

**Biological Psychology (Psyc 3) HYBRID Course**  
**Saddleback College**  
**EXAMPLE SYLLABUS**  
**Ticket #XX**

Class Times and Room:  
XX

*Instructor:* Dr. Amira A. Rezec, PhD  
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*Voicemail:* 949-582-4407  
*Office hours:* To Be Announced

*Prerequisite:* Psyc 1

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the study of physiology and behavior. Topics covered will include neuroanatomy, brain development and plasticity, functioning of the nervous system, sensory systems, and the physiological basis of; movement, internal regulation, emotional behaviors, psychological disorders, reproductive behaviors, wake/sleep cycles, learning memory, and language.

Course Goals and Objectives: By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Identify the major cells of the nervous system and describe how they communicate.
- 2) Identify the major lobes and structures of the brain and describe their function and how they interact with one another.
- 3) Assess the advantages and disadvantages of several research techniques and methods of measurement in physiological psychology.
- 4) Describe the sensory receptors involved in the different senses and how they function to yield sensation and perception.
- 5) Demonstrate understanding of the physiological basis of several behaviors from low level behaviors such as movement, to high level behaviors such as thought and language.
- 6) Show understanding of various methods and topics in the area of physiological psychology in both oral discussion and writing.

Required Text: Kalat, James. *Biological Psychology* 9<sup>th</sup> edition (Thomson Wadsworth) with Blackboard Student Access Code. Sold in the bookstore, soft cover version.

## Course Requirements and Policies

*Attendance and Participation:* It is very important to attend lecture in this course, as lectures will involve demonstrations, classroom activities, films, and discussion of material not covered in the textbook. Students are expected to attend class regularly, as regular attendance will contribute to a better overall understanding of course material. Attendance will be taken daily at the end of class. A total of two absences will be excused without penalty. Every absence thereafter will result in a penalty of 5 points per absence, and students missing six class hours or more may be dropped from the course. Students are responsible for obtaining any and all information, handouts, etc. as they are provided in class or posted on the course Blackboard website if absent (see below). It is the student's responsibility to drop the course officially.

*ONLINE Discussions, Activities, and Quizzes:* To promote critical thinking and enrich the learning experience, Psyc 3 will include both structured classroom discussions and activities and ONLINE DISCUSSIONS. Students required to participate in both online and in class discussions and activities to earn course credit. Chapter quizzes will also be administered online and must be completed on time to earn full credit. See the Course Schedule document for assignments and due dates as well as the Blackboard Announcements page for your course.

### *Classroom Policies:*

1. Students are welcomed and *encouraged* to share their questions, ideas, and insights during class discussions and lecture. You are also expected to respect the values, beliefs, and rights of others in the classroom and to pay attention to whomever is speaking in class. **Any students involved in side-conversations unrelated to class discussion or in any other behavior that is potentially disruptive to other students' learning will be asked leave** the classroom and will be marked as absent for that day.
2. Arriving to class late is disruptive to the entire class, so please arrive on time. Should you be late, please enter the classroom quickly and quietly.
3. Please **PUT AWAY all cell phones** before class begins, and be sure they off.
4. Breaks will be taken during this class and class will resume promptly after breaks are over. It is the students' responsibility to return to the classroom at or before the end of the designated break time.
5. The classroom is meant to be a positive environment that promotes student learning. Students are expected to conduct themselves with respect for the right of all members of the college community to teach and learn in a safe and academically stimulating environment. Discourteous, inappropriate, or disruptive behavior of any type will not be tolerated and may result in the student being asked to leave the classroom for the day *and* the subsequent class meeting. Such behavior will result in the filing of an official Behavioral Conduct Report at Saddleback College. It may also constitute cause for the imposition of further disciplinary action as provided in the rules and regulations of the California Education Code (Section 66300).

Blackboard Website Usage: This internet-based system will be used to further enhance student learning, fulfill the distance education requirement of this hybrid course, and facilitate prompt feedback including grade posting. Go to the Saddleback College home page (<http://www.saddleback.edu>), click on the Student Services tab atop, Blackboard is the first link under this tab. Your username is your Saddleback College email address given to you at registration and your password is your email password. The default is the last four digits of your social security number followed by two zeros \*Note: Blackboard will be my only source of reaching you outside of class, therefore you will need to check you Saddleback college email through MySite on the Saddleback Home Page (button on lower left) and click on Web Email to access your mail or to change your option settings to have your email forwarded to another account if you prefer

*Exams:* There will be a total of three exams in this course. Each one will be worth 100 points. Each exam will cover the chapters and course lecture material described on the Course Schedule and will not be cumulative in nature. Exams will include both multiple choice and essay questions. Practice exam questions will be distributed in class before Exam 1 to familiarize students with the format of exams and potential short answer questions will be provided. In addition, students will be encouraged to email questions to the Instructor before scheduled in-class Review Sessions. Roughly 70% of exam questions will be based on material covered in lecture or lecture and the text and 30% based solely on material covered in the textbook.

*Written Assignmet::* In lieu of a full-length research paper for this course, students will be assigned to read either short chapters or articles from outside sources on various topics and turn in a written outline of the source material and present what they learned in a small group setting. Further details will be provided on the course website.

Missed Assignment/Exam Policy: **Students are expected to complete all assignments on time and to be present for all scheduled exams. Late assignments will not be accepted.** The only valid excuses for missing an exam or failing to turn an assignment in on time are illness or a death in the family (or prior approval by the Instructor). It is the student's responsibility to contact the Instructor within one week of missing an exam or assignment and provide written proof of their excuse (e.g., doctor's note). All excuses are subject to verification by the Instructor and a written make-up exam may be administered for missed exams.

### Grading Policy:

There are a total of 460 points available to be earned in this class.

Online Activities	= 80 points
Exams	= 300 points
Written assignment	= 50 points
In Class Participation	= 30 points

Final letter grades will be based on the percentage of total points earned in the class. The following scale will be used in assigning final letter grades:

90% - 100%	= A
80% - 89%	= B
70% - 79%	= C
60% - 69%	= D
≤ 59%	= F

### Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Academic dishonesty in the form of cheating on an exam or plagiarizing the written work of others is considered a *very* serious offense & will not be tolerated in this course. If a student is suspected of or caught cheating on any test or assignment, he/she will receive a grade of zero on that test or assignment and an Academic Dishonesty Report will be filed with the Dean's office to be retained on record. It is very important to avoid putting yourself in the position of even being *suspected* of cheating (e.g., looking at another student's exam or copying homework) or plagiarism (i.e., using another's words as if they were your own written words), as very serious consequences may result and remain on your student record.

### Student Services:

There are several student support services available to all students through Saddleback College. You are encouraged to take advantage of such resources including:

#### *Learning Assistance Program (LAP) Tutoring Center:*

The Learning Assistance Program offers free tutoring for Saddleback College students in most subject areas. The LAP is located in Library 114.

#### *Counseling:*

Counselors are available to assist students in the areas of academic advisement, career planning, and personal counseling. For an appointment or for information regarding the availability of drop-in counseling, call 582-4572.

*Special Services for Students with Disabilities:* This office can be reached at 582-4885.