

PSYCHOLOGY 262
Behavioral Neuroscience

Fall 2016
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 2:00PM – 3:15PM
Lecture Center Building D D004
804 South Halsted Street

Instructors:

Michael Ragozzino, PhD

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Office Hours: Tuesday 3:15 – 4:15 or by appointment

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Teaching Assistant:

Vienna Behnke

Office: 1051 BSB

Office Hours: Thursday 1-2 pm

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Required text: Biopsychology, 9th edition, John P.J. Pinel

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

Behavioral Neuroscience merges the field of neuroscience – the study of the nervous system – with the field of psychology – the scientific study of behavior. In this way, behavioral neuroscience is the subdivision of the field of neuroscience that focuses on the neurobiological basis of behavior. In this course you will gain an understanding of the biological basis of behavior from basic sensory processes such as vision and touch to more complex brain-based disorders such as drug addiction and Alzheimer's disease. You will gain a significant understanding of the organization and function of the nervous system, and will learn what methods are used to understand the neurobiological basis of behavior. The ultimate goal of the course is to further your understanding of the neural basis of behavior and develop your critical thinking skills so that you expand your knowledge base about brain and behavior during the rest of your academic career and achieve a new understanding about your behavior and the behavior of others from a neurobiological perspective.

Tentative Class Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	8/23	Introduction to Class and Behavioral Neuroscience	Chpt 1

PART I: FOUNDATIONS OF BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE

	8/25	Evolution, Genetics, and Experience	Chpt 2
2	8/30	Anatomy of the nervous system	Chpt 3
	9/1	Anatomy of the nervous system	Chpt 3
3	9/6	Neural conduction and synaptic transmission	Chpt 4
	9/8	Neural conduction and synaptic transmission	Chpt 4
4	9/13	Neural conduction and synaptic transmission	Chpt 4
	9/15	Research Methods in Biopsychology	Chpt 5
5	9/20	Exam 1	

PART II: SENSING AND DOING – INTERACTING WITH THE EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT

	9/22	Sensory systems: visual system	Chpt 6
6	9/27	Sensory systems: visual system	Chpt 6
	9/29	Sensory systems: somatosensory	Chpt 7
7	10/4	Sensory systems: audition, gustation, olfaction	Chpt 7
	10/6	Sensory systems: audition, gustation, olfaction	Chpt 7
8	10/11	Sensorimotor system	Chpt 8
	10/13	Sensorimotor systems	Chpt 8
9	10/18	Exam II	

PART III: NEUROPLASTICITY, LEARNING, AND HORMONES

	10/20	Neurodevelopment	Chpt 10
10	10/25	Neurodevelopment	Chpt 10
	10/27	Learning, memory and amnesia	Chpt 11
11	11/1	Learning, memory and amnesia	Chpt 11
	11/3	Hormones and Sex	Chpt 13
12	11/8	Hormones and Sex	Chpt 13
	11/10	Sleep and Dreaming	Chpt 14
13	11/15	No Class: Brain Awareness Day	
	11/17	Exam III	
14	11/22	Psychiatric disorders (Schizophrenia, Tourettes, Drug Trials) <i>Biopsychology in the Media Paper Due</i>	Chpt 18
	11/24	No Class: Thanksgiving	

15	11/29 12/1	Psychiatric disorders (Schizophrenia, Tourettes, Drug Trials) Anxiety and Depression	Chpt 18 Chpt 18
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11/22 Biopsychology in the Media Paper Due
 12/1 Instruction Ends
12/5 Final Exam 1-3 pm

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. The final exam will emphasize class material from the lectures and readings after Exam III but will also include material from prior lectures and readings. A 3-page paper entitled "Biopsychology in the Media" will be due on 11/22 and is worth 25 points. There will be in-class assignments throughout the semester that are worth 3 points each.

There will be no opportunities for extra credit.

ALL exams will be used to calculate your final grade.

The 3-page paper must be turned in through SafeAssign on Blackboard by the beginning of the class session (2:00 pm) on 11/22 to receive full credit. The total score on the paper will be reduced by 10% for each day the assignment is late.

It is our 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. The lectures will highlight only some of the information covered in the text while going into greater detail on other topics and introducing new topics. To succeed in this class - and we 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 TA or the instructor. Until exams are graded we cannot give grade-point cutoffs.

Accommodations are available for students who have disabilities. Please notify the TA or the instructor 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).

Good luck and happy learning!!!!