

1-2014

PSYX 250N.01: Fundamentals of Biological Psychology

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PSYX 250N: Fundamentals of Biological Psychology
Spring 2014 (Jan. 27- May 09)
MWF: 12:10-1:00 PM
CHEM 123

Instructor: Erin Yosai, M.S.

Email: erin.yosai@umontana.edu

Office: Skaggs 365

Office Hours: TBA; by appointment

Required Text

Kalat, James W. (2013). Biological psychology, 11th Edition. Wadsworth: Belmont, CA.

Goals and Objectives

- Learn the structure and function of the different cells that compose the central nervous system (CNS)
- Understand how electrical and chemical events cause neurons to influence the activity of one another
- Learn the basic anatomy of the CNS
- Learn the anatomy and physiology of the sensory and motor systems
- Gain familiarity with the anatomy and physiology of complex behaviors such as sleep, emotion, reinforcement, memory and language

Course Format and Requirements

- **Prerequisite:** Prior to taking this class, you are expected to have taken and passed Psychology 100 (Introduction to Psychology).
- **Class Attendance and Reading:** Biological psychology is generally considered to be a **challenging** course. We will be moving very quickly through each chapter; falling behind on attendance or readings is not recommended.
- **Exams**
 1. There will be 3 exams during this course (50 points each). Exams will be based on material in the book and material covered in class.
 2. Test #4 is an optional comprehensive final exam. The final can be used to substitute for a score on an earlier exam.
 3. Each exam will have a total of 50 questions (multiple choice and matching). You will need a scantron (for psychology) for each exam. These are available at the Think Tank, the University Bookstore, or the University Market.

4. **Make-up exams** are NOT permitted unless a doctor's note for illness or some other *formal* documentation for an emergency is provided. Additionally, you must contact me via email **prior** to the exam to notify me that you will miss the exam. No exceptions to this rule will be permitted!!!
- **Class participation:** 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.
 1. I will be taking attendance on random lecture days throughout the semester. I will randomly take attendance seven times. Each time you are present, you will receive 5 points. As a result, attendance worth roughly 20% of your total grade.
 - **Grading Breakdown:**

Attendance	(7*5= 35 points)	35 points
3 Exams	(50 points each)	150 points
		185 points

Grading Scale	
<u>Grade</u>	<u>Points</u>
A	165-180
B	150-164
C	130-149
D	110-129
F	0-109

Extra Credit: Psychology is a science built on meticulous research of both human and non-human animals. If you want to pursue a career in psychology, it's a great learning experience to be involved in any aspect of research – from being a participant in an experiment to a lab assistant. Therefore, I will be offering up to 10 (TEN!) points of extra credit for your participation in original research.

- * Individual experiments may range from 1 to 8 credits. Typically, each credit takes about 30 minutes of your time. Sign-up will occur through the new SONA research system. How to do so will be covered in class soon.

Incompletes: Consistent with university policy, if you do not resolve your Incomplete within one year, your grade will revert to one letter grade lower than what you would have received otherwise. **Be aware** that if you earn an “Incomplete” in any course at UM, an “I” remains on your record permanently, even if you eventually complete the work.

- **Pass/No Pass:** For taking this class P/NP, a P is a grade of A, B, or C. A NP is a grade of D or F.
- **Disabilities and Special Needs:** If you have a DSS approved disability that requires an accommodation, please let me know at the beginning of class. While you are responsible for arranging any necessary accommodations, I am more than happy to work collaboratively with you and DSS to provide these accommodations.
- **Cell Phones:** Please make sure that your cell phone is turned off prior to coming to class. Texting in class is my PET PEEVE. It’s rude, folks. If I catch you texting during lecture, I reserve the right to read your text messages out loud to the rest of the class.
- **Announcements:** Students are responsible for any announcements made in class. These include changes in policy, test dates, or assignment requirements.
- **Academic Misconduct:** All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University of Montana. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321>.



"Well, well — another blond hair. ...
Conducting a little more 'research'
with that Jane Goodall tramp?"

(retrieved from personalitycafe.com)

Course Schedule

(this schedule, including test dates, is tentative and subject to change)

Section 1	Jan. 27 – 31	Introduction Chapter 1
	Feb. 3– Feb.7	Chapters 2
	Feb. 6 – 10	Chapter 3
	Feb. 10- 14	Chapter 4
	Feb. 17– 21	Feb. 20: President’s Day - No Class Chapter 4 Test 1: Ch. 1, 2 – 4 (Feb. 21st)
Section 2	Feb. 24– Feb 28	Chapter 6
	March 3 – 7	Chapter 7
	March 10 – 14	Chapter 8
	March 17 – 21	Test 2: Ch. 6 – 8 (March 21)
Section 3	March 24 – 28	Chapter 9
	March 21 – April 4	Spring Break – No Class
	April 7 – 11	Chapter 9 & 12
	April 14 – 18	Chapter 12 & 13
	April 21 – 25	Chapter 13 & 14
	April 28 – May 2	Chapter 14 Test 3: Ch. 9, 12-14 (May 2)

Final Exam (Optional): Tuesday, May 13th, 10:10 AM -12:10 PM