

Psychology 45 Behavioral Neuroscience – Winter 2014

Basic Course Information

Instructor: Professor Ann S. Clark

Course Schedule: 10 A (10-11:50, Tuesday and Thursdays), X-hours as needed

Course Description

Psych 45 is a required course for Neuroscience majors.

We are complex organisms that perform complex behaviors. In this course we will explore the neurological underpinnings of behavior. Some topics we will cover include the neural control of life-sustaining behaviors such as eating and drinking. In addition, we will explore how the brain contributes to the display of other complex behaviors such as sexual behavior and responding to stress. We will use a variety of resources to examine the relationship between brain and behavior. Because of the overlap in material covered, no student may receive credit for both Psychology 26 and Psychology 45. Prerequisite: Psychology 6 or Biology 34. Dist: SCI.

Course Format

Behavioral neuroscience will be taught following a team-based learning approach, details about this approach are provided at the first class meeting. Each of the five units of study begins with an individual and team Readiness Assurance Test (abbreviated RAT, see below) followed by application of the concepts *vis a vis* problem sets solved in-class by students working in teams. In addition, two exams are given. For Winter 2014, the assigned readings will include a Course Reader and *Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers*, 3rd ed. (by Robert Sapolsky). Grades in the course are based on: individual performance on individual RAT, exams, reflections and homework; team performance on the team RAT and in-class activities; and peer assessment of the contribution of each team member to the effectiveness of the team. *Due to the course format, students cannot add the course after the first class meeting.*

Course Calendar

TBD dates will be posted on Canvas at the start of the term.

Unit 1 Chemical & ANS Systems	Thursday January 9 th Readiness Assurance Test (RAT, ~20 multiple-choice questions)
Unit 2 Endocrine	TBD Readiness Assurance Test
Unit 3 Sex	TBD Readiness Assurance Test
Exam 1	TBD (Exams include multiple-choice, short answer and essay questions, completing diagrams, matching and problem-solving)
Unit 4 Homeostasis	TBD Readiness Assurance Test
Unit 5 Stress	TBD Readiness Assurance Test
Exam 2	TBD Exam 2 takes place in class (not during the final examination period)