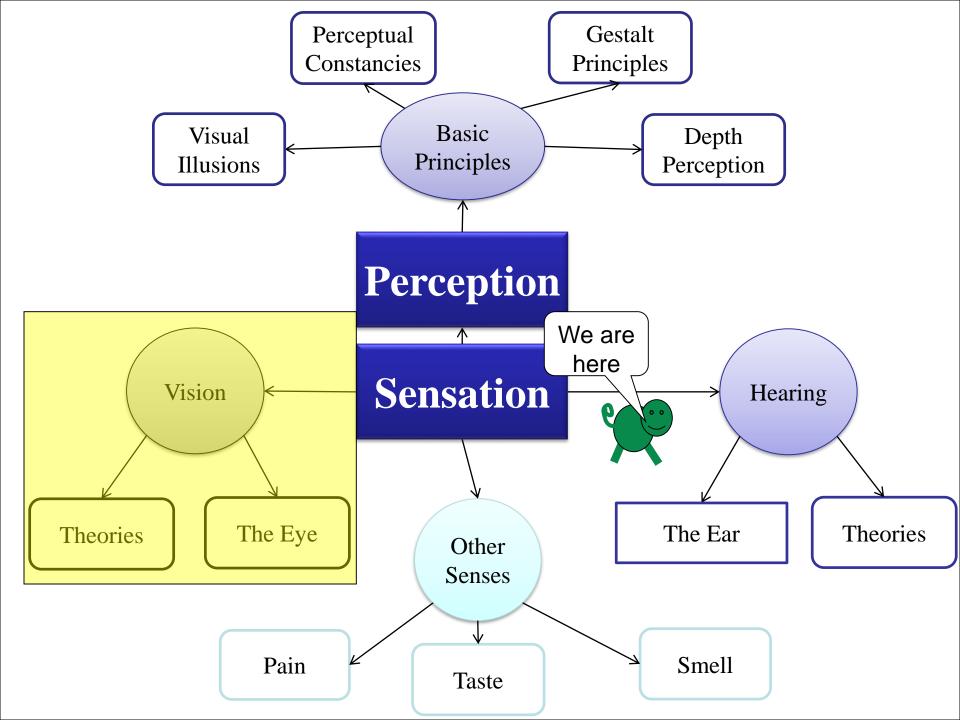
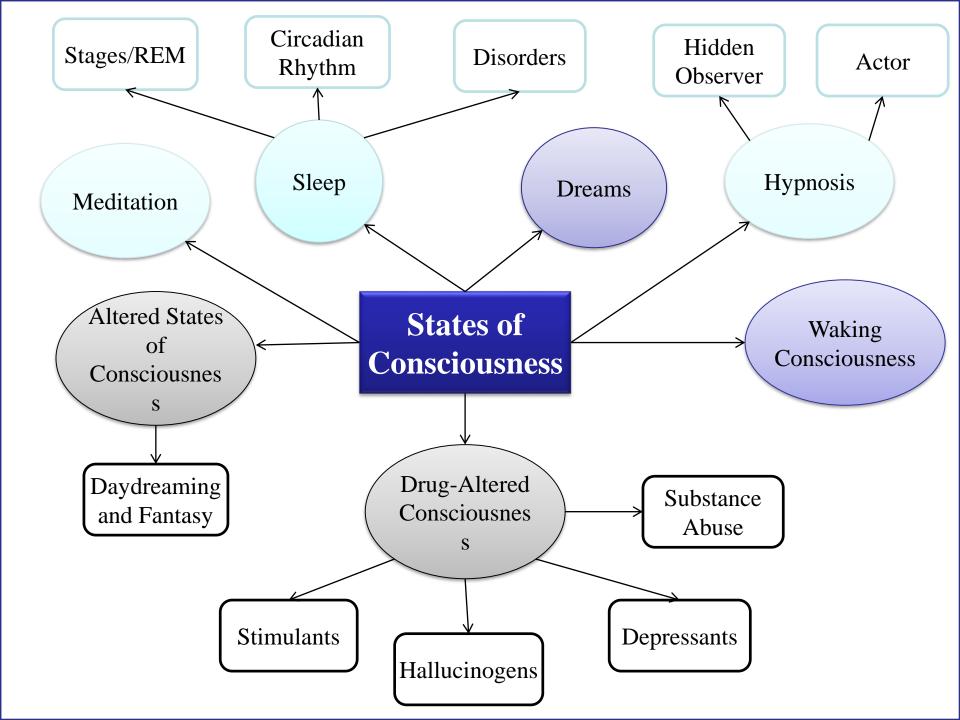
# Unit 4: Sensation, Perception and States of Consciousness

Essential Task 4-2: Describe the sensory process of vision including the specific nature of energy transduction (rods and cones and the trichromatic theory of color vision), relevant anatomical structures (cornea, pupil, iris, lens, retina, optic nerve, blind spot and fovea) and specialized pathways (opponent process in the brain theory of color vision and the occipital lobe).





# Essential Task 4-2:

- Vision relevant anatomical structures
  - <u>Path light travels</u> (cornea, pupil, iris, lens, and retina)
  - optic nerve, blind spot and fovea
  - Transduction (rods and cones)
- Color Vision
  - The trichromatic theory of color vision
    - <u>Color Blindness</u>
  - <u>Opponent process</u> theory of color vision
    - <u>After-Image Effect</u>

# "We do not know the sun or the earth. We can only know the sun that we see and the earth that we feel."

Explain this quote. Do you agree with this quote? Explain why or why not.

#### What is vision?

#### Do we really see each others?



# Vision

- Vision begins with lightwave
- gathering light; light is reflected off of objects and gathered by the eye
- Eyes receive light energy and transduce it into neural messages that our brain processes into what we consciously see.

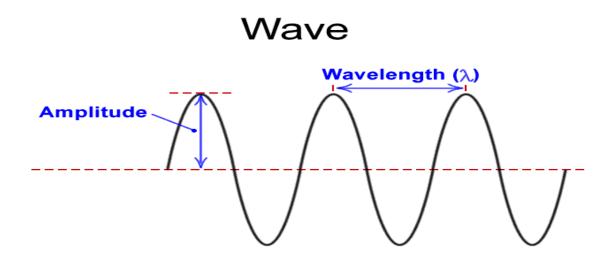
# Vision: Light wave

Wave length – Distance from one wave peak to the next

- Short wavelength = bluish color
- Long wavelength = reddish color

Intensity – the amount of energy in the waves by amplitude or height

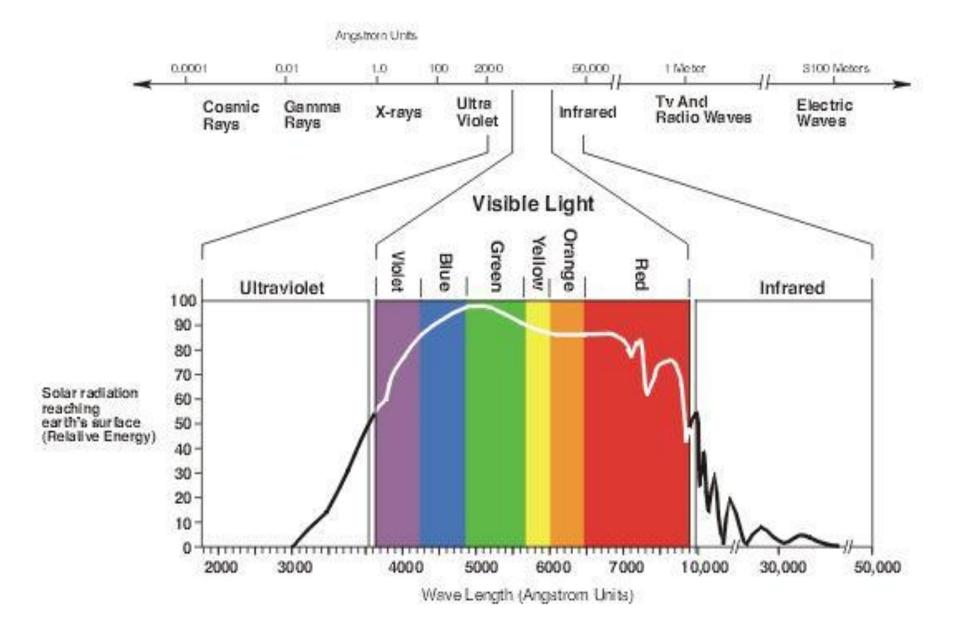
- Higher the amplitude the brighter the color
- Lower amplitude dull colors





Hue – the color we experience (blue, red, green)

#### Electromagnetic Spectrum



# Eye Parts

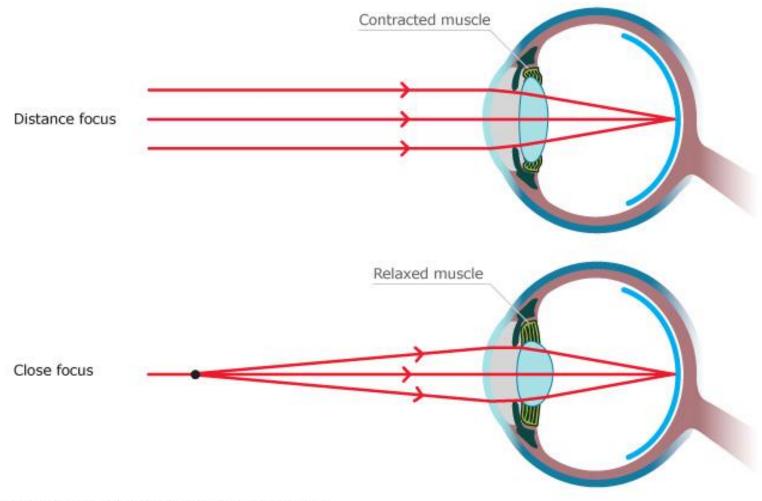
- Cornea Transparent membrane covering the front of the eye; bends light rays
- Pupil small adjustable opening which light enters
- Iris colored muscle that helps open up or close the pupil (control the amount of light)
- Lens transparent structure behind the pupil; takes it to retina
- Retina light sensitive inner layer of cells in the back of the eye; easily damaged from excessive exposure to light
- Fovea central focal point in the retina, around which the eye's cones cluster.
- Cones retinal receptors cells that are concentrated near the center of the retina that functions in day light; color
- Rods retinal receptors that detect black, white and grey
- Optic nerve the nerve that carries neural impulses from the eye to the brain

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation is the process by which the eye's lens changes shape to focus near or far objects on the retina.
- <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p\_xLO</u>
  <u>7yxgOk</u>

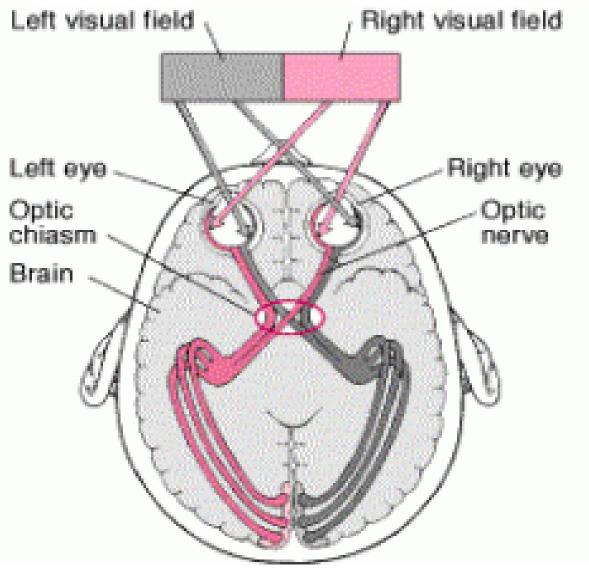
#### Accommodation

How the eye focuses light



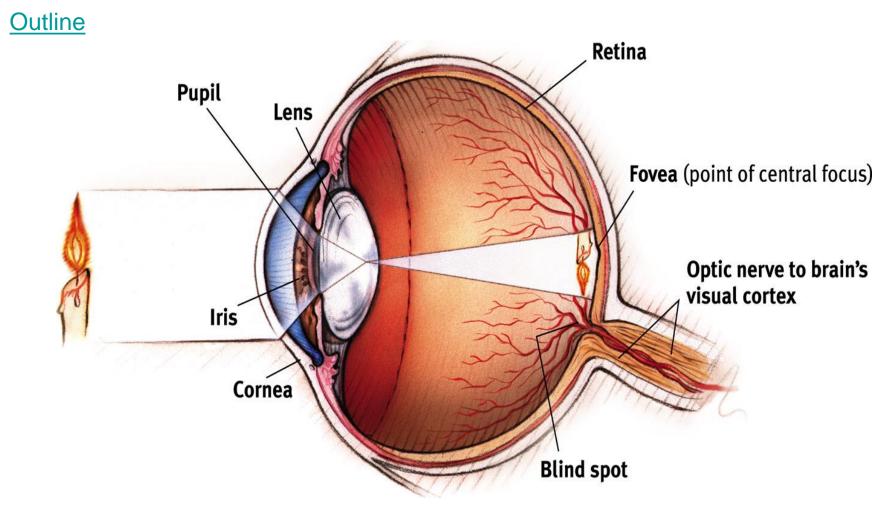
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# **Retinal Visual Field**



- Right visual field is processed by the left optic nerves
- Left visual field is processed by the right optic nerves

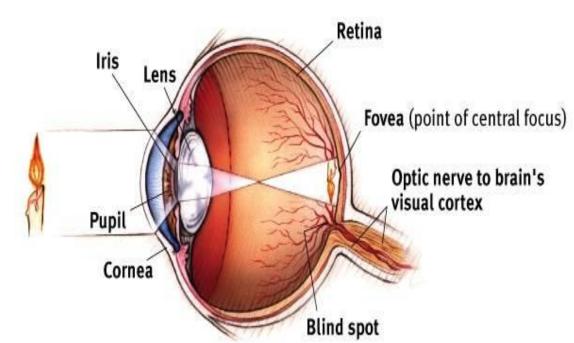
#### Path light travels through the eye.



<u>Outline</u>

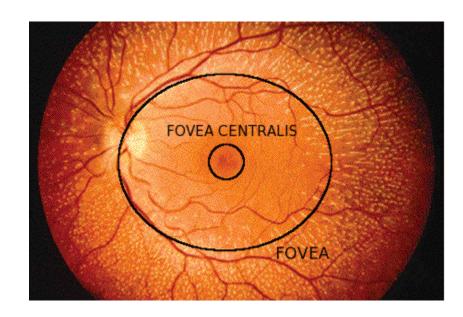
# Path light travels through the

- 1. Cornea **eyes**.
- 2. Pupil
- 3. Lens
- 4. Retina (rods and cones)
- 5. Bipolar cells
- 6. Ganglion cells
- 7. Optic nerve



#### Fovea

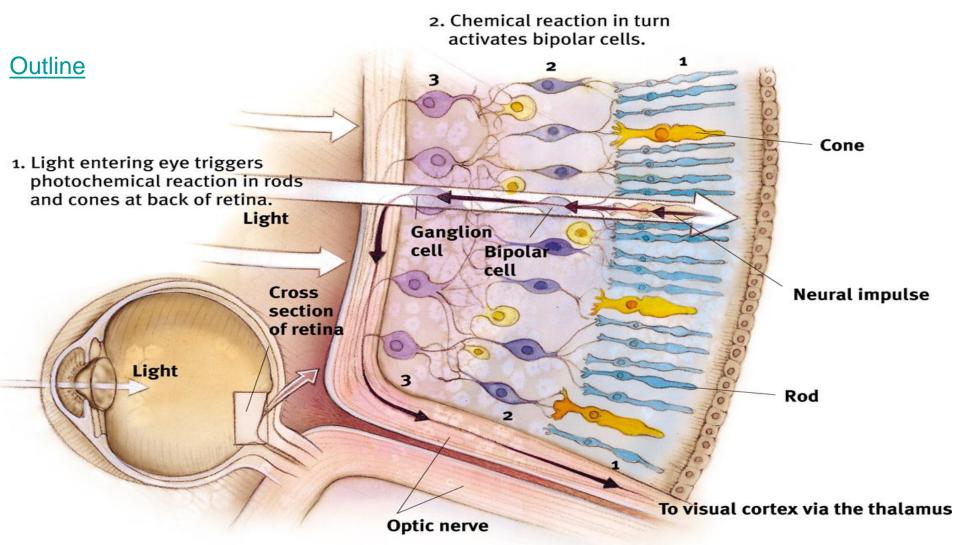




Central fovea (Fovea Centralis) is responsible for <u>visual acuity and</u> <u>color sensitivty</u>. High resolution!

The green and red cones are concentrated in the fovea centralis. The 'Blue' cones are mostly found outside the fovea centralis.

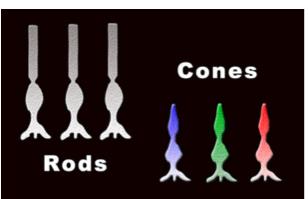
#### Transduction occurs in the Retina



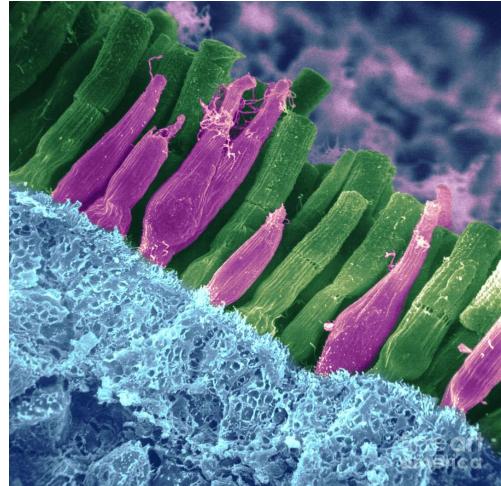
3. Bipolar cells then activate the ganglion cells, the axons of which converge to form the optic nerve. This nerve transmits information to the visual cortex (via the thalamus) in the brain's occipital lobe.

#### **Rods and Cones**





Rods and cones transduces information into electrical signal.



# Light Control

- Visual acuity sharpness of visual perception
- Fovea Area at the center of the retina only containing cones (color)
- Peripheral vision Vision at edges of visual fields; side vision
- Tunnel vision Loss of peripheral vision

#### **Tunnel Vision**



# Visual information processing

- Feature detectors nerve cells in the brain that respond to specific features of the stimulus
  - Such as shapes, angle, or movement
  - Different locations in the brain have specialized functions
  - Color, form, motion, depth
- Saccade reflexive movement of eyes from side to side so that neurons will continue to firing and so fill in the information due to blind spot

### Blindspot test

- 1. Hold the card at eye level about an arm's length away. Make sure that the cross is on the right.
- 2. Close your right eye and look directly at the cross with your left eye. Notice that you can also see the dot.
- Focus on the cross, but be aware of the dot as you slowly bring the card toward your face. The dot will disappear, and then reappear, as you bring the card toward your face. Try moving the card closer and farther to pinpoint exactly where this happens.

# Trichromatic Color Theory Young-Helmholtz Theory

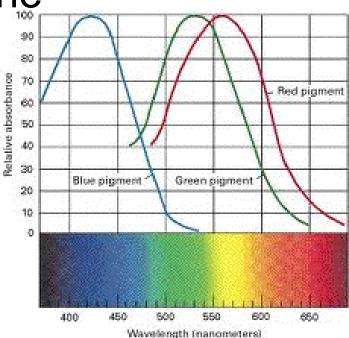
• We see color due to the

Green

BLUE

RED

Outline



#### Three Cone types in the retina

# **Colored Blindness**

- Inability to perceive colors; lacks cones or has malfunctioning cones
  - Total color blindness is rare
  - Genetic
- Color weakness: Inability to distinguish some colors
  - Red green is most common (more common with men)
  - Recessive gene linked with X chromosome

#### **Color Blindness**

#### <u>Outline</u>



Trichromatic view (blues, greens, and reds)



Dichromatic problems with reds and greens



Monochromatic view (no blues, greens, or reds)

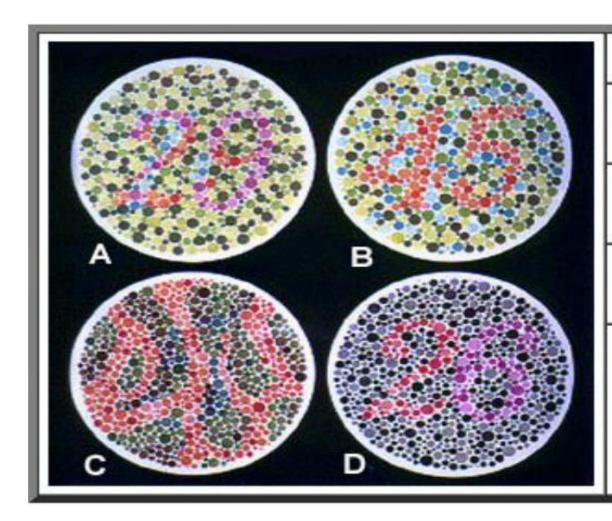


Dichromatic Problems with reds and greens

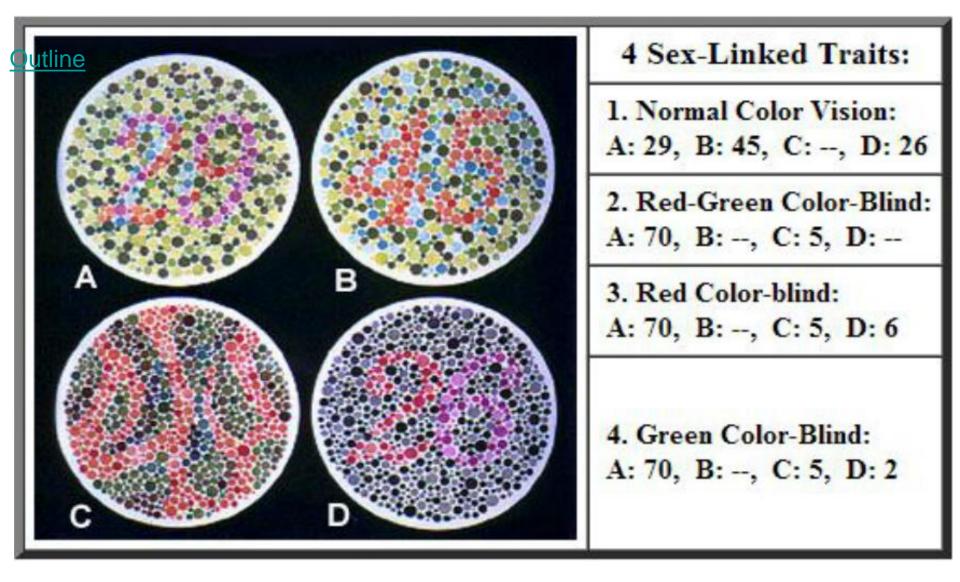
Dichromatic Problems with Blues and Greens

### **Color Blindness Tests**

#### Outline Write down what numbers you see



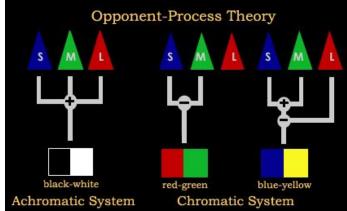
#### **Color Blindness Tests**



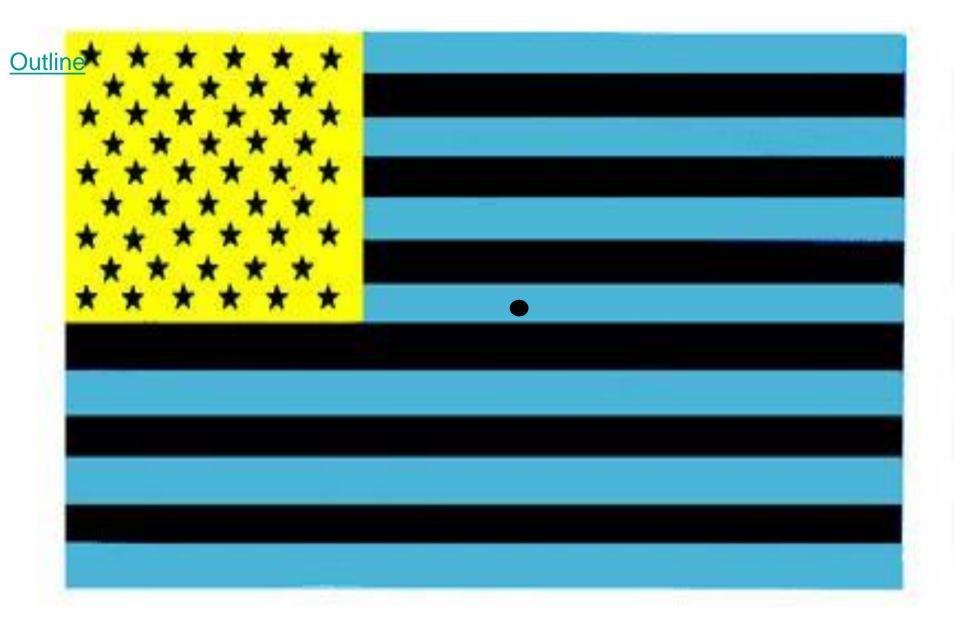
# **Opponent Process Theory**

<u>Outline</u>

- Further up in the optic nerve, neurons work in <u>pairs</u> to help process color vision signals.
- Red-Green = Xmas
- Blue-Yellow = Beach
- Black-White = Oreo
- Explains after image effect



#### Opponent Process theory helps us explain the after-image effect



#### Neuroscience of ghosts!





#### Alas poor Yorick it was an afterimage!

<u>Outline</u>

### **Dark Adaptation**

- Increased retinal sensitivity to light after entering the dark; similar to going from daylight into a dark movie theater
- Rhodopsin: light-sensitive pigment in the rods; involved with night vision

- We do not see color in the dark

• Night Blindness: Blindness under low-light conditions; hazardous for driving at night