

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2015	Instructor Name:	M Robin Staton
Course Title & #:	Biological Psychology	Email:	Robin.staton
CRN #:	20796	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	2734	Office #:	409
Class Dates:	2/18/15-6/10/15	Office Hours:	M 8-8:30;TTh8:30-10:00 & W 6:6:30
Class Days:	MW	Office Phone #:	760-355-6149
Class Times:	8:35-10:00	Emergency Contact:	760-355-6144
Units:	3		

Course Description

An exploration of the biological basis of human behavior. The development, structure and functions of the nervous system is thoroughly examined to provide insight into its complex relationship with human behavior, thought, and feelings. The history of neuroscience and methods of scientific inquiry are reviewed. (CSU, UC)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Describe the action potential and how communication takes place between neurons. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3)
2. Critique current research in biopsychology including the ethical methodology and safeguards used in animal and human studies.(ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
3. Demonstrate an understanding of psychological theory regarding the relationship between physiology; cognition and emotion. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3)
4. Identify the biological and endocrine based causes of neurological and mental disorders. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)

Course Objectives

1. Outline major events in the history of neuroscience and describe related advances in experimental

methodology.

2. List and describe the functions of the structures and organelles of the neuron and discuss synaptic transmission.
3. Identify the functional organization of the human nervous system and the structures which make up the functional subsystems including the role of neuroendocrine systems.
4. Summarize the development of the vertebrate nervous system throughout the lifespan and identify problems that may result from delayed or impaired development.
5. Identify and describe sensory structures and processes and discuss how the nervous system initiates and controls movement.
6. Explain the physical regulation of homeostasis and discuss the effect of homeostatic drives on human behavior.
7. Discuss circadian and other cyclical rhythms of the brain and resultant effects on human behavior.
8. Describe the biological controls of emotions and explain the significance of emotions in human behavior and cognitive processes.
9. List and describe the major diseases of the nervous system and explain modern views on the bio/psycho/social nature of mental disorders.
10. Relate current research findings on the biologic elements of human learning and memory.
11. Explain scientific approaches used in methodologies for the study of brain-behavior relationships while being able to provide concrete examples of noninvasive vs. invasive research using current ethical principles and methods for the study of both humans and animals including research safe-guards and the peer review process in science.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

1Kalat, J.W. (2009). *Biological Psychology* (10th/e). Belmont, CA Wadsworth. ISBN: 9780495603108

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Lecture; power points, films, research assignments, class participation and in class activities, quizzes, writing assignments, final exam.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

40 pts-quizzes	90-100pts= A
15 pts-class participation	80-89= B
10 pts-report	70-79= C
35 pts-Final	60-69= D
	59+below= F

Attendance

[Required Information: The below information is the IVC attendance policy. Use this information in addition to any specific attendance policies you have for your course.]

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Online Netiquette

What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.

-Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

-Students should not be emailing other students at inappropriate hours of the night. It disrupts sleep and can cause undue anxiety.

Academic Honesty

[Required language.]

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- **Plagiarism** is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- **Cheating** is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **Blackboard Support Site.** The Blackboard Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- **Learning Services.** There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- **Library Services.** There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

The instructor is very familiar in working with students with learning differences. The ADA, Americans with Disabilities Act, was designed to assure opportunity for success for all people. Please don't hesitate to request services.

Week 4 3/9 & 3/11	Chap 4: Anatomy of the Nervous System	Lecture & Discussion; Quiz 2-4
Week 5 3/16 & 3/18	Chap 5: Development plasticity of Brain	Lecture & Discussion
Week 6 3/23 & 3/25	Chap 6: Vision	Lecture & Discussion
Week 7 3/30 & 4/1	Chap 7: Other Sensory Systems	Lecture & Discussion
Break 4/6-10	No Class	
Week 8 4/13 & 4/15	Chap 8: Movement	Lecture & Discussion Quiz 5-8; Midterm 2-8
Week 9 4/20 & 4/22	Chap 9: Wakefulness and Sleep	Lecture & Discussion
Week 10 4/27 & 4/29	Chap 10: Internal Regulation	Lecture & Discussion
Week 11 5/4 & 5/6	Chap 13: Biology of Learning & Memory	Lecture & Discussion
Week 12 5/11 & 5/13	Chap 11: Reproductive Behaviors	Lecture & Discussion Quiz 9,10,11,13
Week 13 5/18 & 5/20	Chap 12: Emotional Behaviors Mood Disorders and Schizophrenia	Lecture & Discussion
Week 14 5/27 & 6/1	Cognitive Functions	Lecture & Discussion Quiz 12, 14, 15
Week 15 6/3 & 6/8	Final	