

Course Syllabus Psychology 140: Physiological Psychology Fall 2008

Section: 1723

Room: F508

Time: 9:30 am – 10:45 am

Days: Tuesday, Thursday

Dates: See back page

Text: Biological Psychology 9th edition, James W. Kalat

Instructor: Steve Weinert

Office: F510

Contact: steve.weinert@gcccd.edu or 619-660-4552

Office Hours: see <http://www.cuyamaca.edu/steve.weinert>

Course Description: 3 hours lecture. Introduction to physiological psychology and to the biology behind behavior.

Course Objectives: Students will be able to describe, explain, predict and learn to control behavior through biological methods. Students will be able to describe function of brain areas and their relation to the behavior of an individual.

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the semester you will be able to...

- a) Describe how the general principles and tools of physiological psychology are applied to behavioral research.
- b) Identify the major anatomical structures of the brain by their function and their relative position.
- c) Break down the function of neurons and glial cells to the molecular level and describe their function.
- d) Classify the actions of neurotransmitters and receptor types and predict their effects on the postsynaptic membrane.
- e) Define proliferation, migration and differentiation during development of the human nervous system their relevance to neural plasticity.
- f) Describe the generation of motor movement from neural input.
- g) Explain and describe the actions of visual perception from the retina to the visual cortex and their response to damage.
- h) Use anatomical structures and transmitter actions to describe different levels of consciousness and attention processes.
- i) Analyze and categorize the function of different hypothalamic nuclei controlling body state regulation.
- j) Discuss the functioning of the limbic system and its role in producing emotional, attack and escape behavior.
- k) Use diagrams to demonstrate the biological basis of learning and memory.
- l) Compare and contrast the function and strengths of the left and right hemispheres in the brain.
- m) Classify different psychological disorders by describing their physiological cause and treatment.

Grading in the course.

All assignments and exams are given a points value. Your grade is based on the total of your accumulated points. The tests are designed to show that you have a demonstrated mastery of the above course learning outcomes.

An A is 90% of the total possible points (425 total points possible)

A B is 80% of the total possible points

A C is 70% of the possible points

A D in the course is above 60% of the points in the course

Course totals lower than 60% will fail the class.

- All points in the class are weighted equally.
- There are 5 tests, each totaling 25 points per chapter covered.
 1. Each exam will be comprised up to 60 questions answered on a Scantron
 2. Each exam will have 1 mandatory essay and 2 extra credit essays
- There is a comprehensive final exam, which can be used to replace your lowest exam grade.

Extra Credit

1. I will assign essays to each exam which can be completed for extra credit on that exam.
2. You must complete them before each exam to get credit.

Attendance: For successful completion of the course you must attend class. Attendance and participation in activities are required. I will be passing around an attendance form within the first 5 minutes of class. This may be used for 2% of your grade. If you are going to miss class for some reason make sure you e-mail the instructor. The material in this class can be difficult. It is important for you to ask questions in class to improve your comprehension.

Behavior Guidelines and Conduct:

I like an interactive classroom, and encourage student interaction.

Please be respectful to all of the people in the class around you.

Everybody has opinions and they define individuals.

If an opinion does not agree with your personal belief, through education we can understand each other.

Through conflict there is no resolution, just a victor.

Please put your phone on vibrate, or flash light, so as not to disrupt those around you.

Texting while in class is disrupting (mostly to me), if you are doing so I will stop class until you are finished so that you do not miss anything.

Students with Special needs: Students with disabilities who may need academic accommodations should notify the instructor immediately (and no later than the second week of class).

Semester Calendar

Date	Deadline
Friday, August 22, 2008	APPLICATION DEADLINE
Monday, August 25, 2008	Regular Day & Evening Classes Begin
Friday, September 05, 2008	Program Adjustment
Monday, September 01, 2008	Holiday (Labor Day)
Friday, September 05, 2008	Last Day to Add Semester-Length Classes
Friday, September 05, 2008	Last Day to Drop Semester-Length Classes without a 'W' appearing on Transcripts
Friday, September 05, 2008	Last Day to Receive a Refund for Semester- Length Classes
Monday, September 08, 2008	Census Day
Friday, September 26, 2008	Last Day to Apply for P/NP (CR/NC)- Semester Length Classes
Friday, October 17, 2008	Last Day to Apply for Fall 2008 Degree/Certificate
Friday, October 17, 2008	End of First 8-Week Session
Monday, October 20, 2008	Second 8-Week Session Begins
Monday, November 10, 2008	Holiday (Veterans' Day)
Friday, November 14, 2008	Last Day to Drop Semester Length Classes
Thursday, November 27, 2008	Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday, December 12, 2008	End of Second 8-Week Session
Monday, December 15, 2008	Start Final Examinations

Here is a breakdown of the days of the class and the topics that are going to be covered

Date	Class	Chapter	Points
Tuesday, August 26, 2008	Intro to the course	1	
Thursday, August 28, 2008	Neuron	2	
Tuesday, September 02, 2008			
Thursday, September 04, 2008	Synapse	3	
Tuesday, September 09, 2008			
Thursday, September 11, 2008	Test 1	1, 2, 3	50
Tuesday, September 16, 2008	Anatomy	4	
Thursday, September 18, 2008			
Tuesday, September 23, 2008	Test 2		25
Thursday, September 25, 2008	Vision	6	
Tuesday, September 30, 2008			
Thursday, October 02, 2008	Sensation	7	
Tuesday, October 07, 2008			
Thursday, October 09, 2008	Movement	8	
Tuesday, October 14, 2008			
Thursday, October 16, 2008	Test 3	6,7,8	75
Tuesday, October 21, 2008			
Thursday, October 23, 2008	States of Arousal	9	
Tuesday, October 28, 2008			
Thursday, October 30, 2008	Body states	10	
Tuesday, November 04, 2008			
Thursday, November 06, 2008	Sex and Emotions	11 and 12	
Tuesday, November 11, 2008			
Thursday, November 13, 2008	Test 4	9, 10, 11,12	100
Tuesday, November 18, 2008	Learning & Memory	13	
Thursday, November 20, 2008			
Tuesday, November 25, 2008	Lateralization	14	
Thursday, November 27, 2008			
Tuesday, December 02, 2008	Disorders	15	
Thursday, December 04, 2008			
Tuesday, December 09, 2008			
Thursday, December 11, 2008	Test 5	13, 14, 15	75
Tuesday, December 16, 2008	Comp Final	9:30 to 11:30	100