

SEP 14 2000

PSYCHOLOGY 2750 - Section A2
BRAIN AND BEHAVIOUR
Grande Prairie Regional College
Fall 2000

Instructor: Cheryl Bereziuk
Office Number: C205
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Office Hours: TBA or by appointment
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Class Time: TBA
Room Number: TBA

Texts:

1. Biopsychology (4th Edition) by John P. Pinel (Required)
2. Study guide for Pinel's Biopsychology (4th Edition) by Michael J. Mana and John P. Pinel (Optional)

Course Content: This course will begin with a review of neuroanatomy, neurochemistry, methods of investigation and theoretical issues in biological psychology. This course will then review the role of the central nervous system in: sensation, movement, sleep, language, sexual behavior, learning, memory, and mental illness. The central nervous system of both humans and animals will be discussed.

Course Objectives: This course is an extensive review of the area of biological psychology. Students will gain an appreciation of the role the central nervous system plays in the control of physiological systems, psychological processes and behaviors. Students will also develop critical and analytical thinking skills.

Requirements: Evaluations will be based on three exams and a paper as follows:

Exam #1	25%	October 5	Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4
Exam #2	25%	November 2	Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Paper	25%	November 16	
Final Exam	25%	TBA	Chapters 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17

Please note that the exam dates listed on this handout are tentative and are subject to change. For the final exam students must be available between December 11 and December 20. The date and time of the final exam will be announced by the Student Services Office. This information is also subject to change so students should continue checking the posted schedules as they are updated.

Exams will consist of written questions such as short answer, paragraph, essay questions and, only occasionally, multiple choice questions. Several choices will be given for the essays and they will be fairly short (ie. 1 to 2 pages in length). If an exam is missed because of a serious reason, such as illness, proof must be provided to the instructor (ie. a note from your physician) before a makeup exam can be arranged. If you realize you cannot attend a scheduled exam please notify the instructor as soon as possible. If you are unable to write the final exam at the scheduled time you should notify the instructor and submit an application to Student Services for permission to write a deferred exam.

Please bear in mind that exam marks are final. This means you cannot rewrite an exam because of a poor grade and there are NO written or extra assignments you can do to make up for a poor exam grade.

Cheating on an exam or any other form of academic misconduct is taken very seriously and is punishable in a variety of ways. For more information on the penalties that can be imposed please see page 33 of the college calendar.

The paper must cover an issue within the scope of Biological Psychology. Please meet with the instructor regarding your topic BEFORE you begin writing. The paper should be approximately 10 pages in length (double-spaced), must be typed, stapled (not in duotang cover) and written in APA format (4th edition). Papers should include at least a couple of recent journal articles. Spelling, grammar and sentence structure will also be graded. I will review APA format in class for those not familiar with it and provide you with a handout on APA style. There will also be a library session to show you how to use the PsychLIT system for finding relevant articles and books for the paper. Papers submitted after the due date will receive 5% of its grade removed for each day it is late. Plagiarism will be treated with the same severity as cheating on examinations.

Please be advised that a lack of planning on your part will not constitute an emergency on the instructor's part. For example, leaving all work on the paper to the last minute and then having a crisis arise will not get you an extension. Be aware that you may be asked to provide evidence of prior work.

Because lectures will not always cover the assigned readings your attendance is expected at all lectures including the sheep brain dissection lab. Learning is an active process that will take effort on your part and so you will be expected to read in advance of class lectures, participate in activities and discussions in the classroom and communicate with the instructor when you encounter difficulties with course material. The instructor does NOT lend out lecture notes. Students are responsible for assigned textbook chapters as well as material covered in lectures.

It is expected that all students will display a professional attitude and behavior in the classroom. This includes reliability, respect for and cooperation with your fellow students, attention to fellow students questions and the instructors response, determination to achieve first-class work while meeting deadlines, and constructive response to criticism. Students unable to meet these expectations will be asked to leave the classroom in the interest of preserving the learning opportunities of other students.

NOTE: Any changes to the course outline will be made in consultation with the students during class time. Should you not be present in class when such a consultation is made it is your responsibility to acquire the changed information.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

SEPTEMBER 7 – OCTOBER 3

Biopsychology as a Neuroscience
Evolution, Genetics and Experience
Anatomy of the Nervous System
Neural conduction and synaptic transmission

Chapters: 1, 2, 3, 4

OCTOBER 10 – OCTOBER 31

Research methods
Human brain damage and animal models
Visual system
Perception
Sensorimotor system

Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

NOVEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 7

Hormones and sex
Sleep, dreaming, and circadian rhythms
Memory and amnesia
Neuroplasticity
Lateralization, language and the split brain
Biopsychology of mental illness

Chapters: 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17

Grade Schedule:

9	90 – 100
8	80 – 89
7	72 – 79
6	65 – 71
5	57 – 64
4	50 – 56
3	45 – 49
2	26 – 44
1	0 – 25