

Biopsychology (PSY 304)

University of Oregon
Winter 2005

TTh 2:00 – 3:20; 110 Willamette

4 credits; CRN: 26222

Labs: Th 4:00 – 5:20; ~~104 Condon~~ 175 Lillis (CRN: 26223) ← Note new location!

F 12:00 – 1:20; ~~204 Villard~~ 142 Straub (CRN: 26224) ← Note new location!

F 2:00 – 3:20; 112 Esslinger (CRN: 27199)

Prerequisites: none

Instructor: Dr. Paul Dassonville
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Telephone: 346-4956
Office hours: MW 9:00 – 10:00, or by appt.

Teaching Asst.: Elizabeth Walter
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Office hours: TTh 10:00 – 11:00, or by appt.

General Course Description: In this course, we will examine our understanding of how human behavior (e.g., cognition, emotions, learning, perception, sleep, and even reproduction) is controlled by physiology (e.g., the brain, neurons, neurotransmitters, and hormones). We will also discuss how breakdowns in the physiology can lead to various types of diseases and mental disorders, such as schizophrenia, Alzheimer's and drug addictions. *In a nutshell, this course will help you better understand how a three-pound piece of meat makes us who we are.*

Required Text: *Foundations of Physiological Psychology (6th edition)* by Neil Carlson (please notify me immediately if you have difficulty obtaining the text from the bookstore). The publishers of this text also provide a companion web site (containing, among other things, multiple-choice questions for self-testing) at http://wps.ablongman.com/ab_carlson_fdns_6; however, note that since this site is run by the publisher and not me, I cannot vouch for the accuracy of the material presented there.

Course Website: The official course website is on Blackboard (<http://blackboard.uoregon.edu>, 200402.26222). Please notify the instructor if you have difficulty logging into the site. This site will provide supplemental information for the course (course outline, grades, copies of overheads, etc.).

Optional Text/Weblinks: As *optional* reading on the subject, try *Biological Psychology* by James Kalat or *Biopsychology* by John P.J. Pinel ([copies are on reserve in the Knight Library](#)). You can also get more neuroscience-related information at the following web sites:

<http://www.brainconnection.com>

<http://www.neuroguide.com>

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/introb.html>

<http://www.hhmi.org/senses>

http://ect.downstate.edu/courseware/neuro_atlas/

http://www.drugfreeamerica.org/Drug_Resource/

If you know of other web sites of interest, please pass them along to the instructor.

Course Format: The material in this course will be presented through a combination of assigned reading from the text, class lectures, and in-class videos, demonstrations and discussion. Lecture material and readings will have some overlap, but will not be replications of each other; some lecture material will not be covered in the readings and vice versa. You are expected to do the assigned reading *before* the corresponding lecture. Reading the material before the corresponding lectures will help your performance in two ways. First, discussions of the material during lecture will be more fruitful if you have at least a general understanding of the material beforehand, helping you to ultimately comprehend and retain the material. Second, questions drawn from the assigned readings will be included on the regularly scheduled quizzes, *even if they have not yet been discussed in lecture (see below)*.

Grading: Grading will be based on the combined scores from the lab (7.5%), quizzes (10%), two midterm exams (25% for Midterm #1, 27.5% for Midterm #2), and the final exam (30%). Letter grades will be determined as

follows: A (90 - 100% of total possible points), B (80 - 89%), C (70 - 79%), D (60 - 69%), F (0 - 60%). However, the instructor reserves the right to relax (but not stiffen) this criterion, depending on the actual distribution of grades.

Lab (7.5% of final grade): Lab scores will be determined by class participation (discussion, questions, etc.) and attendance, as well as the scores of any assigned lab assignments.

Quizzes (10%): Short quizzes will occasionally be given in the first 5 minutes of class. Although these quizzes are usually scheduled for Tuesdays, there may be a few exceptions (see the course outline, below). Quizzes will contain 3 multiple choice questions that pertain to the recently presented lecture material and the readings from the text. Questions will occasionally be drawn from readings that have been assigned but have not yet been discussed in lecture (even those due the day of the quiz); however, these questions will be of a more general nature and should be easily answered if you have read the material.

Of the eight quizzes, the two with the lowest scores will be dropped, with the average score of the remaining six yielding 10% of the final grade. No make-up quizzes will be offered; if you miss a quiz, that grade will be one of the two that will be dropped.

Exams (Midterm #1: 25%, Midterm #2: 27.5%, & Final: 30%): The midterm and final exams will be composed of multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank and short answer questions. The two midterm exams (but not the final exam) will also be retaken during the lab period immediately following the exam, with the total exam grade equal to an average of the original and retaken exams; if the retaken exam has a lower score than the original, only the original will be counted. The final exam will contain questions drawn from the entire course, but with a greater focus on material covered since Midterm #2. ***No make-up exams will be given without evidence of a valid excuse, and the final cannot be taken earlier or later than the time listed in the University final exam schedule - if you know in advance that you cannot take all exams at the appointed times (see the course schedule below), do not take this course!*** If unforeseen circumstances during the term prevent you from taking an exam, notify the instructor immediately.

Extra Credit: Students interested in an extra credit assignment can serve as subjects in the Psychology Human Subjects Pool. The Human Subjects Pool is designed to provide students the opportunity to see first hand how psychology experiments are performed; at the same time, you'll be providing data that will help a researcher learn how the brain works. If you decide to participate, you will earn 1 point of extra credit toward your *final grade in the course* for each hour you serve as a subject, up to a maximum of 3 points. For example, 3 hours of credit would increase a final grade of 79 up to an 82, giving you a B- for the course instead of a C+.

To participate, follow the guidelines for the Human Subject Pool posted at <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~hscoord/handout.html>. (Additional information can be found at <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~hscoord/>.) Since it is impossible to predict the number of experiments that will be available on any given week, I suggest that you *do not wait until the last week of the term before participating*. It is unlikely that any experiments will be available during finals week.

Note that it is your responsibility to faithfully follow the rules of Human Subject Pool, as described at <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~hscoord/handout.html>. At the end of the term, I will receive a list of students who have received penalties for deviating from these rules (for example, arriving late - or not at all - for an experiment you have signed up for, or crossing off your name from a signup sheet rather than covering it with the provided paper strips so that someone else can sign up in your place). If your name is on this penalty list, all of the extra credit you earned will be forfeited.

If you have any questions or comments about this extra credit assignment, do not hesitate to contact the instructor at prd@darkwing.uoregon.edu.

Academic Honesty: All work submitted in this course must be your own. For the consequences of academic dishonesty, refer to the Schedule of Classes published quarterly. Violations will be taken seriously and are noted on student disciplinary records. If you are in doubt regarding any aspect of these issues as they pertain to this course, please consult with the instructor before you complete any relevant requirements of the course. (Text adopted here as recommended from the UO web site regarding academic honesty at: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~conduct/>).

Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please make arrangements to meet with the instructor as soon as possible. Also, please request that the Counselor for Students with Disabilities (Hillary Gerdes, hgerdes@oregon.uoregon.edu, Phone 346-3211, TTY 346-

1083) send a letter verifying your disability.

Students for whom English is a Second Language: If you are a non-native English speaker and think you may have trouble in this course due of language difficulties, please see the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary special arrangements.

Course Outline: This is only a working draft of the course outline; it will be revised as the quarter progresses. Additional readings may be added. Dates on which particular topics are to be presented in lecture are subject to change, as are reading assignment due dates; however, I will not change the dates of quizzes or exams unless absolutely necessary. The official updated version of the outline will reside on the Blackboard web site. Updated print versions can also be obtained from the instructor or teaching assistant during normal office hours.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignments</u>	<u>Exams/Quizzes</u>
1	Jan. 4	Overview of Biopsychology	Chapter 1	Quiz #1
	Jan. 6	Neuronal structure & function	Chapter 2	
2	Jan. 11	Neuroanatomy	Chapter 3	Quiz #2
	Jan. 13	Psychopharmacology	Chapter 4	
3	Jan. 18			Quiz #3
	Jan. 20	Neuroscience methods	Chapter 5	
4	Jan. 25	Midterm Exam #1 (Chapters 1–4)		Midterm #1
	Jan. 27	Vision	Chapter 6	
5	Feb. 1			Quiz #4
	Feb. 3	Other senses	Chapter 7	
6	Feb. 8	Sleep & biological rhythms	Chapter 8	Quiz #5
	Feb. 10			
7	Feb. 15	Reproductive behavior	Chapter 9	Quiz #6
	Feb. 17	Emotion	Chapter 10	
8	Feb. 22	Midterm Exam #2 (Chapters 5–9)		Midterm #2
	Feb. 24	Learning and memory	Chapter 12	
9	Mar. 1	Neurological disorders	Chapter 14	Quiz #7
	Mar. 3	Schizophrenia, affective disorders & anxiety	Chapter 15	
10	Mar. 8	Autism, stress & drug abuse	Chapter 16	Quiz #8
	Mar. 10			
11	Tuesday, Mar. 15, 1:00 pm	Final Exam – Will concentrate on Chapters 10, 12, 14, 15 and 16, but will also be somewhat comprehensive		Final