



## Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 26	Instructor Name:	<b>Christina Aguilera</b>
Course Title & #:	<b>PSY 200</b>	Email:	<b>Christina.Aguilera@imperial.edu</b>
CRN #:	20318	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	<b>411 (400 Building)</b>	Office #:	<b>Zoom/email/Canvas Inbox</b>
Class Dates:	02/17 – 06/12	Office Hours:	Thursdays 10 am – 11 am via TechConnect Zoom



Class Days:	M & W	Office Phone #:	(760) 352-8320
Class Times:	08:00 am – 09:25 am (PST)	Emergency Contact	<b>(760) 352-8320</b>
Units:	3.0	Class Format/Modality	Face-to-face

## Course Description

### COURSE/CATALOG 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. (C-ID: PSY 150) (CSU/UC)

### PREREQUISITES: PSYC C1000

### II. REQUISITES:

## 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.
2. Critique current research in biopsychology including the ethical methodology and safeguards used in animal and human studies.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of psychological theory regarding the relationship between physiology; cognition and emotion.
4. Identify the biological and endocrine based causes of neurological and mental disorders.

## Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:



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

Catherine N. Hall. 2023. *Introduction to Biological Psychology*. Creative Commons. ISBN:

<https://openpress.sussex.ac.uk/introductiontobiologicalpsychology/>.

## Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Demonstration, Discussion, Group Activity, Lecture, Simulation/Case Study, Distance Learning, Audio Visual, Computer Assisted Instruction

## Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Letter Grade Only

## Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

## Course Policies

*Expectations for the Student and Instructor Alike*

Updated 6/2023



*Student Expectations- To be successful in this course, you are expected to:*

- *Read the entire Syllabus.*
- *Consistently check Announcements, your school email account, and the Canvas Inbox.* • *Review the calendar for due dates.*
- *Participate in Discussions (post weekly and respond to your classmates).*
- *Turn in your own work that's been thoughtfully completed, proofread for errors in spelling and grammar.*
- *Communicate with your instructor of any problems or confusion well in advance of the due date.*
- *Complete all discussions, assignments, online quizzes and/or exams on time.*

*Instructor Expectations- As your instructor, I will*

- *Communicate to you via Canvas announcements and Inbox.*
- *Post weekly course-related announcements.*
- *Respond to your email or phone message within 24-48 hours.*
- *Monitor all discussions and provide feedback to the entire class where needed at least weekly.*
- *Provide individual feedback on assignments/papers/projects within one week of the due date as needed.*
- *Work with you so you will have a successful learning experience in this course!*
- *Provide all course material in an accessible format.*

*Course content will be covered as necessary to meet the requirements for the course. Some of the material may be addressed and/or supplemented to reflect the appropriate quality of learning for each student. If course material is adjusted, covered or not, each student will have access to materials to accomplish tasks/address assignments. Changes in the schedule can change at any given moment for any given reason.*

## **IVC Student Resources**

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.



## Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar Spring 2026

<b>Date or Week</b>	<b>Topic(s)</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
Week 1	Syllabus & Introductions	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz
Week 2	Chapter 1 Introduction to Biological Psychology	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz
Week 3	Chapter 2 Exploring the Brain	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz

Week 4	Chapter 3 Under the microscope: cells of the Nervous System Chapter 4 Electrophysiology	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz
Week 5	Chapter 5 Neuronal Transmission Chapter 6 Psychopharmacology	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz
Week 6	Chapter 7 Feeling the World	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz
Week 7	Chapter 8 Sensing Pain Chapter 9 Our sense of Vision	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz



Week 8	Chapter 10 Our Hearing Chapter 11 Taste and Smell	Midterm Exam
Week 9	Chapter 12 The Motor System	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz
Week 10	Chapter 13 Sensorimotor Integration	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz
Week 11	Chapter 14 Motivational Behaviors: nutrition and feeding	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz



Week 12	Chapter 15 Addiction Chapter 16 Affective Disorders	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz
Week 13	Chapter 17 Schizophrenia	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz

Week 14	Chapter 18 Aging and Dementias Chapter 19	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz Term Paper Due
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Week 15	Chapter 20 Placebos: Mind and Body	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz
Week 16	Review and Final Exam/Projects Week	Discussions/Assignments/Quiz Final/Extra Credit Final Exam Due

**\*\*\*Assignments and dates are tentative and subject to change without prior notice\*\*\***