

PSYCHOLOGY 2750 (Section A2)  
BRAIN AND BEHAVIOUR  
Grande Prairie Regional College  
Lecture 3 (3-0-0)  
UT to all Alberta Universities  
Fall 2001

SEP. 07 2001

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Required Textbook: Biopsychology (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) by John P. Pinel

Optional Textbook: Study guide for Pinel's Biopsychology (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) by Michael J. Mana and John P. Pinel

Prerequisites: Biology 30 or equivalent and PY 1040

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, a paper and two assignments as follows:

Library Assignment	5%	September 24	
Lab Assignment	5%	October 1	
Exam #1	25%	October 3	Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4
Exam #2	25%	November 5	Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Paper	15%	November 14	
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 10 and December 19. 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 and paragraph questions and, only occasionally, multiple choice questions. Exams are not comprehensive. Normally requests to write a missed exam or a deferred exam will not be granted except under the most extreme of circumstances and then evidence must be provided to the instructor before a makeup exam can be arranged. Thus, students should ensure they will be available to write the scheduled exams.

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 38 of the college calendar.

The library assignment will be done individually following a library tour and information session on September 17 to show you how to use the PSYCH INFO system for finding relevant articles and books for the paper.

The lab assignment will be done individually following a sheep brain dissection lab on September 26.

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 no more than 7 pages in length (typed and double-spaced). These seven pages would include a title page, abstract page and reference page with no more than four pages of written text. Papers must be stapled (not in duotang or other fancy cover) and written in APA format (4<sup>th</sup> edition). Papers generally should consist of at least five recent references (generally peer reviewed journal articles or book chapters) on a particular topic and your paper should strive to integrate and review the information in those references. You must also include after the reference page a photocopy of the first or title page of each reference you use in the paper. Sources not accompanied by a photocopy will be considered to be plagiarized. 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. Plagiarism will be treated with the same severity as cheating on examinations.

All assignments and the paper are due at the beginning of class on the due date assigned. Assignments and papers handed in after this time will receive 10% of its grade removed for each day it is late including weekend days.

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 but like with exams extensions will rarely be granted.

Because lectures will not always cover the assigned readings your attendance is expected at all lectures including the sheep brain dissection lab and library session. 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 student's questions and the instructor's 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 5 – 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  
Assignments: Library and Lab assignments

##### OCTOBER 8 – NOVEMBER 5

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

Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

##### NOVEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 5

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  
Assignment: Paper