

BRAIN & BEHAVIOR

Psychology 4510
Spring Semester 2012

Instructor: Dr. Lynn White
TTH 4:00-5:15 GC 311
Pre-requisites: PSY 1010

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Office hours: MWF 10:00-12:00

Course Description & Objectives

The intent of this course is to familiarize you with the basic theoretical foundations and applications of a field which seeks to understand the biological basis of behavior, and the reciprocal interactions between the two. We will learn about the methods and tools used by biopsychologists, and the information these have yielded. Although the field has some limits as far as understanding behavior is concerned, it is also a field in which remarkable discoveries have been made - and will continue to be made as long as there are students with curious minds!

The first part of the course will cover the basics... neuroanatomy, neurotransmission, and brain/behavior tools and techniques. This will be followed by 5 weeks of labs. **No lectures will be held during this time.** For the final weeks, we will return to the classroom to discuss chapters/topics that students expressed an interest in at the beginning of the course. We will cover as many of these topics as time will allow.

Although not required, I hope that you will choose to take PSY4511, the Brain and Behavior Lab, which will be held on the following dates: Feb. 16, 23, March 1, 8, and 22. The labs are intended to give you a more “hands-on” perspective, and will help consolidate much of what you’ve learned in the lectures. Even if you are against animal research, you owe it to yourself to become more informed of that which you are against. I respect people’s views and opinions when they are *informed* views and opinions.

Text

Garrett, B. (2008). *Brain and Behavior: An Introduction to Biopsychology*, 3rd ed. California: Sage Publications.

ISBN-13: 978-1412981682



Tentative Course Schedule

Course Intro & Chapter 1: What is biopsychology?
Chapter 2: Communication within the nervous system
Progress Test 1; human lab part 1 Biofeedback
Chapter 3: The Functions of the Nervous System
Chapter 4: The Methods and Ethics of Research
Progress Test 2; human lab part 2 lie detection

***** labs → no classes for 5 weeks *****

Selected Topic #1
Selected Topic #2
Selected Topic #3
Progress Test 3

Human Lab Assignment **Due date TBA** (late assignments may be penalized)

Working alone or with one other classmate, use one or more of the following measures of ANS/SNS activity to conduct a project of your own: heart rate, skin temp., or electrodermal activity. You will be required to submit a 4-5 page report describing: a brief intro. (include references and be careful not to plagiarize), your hypothesis and its rationale, the experimental design, results (include descriptive/summary statistics, graph(s)) & discussion. You may collect data on yourself and/or a number of *willing* friends.

The report must be typed in 12 pt font. The 4-5 pages do not include a title page, the graph(s), or the reference list.

Some examples of hypotheses include:

- a) Does ANS activity depend on what type of music you listen to (classical vs. rock)?
- b) Is the aroma from a floral candle more relaxing than that from a food-flavored candle?
- c) Do changes in ANS activity depend on whether a hot or cold caffeine-free beverage is consumed?
- d) Do men and women respond differently to a video of a crying infant?

You **must** run your project idea by me first. You will also need to reserve the equipment and see me for training.

Chapter Assignments

Prior to covering each chapter in class, you will receive a list of short answer/fill in the blank questions. These are to be completed as homework on your own. Sharing and/or discussing answers before submitting them will be considered cheating and will result in disciplinary action. Each assignment is due at the beginning of class when the chapter is discussed. Please e-mail me your assignments. Make sure your name and assignment number are part of the file name (e.g. John Doe_Assignment_1.doc). Please send the file in .doc or .docx format. When graded, they will be returned to you via e-mail. Late assignments may be penalized.

Online Chapter Quizzes

Once we complete a chapter in class, or once you finish reading the chapter (whichever comes first), you will need to complete an online quiz on the material. To take each quiz, go to <http://www.sagepub.com/garrett3e/study/chapter.htm>. Click on the chapter, then the quiz link. Once you've answered all the questions, click on submit for your score. Then click on the envelope icon at the top of the page to e-mail me your results.

Progress Tests

All progress tests will be multiple choice (MC) format. Please note that you are responsible for the material presented in class as well as in the textbook. On each test, approximately 75% of the questions will come from the chapter assignment questions (converted to MC format). The remaining 25% will be copied directly from the MC quiz questions printed at the end of each chapter covered. **Tests may not be taken early**, but may be written within 3 days* of the missed test (note: a 1-3 point penalty may apply). Exceptions to this rule will be considered on a case by case basis.

Each test will be administered by SUU's testing center in the basement of the ELC building. Please visit their website for hours of operation and their testing "rules": <http://www.suu.edu/ss/acdc/testing-center.html>. You will always have at least two consecutive week days to take a test.

Attendance

Attendance of regular classroom lectures is not required but **strongly recommended**. Students who do not attend class on a regular basis should not expect to do well in the course.

Grading

3 Progress Tests	120 points	A	185-200	C	145-152
Online quizzes	10 points	A-	179-184	C-	139-144
Human Lab Assignment	30 points	B+	173-178	D+	133-138
chapter assignments	40 points	B	165-172	D	125-132
		B-	159-164	D-	119-124
		C+	153-158	Fail	00-118
Total	200 points				

Extra Credit

You can increase your final grade in the class by up to 5%.... how? There will be opportunities for you to participate in research and attend our department's research presentations at the annual student-faculty scholarship day on April 17th, 4:00-6:00 p.m. The exact amount of credit/activity will be announced later.

Academic Integrity

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. You are expected to have read and understood the current issue of the student handbook (published by student services) regarding student responsibilities and rights, and the intellectual property policy, for information about procedures and about what constitutes acceptable on-campus behavior. Specific examples of cheating in this course include looking at or inquiring about someone else's test or online quiz answers, attempting to find out what was on a missed test from someone who already took it, copying another student's lab or chapter assignment (entirely or in part), improperly referencing works used in a paper, failing to reference a source used in a paper, fabricating or falsifying data, and having someone else complete an assignment for you (in whole or in part).

Disclaimer

Information contained in this syllabus, other than the grading, late assignments, makeup work, and attendance policies, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Clerical errors can sometimes occur. ALWAYS keep an extra copy of any assignment you turn in as a back-up. Keep all graded materials returned to you until you have seen and agree with your final grade in the course.

Now let's have fun!!



STATEMENTS REQUIRED IN COURSE SYLLABI

[Per SUU Policy 6.36](#)

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ADA STATEMENT: Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring academic adjustments, accommodations or auxiliary aids will need to contact the Southern Utah University Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD), in Room 206F of the Sharwan Smith Center or phone (435) 865-8022. SSD determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of services.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STATEMENT: In case of emergency, the University's Emergency Notification System (ENS) will be activated. Students are encouraged to maintain updated contact information using the link on the homepage of the *mySUU* portal. In addition, students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Emergency Response Protocols posted in each classroom. Detailed information about the University's emergency management plan can be found at <http://www.suu.edu/emergency>

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