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PSYX 250N.01: Fundamentals of Biological Psychology

Stuart Hall

University of Montana - Missoula

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PSYX 250 - FUNDAMENTALS OF BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Instructor: Stuart Hall, Ph.D.
Text: Kalat, James W. (2013) *Biological Psychology - 11th ed. eBook*
Meeting Times: TR 11:10-12:30; SS 352
Office Hours: Tuesday: 12:30-2, Wednesday: 1:30-3, and by appointment; Skaggs 207

Important Dates: • November 13 (46th instructional day), last day to add or drop a class without a petition. See assignment schedule below.
• Nov 27-29-Thanksgiving Holiday
• Other important information will be announced in class.

General Information

This class will be conducted according to University policies (e.g., incompletes, disability accommodations) and the Student Conduct Code.

Academic Honesty

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at: http://life.umt.edu/yvsa/student_conduct.php

Accommodating Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability who will require reasonable program modifications in this course, please meet with Disability Services for Students in Lommasson 154 for assistance in developing a plan to address program modifications. If you are already working with Disability Services arrange to meet with me during my office hours to discuss reasonable modifications that may be necessary. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at <http://www.umt.edu/disability>.

Goals & Objectives

- 1) Learn the different cells that compose the central nervous system (CNS).
- 2) Understand how electrical and chemical events cause neurons to influence the activity of one another.
- 3) Learn the basic anatomy of the CNS
- 4) Gain familiarity with some techniques to study the CNS.
- 5) Learn the anatomy and physiology of the sensory and motor systems.
- 6) Gain familiarity with the anatomy and physiology of complex behaviors such as sleep, anxiety, reinforcement, memory and language.

Tests/Grades

Grades will be based on the 3 best test scores (equally weighted). Each test will be worth 50 points; therefore, the final grade will be based on a possible total of 150 points (150-135 points=A, 134-120 points=B, 119-105 points=C, 104-90 points=D, 89 points and below=F). Test 1 covers section 1 lectures and chapters 2, 3 & 4. Test 2 covers section 2 lectures and chapters 6, 7, & 8. Test 3 covers section 3 lectures and chapters 9, 12, 13, & 14. Test 4 is an optional comprehensive final exam. The format for all tests will be 50 multiple-choice questions. A plus/minus grading system will not be used.

Makeup Policy

The final exam is optional; grades are based on the 3 best scores. If you have to miss a scheduled exam, the final will serve as the make-up for the missed test. The final can also be used to substitute for a score on an earlier exam.

Lectures and Reading Assignments

You will be responsible for all information from the lectures as well as the text--including material in the reading assignments not covered in class. Regular attendance is critical. Please be sure to keep up with your reading and attend lectures. Important announcements will be made throughout classes.

PSYX 250 FALL 2013 CLASS SCHEDULE

Section 1

Reading: Chapters 2, 3 & 4
Topics: Neurons & Glia, Resting Potential, Action Potential, Synaptic Transmission, Drugs, Neuroanatomy, Research Methods

TEST 1 October 1

Section 2

Reading: Chapters 6, 7 (modules 7.1 and 7.2) & 8
Topics: Visual System, Auditory System, Somatosensory System, Movement

TEST 2 October 29

Section 3

Reading: Chapters 9, 12, 13 & 14
Topics: Sleep, Reinforcement, Anxiety & Aggression, Learning & Memory, Lateralization of Function, Language

TEST 3 December 5

FINAL EXAM: December 9 10:10-12:10