PSYX 356.01: Human Neuropsychology

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Goals & Objectives

Knowledge Base:
• Develop a deeper understanding of human functional neuroanatomy
• Gain familiarity with the major neurological syndromes exhibited by humans after lesions to various regions of the brain (e.g., amnesia, unilateral neglect, aphasia, agnosia, frontal lobe syndrome).
• Gain familiarity with the major neurological disorders (e.g., head trauma, cerebrovascular disorders, epilepsy, degenerative disorders).

Intellectual & Communication Skills:
PSYC 371 is an upper division class. Therefore, you should be able to both learn and utilize the material in an advanced manner. For example, you should be able to extract and organize material from lectures in a manner that will promote effective studying. You should be able to work with information (e.g., synthesize, evaluate and generalize from information provided in class) and reason toward answers—not just regurgitate information. You should also be able to effectively communicate your knowledge in writing and/or diagrams. Certain questions in each test will be designed to assess these skills. Finally, most students find that this class requires a good deal of studying to master the material. A positive attitude, hard work, and a consistent work ethic will pay off.

Prerequisite
The completion of PSYC 250, Fundamentals of Biological Psychology, is required prior to enrolling in PSYC 356. In PSYC 250, the student is introduced to topics fundamental to the material of PSYC 356. An “initial pass” of this material will be assumed and greatly expanded upon in PSYC 371.
Assessment & Grades
Grades based on the average of the 3 best test scores (equally weighted):
89-100%=A, 79-88%=B, 69-78%=C, 59-68%=D, 58% and below=F

The plus/minus system will not be used. Test questions will require that you communicate clearly, reason towards answers from information that is provided in lecture and text, draw effective diagrams, and synthesize several items of information into a well-formulated answer (see above).

• Test 1 covers section 1 lectures and supplemental material.
• Test 2 covers section 2 lectures and supplemental material.
• Test 3 covers section 3 lectures and supplemental material.
• Test 4 is an optional comprehensive final exam.

Each test is worth 50 points. Tests 1 - 3 will consist of 40 multiple choice questions and 10 points of short answer questions; the final will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. You will need a blue/green scantron (psychology).

Make-up Policy and Final Exam
Make-up exams are not permitted unless a doctor’s note for illness of some other formal documentation on an emergency is provided. In addition, you must contact me via email prior to the exam that you will miss the exam. The final exam is optional; grades are based on the 3 best scores. If you have to miss a scheduled exam, the final can serve as the make-up for the missed test. The final can also be used to substitute for a score on an earlier exam. In addition, because the final exam is comprehensive, it offers you the opportunity to review and master a previous section if you did not do as well as you would have liked on an earlier test.

Lectures, Attendance, Supplemental Material and Videos
You will be responsible for all information from the lectures. It will also be necessary to study the supplemental material provided for each section. Students are responsible for any announcements made in class. It is critical to consistently attend lectures. Information from videos may also be covered on tests. KNOW YOUR NOTES.

Cell Phones
Please make sure that your cell phone is turned off prior to coming to class.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Section 1
Topics: Functional Neuroanatomy, Sensory Systems, Motor Systems, and Methods
Readings: • Neuroanatomy diagrams on Moodle
• Website: http://epsych.msstate.edu/biological/neuroanatomy/index.html
• Recommended reading from Pinel: Ch. 1, Ch. 2, Ch. 5, Ch. 6, Ch. 7 (7.1, 7.2, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8), Ch. 8, Ch. 9
• Supplemental site: www.med.harvard.edu/AANLIB/home.html (The Whole Brain Atlas)

TEST 1 February 27
Section 2
Topics: Cortical Organization and Neurological Syndromes
Reading: • Materials on Moodle,
    • Recommended reading from Pinel: 110.1, 10.2, 1.4, 12.4, 12.5
    • Website: http://epsych.msstate.edu/biological/neuroanatomy/index.html
PART 3 – Cerebral Cortex

TEST 2 March 27

Section 3
Reading: • Materials on Moodle
Topics: Neurological Disorders:
• Brain Trauma: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmedhealth/PMH0001095/
• Epilepsy: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmedhealth/PMH0003684/
    Recommended reading from Pinel: 10.4, 10.5
• Parkinson’s Disease: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmedhealth/PMH0001762/
    Recommended reading from Pinel: 9.6
• Multiple Sclerosis: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmedhealth/PMH0001747/

TEST 3 May 8

FINAL May 12 8-10 a.m.