

Behavioral Neuroscience (Biol 243 / PSYC 222), Spring 2016

Learning Outcomes:

This course is designed to introduce the student to the field of behavioral neuroscience, its key concepts, theories and methodologies. As a result of this course, the student will (1) gain a basic but solid foundation of physiological and biochemical processes in the brain (PLO: 2b & e); (2) locate and describe anatomical brain structures and recognize their associated functional role (PLO: 3c); (3) gain a good understanding of the brain mechanisms underlying behavior and mental processes (PLO: 3c & d); (4) appreciate the complexity and capacity of the human brain (PLO: 3c & d); (5) develop critical thinking skills that are applicable to moral and ethical issues facing a science that deals with the neural basis of the mind and behavior (PLO: 8a & b); and (6) get exposure to current research in the field (PLO: 7b). By the end of this course the student should (7) demonstrate these skills in speech and writing (PLO: 7a & b).

Location:

Room: Nicely 235

Time: MWF 10:00

Text:

Carlson, N.R. (2011). *Physiological Psychology*, 8th Edition; Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Professor:

Arne Dietrich, Ph.D.

Jesup Hall 103E

Phone: 4369

Email: arne.dietrich@aub.edu.lb

Office hours: MWF: 11:00-12:00 am and by appointment.

These hours are to be used for any queries regarding matters related to this class.

Attendance Policy:

Regular class attendance is expected. Students are to be in class 1 minute prior to class-time. Students who come late will be considered absent. According to FAS guidelines, if a student accumulates more than 1/5 absences of the total class sessions before the last day of withdrawal he/she will be asked to drop the course. For the purpose of determining the final grade, 3 absences for any reason will be allowed without question. For each additional "cut", 1 point will be deducted from the final grade. Absences (or coming late) on the day of a test will result in a grade of 0! Make-up test will only be given in case of documented illness or serious family emergencies. NO OTHER EXCUSE WILL BE COUNTED! Cell phones are not to be seen or heard.

Academic Integrity:

The “Student Code of Conduct” in the AUB Student Handbook applies to this course and will be **strictly enforced**. All of your work must be your own. Writing that is copied from published sources (unless quoted and attributed), even if slightly modified, will be considered plagiarism and grounds for a failing grade on the exam or in the course. “I did not know” is never an excuse with respect to plagiarism. All misconduct will be **automatically** forwarded to the FAS Student Affairs Committee. Do not plead your case with me – you can plead with them.

Grading:

The final grade will be determined in a straightforward manner and is based on two tests and a final exam. Each of these 3 scores will count the same towards the final grade. There will be no additional or extra credit available. Grading will be based according to standard scale.

Course Outline and Reading Assignments:

(Note: This schedule is tentative)

Week 1	Introduction	Chapter 1
Week 2	Cell Structure	Chapter 2
Week 3	Neural Communication	Chapter 2
Week 4	Functional Neuroanatomy	Chapter 3
Week 5	Psychopharmacology	Chapter 4
	Test 1	
Week 6	Vision	Chapter 6
Week 7	Biological Rhythms	Chapter 8
Week 8	Biological Rhythms	Chapter 8
Week 9	Emotions	Chapter 10
Week 10	Movement	Chapter 9
	Test 2	
Week 11	Learning and Memory	Chapters 12
Week 12	Psychological Disorders I	Chapters 15
Week 13	Psychological Disorders II	Chapters 16
Week 14	Sp Tp Consciousness	Selected Reading
	Final Exam	