

Psychology 3: Biological Psychology (Hybrid Course)

Saddleback College, XXX

Ticket # XXX

TimeXXX, LocationXXX

Instructor: Dr. Amira A. Rezec-Wegenek, Ph.D.

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Office: BGS 323

Voicemail: 949-582-4407 (email is the best way to reach me)

Office Hours: M/W 4-5:30pm online (via email) and Fri 12-2pm online and in office *by appt.*

Prerequisite: Psych 1

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the study of behavior from a biological perspective. Neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, psychopharmacology, and the biological systems and processes underlying behavior will be covered. Emphasis will be placed on brain mechanisms underlying behavior and their relation to issues in psychology.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Identify the major cells in 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) Distinguish the brain mechanisms and sensory receptors underlying the five major senses (vision, hearing, taste, smell, and touch).
- 5) Demonstrate understanding of 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:

Biological Psychology, 1st edition, by Stephen B. Klein and B. Michael Thorne

ISBN for regular text: 978071679921

ISBN for Saddleback Custom package: 1429225653

Note: The bookstore has a custom package for the textbook. The custom package includes the textbook plus a CD-Rom and a Study Guide. The custom package was less expensive than the (new) book by itself! However, the CD-Rom and Study Guide are NOT REQUIRED for the class (the bookstore “recommends” you buy the items, though they are not necessary!). If wish to purchase the book used without the add-ons, please feel free to do so.

Additional course materials: posted on Blackboard course Web site (see below)

Blackboard Course Requirement:

As this is a hybrid class, 9 hours of coursework will be found online in Blackboard. The 9 hours will include online videos, online quizzes, and online exams. Lecture notes for the class will also be posted on Blackboard, along with any additional resources such as study guides and Internet links.

Additionally, announcements will be posted on Blackboard, so please check there regularly. Directions on how to access Blackboard are included at the end of this syllabus.

Evaluation:

- **Exams (100 points each):** There are three exams in this course. Each exam will be an in-class test that will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Roughly 75% of exam questions will be based on material covered in lecture or lecture and the text, and 25% based solely on material covered in the textbook or the additional assigned materials on Blackboard.
- **Quizzes (60 pts total):** There are 7 quizzes worth 10 points each, but one quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester (either the one you missed or the lowest score, etc.). While you may use your book to complete the quiz, success is dependent on reading the material before you take the quiz. Quizzes will cover material from the required textbook reading.
- **Poster Assignment (40 pts):** In lieu of a full-length research paper for this course, students will be required to read a primary research article related to biological psychology. Students will analyze and critique the paper they read, create a visually appealing poster presenting the research, and share what they learned in a small group setting in class. Further details will be provided on Blackboard.

Grading

There are a total of 400 points in the class. Grades *may* be curved upward at the end of the semester and final grades will be assigned by the following criteria:

90% = 360 - 400 points = A

80% = 320 - 356 points = B

70% = 280 - 319 points = C

60% = 240 - 279 points = D

Below 269 points = F

Class policies:

- **Questions:** Please contact your instructor if you need help or have questions. I hold regular office hours and I respond to student email quickly. If you email me, PLEASE write your ticket number in the subject line, as well as your full name in the body of the email. I will respond to emails within 24 hours on weekdays. Emails sent Friday afternoon or over the weekend will be replied to Monday afternoon.
- **Attendance:** Come to class. Show up on time. You will learn best if you attend class and participate in class activities. If you are absent, copy notes from a classmate. Attendance will be recorded each class. As per district policy, students who miss more than 6 hours of lecture may be dropped from the class. Contact your instructor if there are any concerns regarding your ability to attend class.

- **Makeup exams and late assignments:** The instructor is under no obligation to accept late papers or give makeup examinations. To request a makeup exam or late paper assignment, you must submit a Late Paper or Exam form (found in Blackboard) along with **written documentation of a medical emergency, etc.** If approved, late papers and makeup exams will be subject to having 10% of points deducted for each day the item is late. Note: make up quizzes and exams are rarely approved.
- **Cheating:** If a student is suspected of cheating, the student will receive a 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 or plagiarism, as very serious consequences may result and remain on your student record.
- **Requests for re-grading:** Any re-grade requests for any exams or writing assignments must be submitted in writing to the instructor no later than one week after the graded exam or assignment is available for return.
- **Record keeping:** It is recommended that you take responsibility for keeping track of the weekly points you are accumulating. To this end, you should keep all of your exams and assignments given back to you and your scores posted on Blackboard, which both document the work you have done and the points you have received in the course.
- **Class conduct:** The classroom is meant to be a positive environment that promotes student learning. Students are expected to conduct themselves with respect of the right of all members of the college community to teach and learn in a safe and academically stimulating environment. There are appropriate and inappropriate times for discussion during class. Please be courteous to other students, so as not to disrupt their ability to learn (or my ability to teach). This rule applies to issues such as cell phones, laptops, side discussions, participation in class discussions, and more. Students who are disruptive will be asked to leave the class.
PLEASE DO NOT HAVE CELL PHONES OR iPhones VISIBLE OR TURNED ON DURING CLASS.
- **Students with disabilities:** Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. DSP&S is located in Room 113 of the Student Services Center (SCC) Building. The DSP&S phone number is (949) 582-4885.

Some Important dates:

Tuesday, 9/21: Last day to drop this class for a full refund

Thursday, 10/7: Last day to elect pass/no pass

Thursday, 10/7: Last day to drop without a "W" Grade

Thursday 11/11: Last day to drop with "W" grade

PSYC 3 Tentative Course Schedule, XXXX

Exam dates will not change, though the topic order may be shifted if necessary.

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Class Materials
1	Thu	9/16	Major Issues in Biological Psychology	Ch. 1
2	Thu	9/23	Finish Major Issues in Biological Psychology, Start Exploring the Nervous System	Ch. 1, Ch. 2
3	Thu	9/30	Finish Exploring the Nervous System, Development and Plasticity	Ch. 2, Ch. 3
4	Thu	10/7	Communication within the NS	Ch. 4
5	Thu	10/14	Review, Catch Up, Exam 1	
*5	Thu	10/14	Effects of Psychoactive Drugs	Ch. 5
6	Thu	10/21	Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia	Ch. 15
7	Thu	10/28	Vision	Ch. 6
8	Thu	11/4	Other Senses	Ch. 7
9	Thu	11/11	Review, Catch Up, Exam 2 Start Wakefulness and Sleep	Ch. 9
10	Thu	11/18	Finish Wakefulness and Sleep, Sexual Behaviors	Ch. 9, Ch. 11
11	Thu	11/25	No class: Thanksgiving Holiday	
12	Thu	12/2	Emotion and Stress (online module) Begin Learning and Memory	Ch. 12 for reference Ch. 14 selected pages TBA
13	Thu	12/9	Finish Learning and Memory, Presentation and Poster in class	
14	Thu	12/16	5:15-7:15 Exam 3 , same room	

DUE XXX

