

# Physiological Psychology at Cuyamaca College Spring 2012

## Course Syllabus for Psychology 140: Section 5776

**Room:** F508      **Time:** 9:30 to 10:45      **Days:** Tuesday

**Text:** Biological Psychology 11<sup>th</sup> edition James W. Kalat

**Instructor:** Steve Weinert

**Office:** F510   **Contact:** [steve.weinert@gcccd.edu](mailto:steve.weinert@gcccd.edu) or 619-660-4552   **Text:** 619-537-6303

**Office Hours:** See web

Course Material: <https://gcccd.blackboard.com> and <http://weinertpsychology.blogspot.com/>

**Course Description:** 3 hours lecture. Introduction to Physiological Psychology and to the biology behind behavior. **Prerequisite:** Psychology 120 or equivalent

## What is expected from You:

To receive credit for this class you must 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.** There are a total possible of 450 points given during the class. Your grade is based on the percentage of the total points that you earn.

I will use plus and minus grades so pay attention to the points you have earned

### Points in the course are earned through the following

- 4 class activities which you must be present to get credit
- 12 Quizzes on-line for each chapter worth 10 points.
- 4 - 50 question multiple choice exams during the semester and a take home essay.
- There will be a comprehensive final exam based on the whole course.
- There will be opportunity for extra credit but you have to come to class to get assignments.

**Attendance:** For successful completion of the course you must attend class. Being “on time” and regular attendance is required. If you are going to miss class for some reason make sure you e-mail the instructor. Make sure that any missed assignments can be completed. The material in this class can be difficult. It is important for you to ask questions in class to improve your comprehension and to make the instructor slow down.

The textbook is very expensive. However, due to the complexity of the material we are not able to cover all the material you need to know during class time. Spending time reading the book will help you understand the class better and really improve your success.

**Behavior Guidelines and Conduct:** I like an interactive classroom, and encourage student questions. 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 TURN YOUR PHONES AND PAGERS TO SILENT OR VIBRATE! Please do not use text messaging during class. Phones can not be on desks or on your lap during quizzes or exams.

**Cheating and plagiarism (using as one's own ideas writings, materials, or images of someone else without acknowledgement or permission) can result in any one of a variety of sanctions. Such penalties may range from an adjusted grade on the particular exam, paper, project, or assignment (all of which may lead to a failing grade in the course) to, under certain conditions, suspension or expulsion from a class, program or the college. For further clarification and information on these issues, please consult with your instructor or contact the office of the Associate Dean of Student Affairs.**

**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).

**Class Calendar:** Here is a breakdown of the days of the class and the topics that are going to be covered. Due to the speed of this course, please make sure to read the Chapters prior to coming to class that day. This outline may change depending on time allotment per subject.

	Chapter	Quiz	Lab
Tuesday, January 24	Welcome		
Thursday, January 26	Science	1	
Tuesday, January 31	Neuron	2	
Thursday, February 02	Synapse	3	
Tuesday, February 07			
Thursday, February 09	Test 1		
Tuesday, February 14	Brain	4	
Thursday, February 16	Activity 1	4	Brain Game
Tuesday, February 21	Plasticity Growth	5	
Thursday, February 23	Vision	6	
Tuesday, February 28	Vision	6	
Thursday, March 01	Test 2		
Tuesday, March 06	Mechanical Sensation	7	
Thursday, March 08	Activity 2	7	Sensation Lab
Tuesday, March 13	Movement	8	
Thursday, March 15	Movement	8	
Tuesday, March 20	Consciousness	9	
Thursday, March 22	Consciousness	9	
Tuesday, March 27	Exam 3		
Thursday, March 29	Internal Regulation	10	
<b>Tuesday, April 03</b>			
<b>Thursday, April 05</b>			
Tuesday, April 10	Activity 3		Body States Lab
Thursday, April 12	Reproduction	11	
Tuesday, April 17	Emotional Behavior`	12	
Thursday, April 19			
Tuesday, April 24	Test 4		
Thursday, April 26	Learning and Memory	13	
Tuesday, May 01	Activity 4		Memory Lab
Thursday, May 03			
Tuesday, May 08	Cognition	14	
Thursday, May 10	Disorders	15	Disorders Lab
Tuesday, May 15	Activity 5		
Thursday, May 17	Review		
Thursday, May 24			