New course for Spring 2016

**COGS 344- Modeling the Mind: Computational Models of Cognition** (3 units)
The goal of this class is to provide an introduction to the art of computational modeling in Cognitive Science using the Matlab programming language. Topics will include, how we model learning and simple decisions, how we connect computational models to observed experimental data (such as choices and neural activations) and how we can use modeling to design better experiments to test complex hypotheses.

The class will be very much a “hands on” class, every week students will create a different model, starting in class and finishing at home. At the end, students should be able build a computational model from scratch, fit a model to data and determine which of a set of models best fits the observed experimental data.

**Pre-requisites:** Background in statistics and basic programming helpful but not required

**Spring 2016 schedule:** Mondays, 5:00pm – 7:50pm, Psychology room 204
(This course will also be taught in Fall 2016, most likely Tues/Thurs 3:30-4:45)

**Instructor:** Robert C. Wilson, PhD, Dept of Psychology and Cognitive Science Program

Students who are interested in this course may enroll through UAccess.