Teaching ACT-R at RPI

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Teaching ACT-R at RPI

- Ph.D. in Cognitive Science and B.S. for Undergrads
- Cognitive Modeling
  - One Semester
- Mixture of Students
  - Undergrad (Junior and Senior) and graduate
  - Cognitive Science, Psychology and Computer Science
  - Double majors
  - Not required
Teaching ACT-R at RPI

- Class size varies (8 -25)
  - No TA
- Prerequisite
  - Data Structures and Algorithms (CS Course)
- Combine with
  - LEABRA
  - SOAR/EPIC/CLARION
- Minimize use of LISP
HW/Exams/Projects

- Tutorial Units
- Papers OK for graduate students
  - Undergraduates?
- Exams
  - Take home or none
- Let student choose project
  - Hard for students to propose projects
  - Need environment
    - Games (SET, Minesweeper, Sudoku)
Teaching ACT-R Issues

- Materials available
- Use of Environment
- Tutorials
  - Cover only the basics
Topics not in Tutorial

- Temporal
- Parameters (146)
- Module Creation
- Threaded Cognition
- Blending
- Partial Production
- Debugging
Issues

- Most difficult subject
  - Testing and Debugging
    - Chunk naming
- Production Programming
- Prerequisites
  - What to require
Ideas for New Approach

• Teams
  • One project
  • Multiple project
• One complex project done by all