

# Physiological Psychology – Summer 2012

**01:830:313:B1**

**MTWTh 10:10 AM - 12:05 PM**

**5/29/12 – 7/6/12**

**WL-AUD, Busch Campus**

Instructor: Chris Medvecky

E-mail: medvecky@eden.rutgers.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

**Required Textbook:** Carlson, N. R., *Physiology of Behavior* (11<sup>th</sup> Ed. ISBN 13: 978-0-205-23939-9; ISBN 10: 0-205-23939-0)

**Course Overview / Learning Goals:** The purpose of this course is to provide you with a foundation in the physiology of behavior. First, we will discuss the structure and function of the nervous system. This includes a discussion of cells of the nervous system and how they communicate, as well as neuroanatomy. Next, we will examine how sensory information is encoded in the brain. We will then address specific physiological correlates of certain behaviors, such as sleep and eating. Finally, the course will conclude with student presentations on various disorders such as schizophrenia, autism, depression, drug abuse, etc. By the end of this course, you will have an understanding of the dynamic relationship between the brain and behavior.

**Grading:** Course grades will be based on the following:

Homework (1 point each)	10 points
Exams (25 points each)	75 points
Presentation	15 points
<hr/>	
Total	100 points

Your course grade will be determined by the following grading scale:

90-100	A
86-89	B+
80-85	B
76-79	C+
70-75	C
65-69	D
64 and below	F

**Reading and Homework Assignments:** You are expected to read the assigned pages prior to the class in which the material is discussed. In addition to the readings, homework assignments will be given which are to be completed following each lecture. Homework assignments will be posted under “Assignments” on the course’s Sakai site. The assignments will become available immediately after class, and your answers need to be submitted online by the start of the following class. The assignment will no longer be available once the next class begins. Homework will not be accepted late, and you will not have the opportunity to make it up. Please note that you are still responsible for completing homework on time even if you are absent from class.

Each homework assignment is worth one point. You will be given full credit if you complete the assignment. In other words, homework will not be graded for content. However, insufficient effort in answering short answer questions will result in point deductions. These assignments are essential to your success in the course. Not only can you earn credit for completing the assignments, you will notice that a number of topics covered in the homework will be included on the exams.

Please note that there are actually 13 homework assignments, but only 10 points allotted for homework. This means that you can miss up to three homework assignments without penalty. It also means that if you complete more than 10 homework assignments, you will earn one point extra credit for each additional assignment.

**Exams:** There will be three non-cumulative exams, each worth 25 points. They will consist primarily of multiple choice questions. In addition, you may be asked to label a diagram or complete a few short answer questions. Anything covered during class or in the readings is fair game for the exams. Keep in mind that there may be things discussed in class that are not explicitly stated in the text.

**Presentation:** You will give a group Powerpoint presentation at the end of the semester. The presentation will be worth 15 points. The quality of the information and slides will be graded as a group, and you will be graded individually for the delivery. Further instructions will be provided.

**Attendance:** You should attend all classes in this course. Although attendance will not be formally monitored, it is in your best interest to come to class prepared. That means you should have read the assigned chapter prior to class and have completed the homework assignment that is due that day.

Absence from a scheduled exam should occur only under the most serious of circumstances. Make-up exams will be given only for absences that are deemed

excused. Excused absences will require written and signed documentation, and it will be left to my discretion whether a make-up is warranted. Make-ups must be taken within a week of the missed exam, as you will lose the opportunity to make it up after the week has passed. In addition, make-up exams may be more difficult than the original test. The same policy is in effect for the presentations.

**Academic Integrity:** Students are expected to adhere to the University's regulations regarding academic integrity, which can be found at the following web address:

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml>

**NOTE: ANY INFORMATION IN THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ANY CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS AND ON THE COURSE'S SAKAI SITE.**

### Class Schedule:

Day	Date	Topic	Reading Assignment	Homework Due
T	5/29	Syllabus Introduction to Physiological Psychology Cells of the Nervous System	Ch 1 (pgs 2-13) Ch 2 (pgs 28-31, 36-40)	
W	5/30	Communication Within and Between Neurons	Ch 2 (pgs 41-65)	HW1
Th	5/31	Neuroanatomy: CNS	Ch3 (pgs 67-73, 80-92)	HW2
M	6/4	Neuroanatomy: PNS Psychopharmacology: Mechanisms	Ch 3 (pgs 93-98) Ch 4 (pgs 100-110)	HW3
T	6/5	Psychopharmacology: Neurotransmitters	Ch4 (pgs 111-129)	HW4
W	6/6	Exam 1 Review		HW5
Th	6/7	<b>Exam 1</b>		
M	6/11	Vision I	Ch 6 (pgs 165-180)	
T	6/12	Vision II	Ch 6 (pgs 181-206)	HW6
W	6/13	Audition	Ch 7 (pgs 208-227)	HW7
Th	6/14	The Remaining Senses	Ch 7 (pgs 231-254)	HW8
M	6/18	Exam 2 Review		HW9
T	6/19	<b>Exam 2</b>		
W	6/20	Sleep	Ch 9 (pgs 289-322)	
Th	6/21	Ingestive Behavior	Ch 12 (pgs 394-421)	HW10
M	6/25	Learning and Memory I	Ch 13 (pgs 435-459)	HW11
T	6/26	Learning and Memory II	Ch 13 (pgs 459-478)	HW12
W	6/27	Exam 3 Review		HW13
Th	6/28	<b>Exam 3</b>		
M	7/2	<b>Presentation Day 1</b>		
T	7/3	<b>Presentation Day 2</b>		
W	7/4	<b>No Class – Independence Day</b>		
Th	7/5	<b>No Class – Enjoy the rest of summer!</b>		