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

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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>(7*5= 35 points)</th>
<th>35 points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Exams</td>
<td>(50 points each)</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>185 points</td>
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**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>165-180</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>150-164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>130-149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>110-129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-109</td>
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</tbody>
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**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](http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321).

**THE FAR SIDE**

By GARY LARSON

(Well, well — another bland hair.... Conducting a little more “research” with that Jane Goodall frump?)

(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