



Cognitive Science: An Introduction to the Science of the Mind

By José Luis Bermúdez

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This exciting textbook introduces students to the dynamic vibrant area of Cognitive Science - the scientific study of the mind and cognition. Cognitive Science draws upon many academic disciplines, including Psychology, Computer Science, Philosophy, Linguistics and Neuroscience. This is the first textbook to present a unified view of Cognitive Science as a discipline in its own right, with a distinctive approach to studying the mind. Students are introduced to the cognitive scientist's 'toolkit' - the vast range of techniques and tools that cognitive scientists can use to study the mind. The book presents the main theoretical models that cognitive scientists are currently using, and shows how those models are being applied to unlock the mysteries of the human mind. Cognitive Science is replete with examples, illustrations, and applications, and draws on cutting-edge research and new developments to explore both the achievements that cognitive scientists have made, and the challenges that lie ahead.

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Editorial Review

Review

"The text is engaging, well-crafted for an undergraduate audience, and is sure to inspire a generation of students."

--Michael J. Spivey, University of California, Merced

"This book is the most carefully written, thorough, up-to-date, and accessible single-author textbook on the theoretical issues of cognitive science I have read."

--John Douard, Department of Philosophy, Rutgers University

"Bermudez presents here an approachable story of an integrated cognitive science that may well succeed where others have failed - defining the goals and ambitions of what an introductory course in cognitive science should try to do."

--Anthony Beavers, Philosophy and Cognitive Science, University of Evansville, Philosophical Psychology

"This book's breadth and depth of coverage is truly impressive. Bermudez explicates the science of the mind in a sophisticated yet understandable fashion, from its traditional roots in symbol processing to exciting new advances in dynamic, embodied, and situated cognition."

--Rob Goldstone, Professor of Psychology and Director, Cognitive Science Program, Indiana University

"The Bermudez text represents an accessible and thoughtful introduction to cognitive science."

--Karl Haberlandt, Professor of Psychology, Trinity College, Connecticut

"....The author does a good job reminding the reader why particular material is presented.... The author has a nice touch for providing just enough detail for the reader to understand examples.... The pedagogical aids are well designed in Cognitive Science.... Each chapter includes a brief summary and a checklist.... students will appreciate the brevity of the checklists, which are simply numbered lists of key points.... Bermúdez paints a coherent picture of the field and leaves us hopeful that we can actually understand something about the mind."

- David S. Kreiner, PsycCRITIQUES

"...The book does an admirable job of tackling its dual role as both text-book and monograph.... Bermúdez's book is an outstanding work; it will prove to be of benefit to both students and their teachers and it makes many important contributions to several ongoing debates."

-Dr. Joel Walmsely, University College Cork, Ireland, Teorema

"...The book presents the main historical milestones of cognitive science and their particular methods, always with the aim to elucidate the connections and links between the different procedures and the whole project of understanding the mind from an information-processing point of view.... the book is highly pedagogical in the sense of preparing the reader with an overview, conveying the main discussion clearly and finally summarizing the main points. Another virtue of the book is the fact that the author indicates many internet recourses that the reader can use to continue her studies.... demonstrates how a philosopher could organize and make sense of many different ideas coming from very different domains.... it succeeds in providing a truly interdisciplinary overview that a specialized cognitive scientist could hardly supply; it is remarkable how Bermúdez moves from psychology to neuroscience, and then to robotics, mathematics or philosophy, demonstrating his general expertise in all these areas and proving to be a real cognitive scientist. This is an enlightening book which can be read with profit by all people interested in the scientific study of the mind...."

-Santiago Arango Muñoz, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Metapsychology

About the Author

José Luis Bermúdez is Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology program at Washington University in St Louis. He has been involved in interdisciplinary teaching and research in cognitive science for over 15 years.

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