

Physiological Psychology (830:313:H6)

Syllabus, Summer 2018

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday 6:00 – 8:35, SEC-111 (Busch Campus)

Instructor: Sara Norton, Behavioral & Systems Neuroscience Graduate Program

Campus Location: Room 232-h, Psychology Building, Busch Campus

Office Hours: By appointment

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Textbook

Physiology of Behavior, 11th Edition; Neil R. Carlson; Pearson Publishers (with or without MyPsychLab)

only recommended

Course Description

This course addresses the biological basis of normal and abnormal behavior. The focus will be on the brain - its structure, chemistry and function. The first half of the course will cover the basics of physiological or biological psychology – neurophysiology, neuroanatomy, and neuropharmacology. The second half of the course will deal with sensation, motivation, cognition, and emotion. We will also discuss psychiatric disease, neurodegenerative disease, and drugs of abuse. If we have time, we may go over some special topics, which I will allow students to have a hand in choosing. Special topics might include psychoneuroimmunology, development, aging, etc.

This is a fact-intensive course with an enormous amount of material to learn. It is a serious introduction to the field of Behavioral Neuroscience, and therefore, **a textbook is recommended**. My PowerPoint slides are very detailed, and I will be posting them on Sakai with the expectation that you will be reviewing them on your own time. If you find yourself falling behind, the textbook is an excellent resource. In addition, the MyPsychLab site run by Pearson is an excellent study environment connected to the book; this site will thoroughly prepare you for exams, provide you with quizzes and assignments, and reinforce your understanding of lecture material and what you read in the textbook. This is why there is an access code associated with the purchase of the book.

You have three main options for obtaining the textbook (through NJ Books or Barnes & Noble)

1. Hardbound copy with access code (to eText and MyPsychLab)
2. Loose-leaf copy with access code (to eText and MyPsychLab)
3. Access code (to eText and MyPsychLab - but no receipt of a physical copy of the book)

A few more options:

4. Rent the book (11th edition)
5. Obtain a used copy of the 11th edition or (only if you are saving huge bucks) a used 10th edition (do not go to the 9th edition)

If you choose options 4 or 5, you will not get the access code to MyPsychLab. An access code (that only gets you to the MyPsychLab site run by Pearson and NOT an eText, will cost \$42.50). **You are not required to get access to MyPsychLab**. However, many people find it to be a useful resource.

Lectures and Textbook: Lectures will adhere closely to the general contents of the textbook, which we will follow closely. Some lecture material will not come from the textbook. Therefore, class attendance is important. Lecture notes will be posted online.

Assessment

Exams: (70% of total grade): There will be three exams. Exams 1 and 2 will be a mixture of written and multiple choice questions. The first exam will account for 20% of the total grade. Exam 2 will account for 20% of the total grade. The Final Exam is cumulative will be all multiple choice and worth 30% of the total grade.

Quizzes: (20% of total grade): Quizzes will be set up on the Sakai site. Quiz results will count towards your final grade, but at the same time will serve to keep you up to date with lecture attendance. The quizzes for the week's material will be due at the end of each week (**each Sunday at midnight**). You may use your textbook and any notes you have for the quizzes, but they must be completed *on your own* (not with a friend). Your lowest quiz grade will be dropped, so if you miss one there is no need to schedule a makeup.

Presentations: (10% of total grade): Each student is required to make one presentation during the class. The presentations will be on a peer-reviewed journal article (or two) which relates to one of the topics we will be covering in the class (starting with the Perception lecture). Presentations will be given on the day of the related lecture, either before or after the lecture. Presentations should be about 15 minutes long.

Extra Credit: I will offer a variety of extra credit opportunities throughout the session. In the past, extra credit opportunities have included the option to participate in Rutgers University psychology research studies, write a research paper, and Sakai quizzes. I like to play extra credit by ear, so I'll make announcements throughout the session on this topic. It is important to remember that extra credit is not guaranteed, and anyone with poor attendance will not be allowed to participate in these extra credit opportunities.

Grading System

Students will need to achieve predetermined cut-off points for grades of A, B+, and so on. **Note that cut-off points are different than in many other classes.** Cut-off points will be as follows:

A, 90-100 B+, 87-89.9 B, 76-86.9 C+, 72-75.9 C, 60-71.9 D, 50-59.9 F, <50

Makeup Exams

I verify all excuses for missing an exam. If you know ahead of time that you will be missing an exam (for a legitimate and verifiable reason, of course), you will be asked to take the exam before the exam date. If this is not possible, the makeup must be taken within three weekdays of the scheduled exam date. Makeup exams will NOT be exactly the same as the exams given on the scheduled date.

Rutgers athletic obligations, religious events, weddings, etc. that are going to interfere with taking the scheduled exams will require that you take the exam earlier than scheduled. It is up to you to anticipate the conflict, and let me know about these upcoming events so I can administer the exam earlier.

Lecture Schedule

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
Mon	July 9	Neurons & Neurophysiology	2
Wed	July 11	Neuroanatomy	3
Fri	July 13	Psychophysics; NTs & Psychopharm	4, 18
Mon	July 16	Catch up & Review	
Wed	July 18	Exam 1	1, 2, 3, 4, 18
Fri	July 20	Perception	6, 7
Mon	July 23	Motor System	8
Wed	July 25	Neurological Disorders	15
Fri	July 27	Sleep	9
Mon	July 30	Catch up & Review	
Wed	Aug 1	Exam 2	6, 7, 8, 15, 9
Fri	Aug 3	Learning & Memory	13
Mon	Aug 6	Reproductive Behavior	10
Wed	Aug 8	TBD	
Fri	Aug 10	TBD	
Mon	Aug 13	Catch up & Review	
Wed	Aug 15	Exam 3	all chapters