

Psychology 313
Introduction to Psychobiology
Autumn 2006

Instructor: Delwin Lindsey, PhD.

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Office hours: M and W, 2:00-3:00 PM, by appointment; otherwise, if available

Textbook : Pinel, J. P. J. *Biopsychology (Sixth Edition)*

Location and Time: Ovalwood 253, M and W, 5:30 – 7:45 PM.

Course Description

We will examine a number of basic topics in the area of biopsychology: What biopsychology is and what kinds of explanations of behavior it is capable of providing, Fundamental principles of molecular biology, Basic nervous system anatomy and physiology, Neuronal conduction and synaptic transmission, Research methods in biopsychology, Anatomy, Basic processes and theories of regulation of food intake, Sleep, dreaming and circadian rhythms, Brain Damage and Neuroplasticity, Lateralization+ Localization, and introduction to Neuropsychological Disorders. Discussion of important historical, conceptual, and empirical developments in the above-mentioned areas of biopsychology will be based not only upon material found in the required text, but also upon material from many other sources introduced in lecture by the instructor.

Evaluation:

Three take-home exams. Exams will consist of a combination of topical questions or problems requiring in-depth analysis, short answer questions, and item matching exercises. They will be based on material from textbook lectures, and selected websites. No exam will be comprehensive. Exam dates are indicated on the attached schedule. Each exam is worth a maximum of 100 points. Your final grade (A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D, E) will be determined by adding together point totals for your 3 exam.

Attendance:

Attendance is your responsibility. However, please keep in mind that much of the material on which you will be tested is not to be found explicitly in your textbook.

In Case of Class Cancellation:

In the event that a class is cancelled due to bad weather or other unforeseen circumstance, students are still responsible for all assigned work the next time that class meets.

Grading:

Your final grade for this course grades (A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, E) will be determined by adding together your 3 exam scores. A total of 300 points are possible (100 per exam).

Academic Misconduct

Instances of academic misconduct will be handled in accordance with faculty rule 335-5-54, which states that “each instructor shall report to the Committee on Academic Misconduct all instances of what he or she believes may be academic misconduct.” Information on what constitutes academic misconduct can be obtained from the instructor.

List of Readings

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>
0 (Sep 20)	Overview	Chapter 1
1 (Sep 25)	Evolution, Genetics	Chapter 2
2 (Oct 2)	Evolution, Genetics Anatomy	Chapter 3
3 (Oct 9)	Neuronal Conduction	Chapter 4
4 (Oct 16)	Neuronal Conduction	
5 (Oct 23)	Methods Midterm # 1	Chapter 5
6 (Oct 30)	Sleep and Dreaming	Chapter 14
7 (Nov 6)	Biopsychology of Eating	Chapter 12
8 (Nov 13)	Biopsychology of psychiatric disorders Midterm #2	Chapter 18
9 (Nov 20)	Brain Damage and Neuroplasticity	Chapter 10
10 (Nov 27)	Lateralization, Language	Chapter 16

Final Exam Date: To be announced

This syllabus is subject to minor revisions. If such revisions take place, they will be announced in class. If you are not in attendance when the announcements are made, it is your responsibility to find out about the revisions either from the instructor or from your classmates.