

Tentative Schedule

Tuesday May 26 2009

- 9:00 Welcome & introductions
- 9:15–10:15 Overview lecture (with illustrations) on human cognitive abilities: The senses, attention, reasoning and remembering
- 10:15-10:30 Coffee break
- 10:30-11:30 Illustrated lecture on how cognitive abilities normally change across the lifespan, and how they are affected by diseases such as dementia
- 11:30-12:00 Questions & answers
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch
- 1:00-2:30 Assessment of cognitive abilities & discussion/interpretation of results: Each participant completes a few of the tests that are typically used to assess attention, reasoning and remembering in people suspected of suffering from dementia
- 2:30-2:45 Coffee break
- 2:45-4:15 Illustrated lecture on strategies for improving learning and remembering in later life
- 4:15-4:45 Questions & answers

Wednesday May 27 2009

- 9:00-10:00 Quality of life and creative-expressive abilities in seniors with dementia
- 10:00-10:30 Availability, staffing and resourcing of creative activity programs: Overview of ongoing project and self-evaluation
- 10:30-10:45 Coffee break
- 10:45-12:00 Lecture on the Creative Expressive Abilities Assessment (CEAA) Instrument and its development
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch
- 1:00-1:30 Videos of seniors with dementia engaged in various creative-expressive activities
- 1:30-2:30 Hands on practice: Assessing creative-expressive abilities of seniors with dementia
- 2:30-2:45 Coffee break
- 2:45-4:00 The CEAA in relation to other instruments, possible uses and benefits resulting from its use. Wrap up!

Peter Graf

Dr. Graf completed his PhD in 1981 at McMaster University. Following 2 years of postdoctoral work at the University of California at San Diego, he held an NSERC university research fellowship at the University of Toronto from 1983-87, and then moved to the University of British Columbia where he is now a professor of psychology and director of the NSERC and CIHR funded Memory and Cognition Laboratory. His research focuses on human memory – especially its prospective component, its normal development across the adult lifespan and how it changes when the brain is affected by trauma or disease such as Alzheimer's. He is also investigating age-related changes in the usability of handheld devices such as cell phones and PDAs. Dr. Graf's research has resulted in over 85 published articles and chapters, 3 edited books, and numerous conference, workshop and invited presentations in many countries. In addition to his research, Dr. Graf has in various editorial capacities of several journals and is currently an associate editor of the Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology. He has also been involved in organized psychology in Canada, currently serving as secretary/treasurer of the Canadian Society of Brain Behaviour and Cognitive Science, on the board of the Canadian Psychological Association, and is the President-Elect of the Canadian Psychological Association.

