kinesthetic forms, processes, and structures in human movement

2.7 Textbook

Magill & Anderson (2017)

See full references [here](#)

2.8 Additional Resources

2.8.1 Technology Requirements

- Computer with reliable internet access
- Web browser (Google Chrome recommended)
- Video recording device (smartphone, tablet, or webcam)

 Note

CSUN students can borrow devices through the [Device Loaner Program](#).

3 Course Policy

3.1 Course Communication

1. **Private Matters:** Use Canvas Inbox for personal concerns, grading issues, or confidential matters
2. **Assignment Questions:** Post questions in the relevant weekly announcement thread

3.2 Grading Policy

Component	Weight	Description
Online Quizzes	10%	13 quizzes (lowest 2 dropped)
Exams	45%	3 exams (15% each)
Online Discussions	45%	3 assignments (15% each)

3.3 Grading Scale

Grade	Range	Grade	Range
A	100% – 94%	A-	<94% – 90%
B+	<90% – 87%	B	<87% – 84%
B-	<84% – 80%	C+	<80% – 77%
C	<77% – 74%	C-	<74% – 70%
D+	<70% – 67%	D	<67% – 64%
D-	<64% – 61%	F	<61% – 0%

 Note

In recognition of the fact that grading, however carefully done, will always be imperfect, this class will utilize a “round up” rule for assigning final grades. I will round up from .5% and above, but anything below this will round down. In other words, 79.5 will round up to 80, while 79.4 will round down to 79 even.

3.4 Attendance Policy

Regular engagement is required. Students must log into Canvas multiple times per week to stay current with course materials and announcements.

3.5 Email Policy

CSUN uses email as the official communication method. Students must check their CSUN email account regularly. For this course, all communications must go through the Canvas Inbox.

3.6 Make-Up Exam Policy

Make-up exams require prior arrangement with the instructor and a valid written excuse from a reputable source. Without prior arrangement, missed assignments receive a grade of zero.

3.7 Late Assignments

Late submissions are subject to a 5% deduction per day for the first four days. No assignments will be accepted after four days. **The Final Exam (Exam 3) does not accept late submissions — no exceptions.**

3.8 Extra Credit

No extra credit opportunities will be provided in this course.

3.9 Disabilities Policy

CSUN is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Contact the [Office of Students with Disabilities](#) in Bayramian Hall 110 or call (818) 677-2684 to request accommodations.

3.10 Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated and may result in course failure and disciplinary action. Review the [CSUN Student Conduct Code](#).

3.11 Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use Policy

Instructor use of AI: Some course materials in this class — including video and audio (podcast) chapter overviews, low-stakes practice quizzes, FAQ content, and illustrative images used in lectures to help visualize course concepts — are developed with the assistance of AI tools, then reviewed and edited by the instructor for accuracy before posting.

These AI-assisted materials are optional supplements, meant to enhance your learning experience and to support students who find it difficult to grasp the content from the textbook alone. They are never used to gate or block progress through the course — no module, quiz, or assignment requires you to view or complete any AI-generated content, and you can complete the entire course, and its requirements, without ever needing to go over any AI-generated content.

Student use of AI: You may use AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude) to help you understand course concepts, generate practice questions, or check your own understanding of the material. AI-generated text may **not** be submitted as your own writing on any graded reflection, discussion post, or open-response item — these must reflect your own understanding, analysis, or physical practice experience, in your own words. Submitting undisclosed AI-generated work as your own is an academic integrity violation and will be handled under the Academic Integrity policy above.

4 Course Requirements

4.1 Online Quizzes

You will be required to take 13 online quizzes, with the lowest two scores dropped. Quizzes will be administered weekly on Canvas.

- **Weight:** 10% of final grade
- **Format:** Weekly quizzes on Canvas
- **Notes:** Open book/notes, but no collaboration allowed
- **Grading:** Lowest 2 quiz scores will be dropped

4.2 Exams

You will be required to take 3 exams, each worth 15% of your final grade. Exams will be administered via Canvas.

- **Weight:** 45% total (15% each)
- **Format:** Administered via Canvas
- **Schedule:**
 1. Exam 1: Chapters 1, 2, 9, 10
 2. Exam 2: Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14
 3. Exam 3: Chapters 15, 16, 17, 18

4.3 Online Discussions

- **Weight:** 45% total (15% each)
- **Format:** Initial posts and peer responses
- **Schedule:**
 - Discussion 1: Week 3 (initial post) & Week 4 (responses)
 - Discussion 2: Week 7 (initial post) & Week 8 (responses)
 - Discussion 3: Week 12 (initial post) & Week 13 (responses)

5 Course Schedule



Note

All assignments are due on Mondays at 5:00 PM PST.



Caution

If you find discrepancies between this schedule and other sources of information for this course, follow the schedule below.

Week	Date	Topics	Assignments (due one week from their posted date @ 5 pm)
1	Jan 20, 2026	Introduction	- Read Syllabus - Syllabus Quiz
2	Jan 26, 2026	Ch01: Classification of Motor Skills	- Quiz Ch1
3	Feb 2, 2026	Ch02: Measurement of Motor Performance	- Discussion 1 Initial Post - Quiz Ch2
4	Feb 9, 2026	Ch09: Attention	- Discussion 1 Responses - Quiz Ch9
5	Feb 16, 2026	Ch10: Memory Components & Strategies	- Quiz Ch10
6	Feb 23, 2026	Review+Exam 1	- Exam 1 (Chs. 1, 2, 9, 10)
7	Mar 2, 2026	Ch11: Defining and Assessing Learning	- Discussion 2 Initial Post - Quiz Ch11
8	Mar 9, 2026	Ch12: The Stages of Learning	- Discussion 2 Responses - Quiz Ch12
9	Mar 16, 2026	<i>Spring Break</i>	No Class

Week	Date	Topics	Assignments (due one week from their posted date @ 5 pm)
10	Mar 23, 2026	Ch14: Demonstration & Verbal Instructions	- Quiz Ch14
11	Mar 30, 2026	Review+Exam 2	- Exam 2 (Chs. 11-14)
12	Apr 6, 2026	Ch15: Augmented Feedback	- Discussion 3 Initial Post (Due Apr 6)
			- Quiz Ch15
13	Apr 13, 2026	Ch16: Practice Variability & Specificity	- Discussion 3 Responses (Due Apr 13)
			- Quiz Ch16
14	Apr 20, 2026	Ch17: Amount & Distribution of Practice (Study Guide)	- Quiz Ch17
15	Apr 27, 2026	Ch18: Whole and Part-Practice (Study Guide)	- Quiz Ch18
16	May 9, 2026	Review for Final (Final Study Guide)	
Finals	May 9-15, 2026	Exam 3	- Exam 3 (Chs. 15-18) — Due May 15 @ 11:59 PM. No late submissions.

References

Magill, R., & Anderson, D. I. (2017). *Motor learning and control: concepts and applications* (11th edition). McGraw-Hill Education.