

PHYSIOLOGY AND COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 4130, #73-113

Summer 2012, 11:45AM-12:45PM daily, Park Hall, Room 265

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Course Description

This class will focus on the biological foundations of human and non-human behavior, with an emphasis on underlying physiological mechanism, the development, evolution, and function of behavior. The class will focus on the anatomy and physiology of the nervous system, the sensory systems, and types of stimuli affecting these systems. Clinical and practical applications of the fundamental knowledge will also be explored with the utilization of scientific literature.

Prerequisites

PSYC 2990 or PSYC 3990

Course Objectives

- Understand the biological bases of the nervous system
- Understand neuroanatomy
- Understand the function of the autonomic, endocrine, and sensory systems
- Understand the neurobiological bases of fundamental behaviors like feeding, reproduction, circadian rhythms, and learning
- Be able to find and read scientific literature
- Be able to think critically and solve problems

Required Material(s)

Kalat, J.W. (2009). Biological psychology (10th edition). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth
ISBN-10: 0495603007 ISBN-13: 9780495603009

You can use older editions if you wish; however, you will be responsible for any differences between editions.

Grading and Testing Policy

There will be a combination of assignments and examinations involved in calculating the final grade. Reading Circles assignments (role sheets, reflection paper, participation grade) may be made up, but will only be accepted if there is a University accepted excused documentation. Any excused make-up Reading Circles assignments will be due by the next class or at the discretion of the instructor. **There will be no make-up exams.** Everyone **must** take the final comprehensive examination. **With respect to the final exam, you may use this final exam to replace your lowest exam grade ONLY if you receive a 70 or above on the final.** Furthermore, if you have an A in the course before the final, you may exempt the final. **This**

rule applies only if you have an A (not if you are simply satisfied with your grade). Upon receiving a returned assignment, there is a 24 hour policy in which you must wait before coming to talk to me about the grade to allow time for processing the grade.

Grading Scale (Points)

Exams

Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Exam 4	100

Reading Circles

Reading Circles Role Sheets (4 total)	50
Reading Circles Reflection	100
Reading Circles Participation	50

Final Cumulative Exam	100
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Total Points: 700

Letter Grade	Points	Corresponding percentages
A	651-700	93% and above
A-	630-650	90% - 92.999%
B+	609-629	87% - 89.999%
B	581-608	83% - 86.999%
B-	560-580	80% - 82.999%
C+	539-559	77% - 79.999%
C	511-538	73% - 76.999%
C-	490-510	70% - 72.999%
D	420-489	60% - 69.999%
F	below 420	Below 60%

Attendance Policy

Attendance is highly recommended. When you do attend class, please be respectful of the instructor and other students. Do not text or play on the computer during class. If you need to take a phone call, please step outside of the classroom. It is your responsibility as a student to get notes and materials from a classmate upon missing class.

Open Door Policy

I maintain an open door policy for students whenever possible. I would like to be available to students regarding any class concern, questions regarding graduate school, and any other academic concern. Please feel free to stop by my office whenever needed.

Academic Honesty

As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, "A Culture of Honesty," and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in "A Culture of Honesty" found at: www.uga.edu/honesty. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.

Disability Statement

If you have a disability and require reasonable classroom accommodations, please see me after class. If you plan to request accommodations for a disability, please register with the Disability Resource Center at 114 Clark Howell Hall, Athens, GA 30602-3338 (706.542.8719).

Tentative Schedule

The syllabus is a general plan for this course. The instructor has the ability to change the syllabus to accommodate the class whenever needed. Deviations will be announced to the class when necessary.

Topic	Date	Reading (before class)	Assignment (due in class)
Introduction	6/8		
Functional Neuroanatomy Neuron	6/11 Week 1	Ch. 2	
Functional Neuroanatomy Synapse	6/12 Drop ends	Ch. 3.1 - 3.2	
Functional Neuroanatomy Neurotransmitters & Psychopharmacology	6/13 Add ends	Ch. 3.3, Ch. 15	
Functional Neuroanatomy Neurotransmitters & Psychopharmacology	6/14	Ch. 3.3, Ch. 15	

Functional Neuroanatomy Reading Circles #1	6/15	Reading Circle #1 (Article posted on elc)	Reading Circle #1 Role Sheet
Functional Neuroanatomy Intro to the brain	6/18 Week 2	Ch. 4.1-4.2	
Exam 1 Review	6/19		
Exam 1	6/20		
Functional Neuroanatomy Intro to the brain	6/21	Ch. 4.1-4.2	
Learning and Memory	6/22	Ch. 13	
Learning and Memory Reading Circles #2	6/25 Week 3	Reading Circles #2 (article posted on elc) Ch. 13	Reading Circles #2 Role Sheet
Functional Neuroanatomy Intro to the brain	6/26	Ch. 4.1-4.2, Ch. 15	
Functional Neuroanatomy Frozen Addicts	6/27		
Functional Neuroanatomy Love in the brain	6/28		
Neural Plasticity	6/29	Ch. 5	
Exam 2 Review	7/2 Week 4		
Exam 2	7/3		

Independence Day No Class!	7/4		
Vision	7/5 Halfway through the semester!	Ch. 6	
Vision	7/6	Ch. 6	
Vision Reading Circles #3	7/9 Week 5 Withdrawal Deadline	Reading Circles #3 (article posted on elc) Ch. 6	Reading Circles #3 Role Sheet
Audition	7/10	Ch. 7.1-7.2	
Gustation	7/11	Ch. 7.3	
Olfaction	7/12	Ch. 7.3	
Somatosensory and Pain	7/13	Ch. 7.2	
Exam 3 Review	7/16 Week 6		
Exam 3	7/17		
Biorhythms Circadian Rhythms	7/18	Ch. 9, Ch. 14.3	
Biorhythms Consciousness and Sleep	7/19	Ch. 9, Ch. 14.3	
Biorhythms Sleep	7/20	Ch. 9, Ch. 15	
Biorhythms Reading Circles #4	7/23 Week 7	Reading Circles #4 (article posted on elc)	Reading Circles #4 Role Sheet
Internal Regulation Temperature, Thirst, and Hunger	7/24	Ch. 10	
Internal Regulation Temperature, Thirst, and	7/25	Ch. 10	Reading Circles Reflection Paper and Participation Grades Due at the beginning of class!

Hunger			
Reproductive Behaviors	7/26	Ch. 11	
Reproductive Behaviors	7/27	Ch. 11	
Exam 4 Review	7/30 Week 8		
Exam 4	7/31		
Final Exam Review	8/1 Last day of class		*If you want to exempt the final exam, you must attend this class to find out your final grade.
	8/3 Final Cumulative Exam 12-3:00pm		

Frequently Asked Questions

Exams

Exams will begin promptly at the start of class. No late admittance will be accepted on exam days after the first person has completed the exam. There will be **no make-up exams.** **With respect to the final cumulative exam, you may use this final exam to replace your lowest exam grade ONLY if you receive a 70 or above on the final.**

Reading Circles

Reading Circles is an activity that will help you learn how to read articles in a different manner. Articles may come from peer-reviewed journals or they may be from magazines (i.e. Science Daily, Scientific American). You will be expected to complete the reading prior to Reading Circles in class, and you will be expected to fill out your role sheet prior to class as well. There will be a total of 6 Reading Circles throughout the semester. Reading Circles will consist of 6-7 group members, and you will be assigned a different role for each Reading Circles day. You will complete each role at least once. Your Reading Circles group will remain the same throughout the semester. Your group members will be the ones to grade you on your participation, however, the instructor will have the final word on the participation grade. I will be grading the handouts and the final Reading Circles Reflection Paper. This paper will be at least 2 pages long (double-spaced, Times New Roman, font size 12) and you will be required to answer several questions pertaining to Reading Circles. 5 points will be deducted for every day the reflection paper and participation grades are turned in late. The last day to turn the paper and participation grades in will be the day of the final.

Important Dates for Summer 2012

Drop ends	6/12
Last day to add	6/13
4 th of July Holiday	7/4 (No Class!)
Midterm	7/5
Withdrawal Deadline	7/9
Last day of classes	8/1
Final Cumulative Exam	Friday 8/3 12:00pm – 3:00pm