

PSYCHOLOGY 262
PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY
Spring 2011
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 2:00-3:15 P.M.

Instructor: Dr. Mitchell Roitman
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Required text: Biopsychology, 8th edition, John P.J. Pinel

Website: <http://blackboard.uic.edu>

Physiological psychology is the study of behavior and its biological underpinnings. During this semester you will learn about how behavior is generated in response to events in the world around us. You will gain a significant understanding of the nervous system, how it is organized and how it works. We will cover how our bodies are built to receive information from the senses and turn that information into plans to move our bodies to react to those sensations. We will also cover how the endocrine system, which releases hormones, interacts with the nervous system and influences behavior. Finally, we will consider a biological basis for higher order function (e.g. learning and memory) as well as psychological disorders such as schizophrenia and drug addiction.

Tentative Class Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	1/11	Introduction	Chapt. 1
PART I: FOUNDATIONS OF PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY			
	1/13	Nervous system overview	Chapt 3
2	1/18	Anatomy and development of the nervous system	Chapt. 3; Chapt 9, pages 220-222
	1/20	Neural transduction	Chapt 4; pages 76-85
3	1/25	Neural transduction	
	1/27	NO CLASS	
4	2/01	Neural transduction/Chemical signaling	Chapt 4; pages 86-91
	2/03	Chemical signaling – II	Chapt 4; pages 92-99
5	2/08	Evolution and genetics	Chapt 2
	2/10	Exam I	
PART II: SENSING AND DOING – INTERACTING WITH THE EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT			
6	2/15	Sensory systems: visual system	Chapt 6
	2/17	Sensory systems: vision and audition	Chapt 7; pages 165-174
7	2/22	Sensory systems: touch, taste and smell	Chapt 7; pages 174-187
	2/24	Motor systems: spinal reflexes	Chapt 8
8	3/01	Motor systems: sensorimotor integration	Chapt 8
	3/03	EXAM II	
PART III: HORMONES, HOMEOSTATISIS AND BRAIN-BODY INTERACTIONS			
9	3/08	Hormones and behavior: neuroendocrine system	Chapt 13; pages 328- 333
	3/10	Hormones and behavior: sexual behavior	Chapt 13
10	3/15	Hormones and behavior: eating and drinking	Chapt 12
	3/17	Emotion and Stress	Chapt 17
	3/22	NO CLASS – Spring Break	
	3/24	NO CLASS – Spring Break	
11	3/29	Sleep and dreaming	Chapt 14

	3/31	Sleep and dreaming	
12	4/05	Exam III	
PART IV: HIGHER ORDER FUNCTION AND MALFUNCTION			
	4/07	Language and lateralization	Chapt 16
13	4/12	Learning and memory	Chapt 11
	4/14	Learning and memory	Chapt 11
14	4/19	Psychological disorders: drug addiction	Chapt 15
	4/21	Psychological disorders	Chapt 18
15	*4/26*	Psychological disorders	Chapt 18
	4/28	Psychological disorders	

* Day in the life of your brain paper is due

Policies

All exams will be given during the designated date and time stated above (the final exam time will be posted later in the semester). Therefore, there will be **no make-up exams** except for the most serious of documented circumstances. There will be 3 exams each worth 50 points and a final exam worth 75 points. A 3 page paper entitled "A day in the life of my brain" will be due on 4/26 and is worth 25 points.

There will be no opportunities for extra credit.
ALL exams will be used to calculate your final grade.

Accommodations are available for students who have disabilities. Please notify me or the TAs during the first week of class of any accommodation needed for the course. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access and participation in this course must be registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). Please contact ODS at 312-413-2183 (voice) or 312-413-0123 (TTY).

It is my hope that each student learns the material and succeeds. Cheating will not be tolerated. Evidence of cheating on any exam will result in that exam's disqualification and a 0 being entered as that exam's result.

You will be tested on lecture material and information from the textbook. Lectures will not be a regurgitation of what is in the text book. The lectures will only highlight some of the information covered in the text while going into greater detail on other topics. To succeed in this class - and I want you to succeed - you should attend the lectures and read the assigned material. If you do poorly on an exam, you should visit with the T.A. or me. Until exams are graded I cannot give grade-point cutoffs.

Good luck and enjoy!!!!