

**American University of Beirut  
Faculty of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Psychology**

**Behavioral Neuroscience (PSYC 222 / BIOL 243); Fall Semester 2019**

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**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: 5c, 5d); (2) locate and describe anatomical brain structures and recognize their associated functional role (PLO: 5c, 5d); (3) gain a good understanding of the brain mechanisms underlying behavior and mental processes (PLO: 5b, 5c, 5d); (4) appreciate the complexity and capacity of the human brain (PLO: 1, 4a, 4c); (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: 2); and (6) get exposure to current research in the field (PLO: 5). By the end of this course the student should (7) demonstrate these skills in speech and writing (PLO: 6).

**Location and Time:**

Room: Nicely 105

Time: TR 11:00

**Main Text:**

Carlson, N. R. (2018). *Foundations of Behavioral Neuroscience* 9<sup>th</sup> Edition; Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

**Professor:**

Arne Dietrich, Ph.D.

Jesup Hall 107B

Phone: 4369

Email: [arne.dietrich@aub.edu.lb](mailto:arne.dietrich@aub.edu.lb)

**Office hours:** TR: 8:30-9:30 am, Monday 9-11 am or by appointment. Please adhere these times.

**Attendance Policy:**

Regular class attendance is expected. Attendance will be taken at the start of each session. Students are to be in class 1 minute prior to class time. Students who come late will be considered absent. According to FAS guidelines (*Undergraduate Catalogue 2018, p. 155*), if a student accumulates more than 1/5 absences of the total sessions before the last day of withdrawal, s/he can be dropped the course. Students who cannot be dropped for excessive absence will receive a grade of 40. 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. Academic misconduct also includes cheating, in-class disruption, and dishonesty. Misconduct is vigorously prosecuted and AUB has a zero tolerance policy. All incidences with credible evidence will be automatically forwarded to the FAS Student Affairs Committee.

**Non-Discrimination:**

AUB is committed to facilitating a campus free of all forms of discrimination including sex/gender-based harassment prohibited by Title IX. The University's non-discrimination policy applies to, and protects, all students, faculty, and staff. If you think you have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual misconduct, we encourage you to tell someone promptly. If you speak to a faculty or staff member about an issue such as harassment, sexual violence, or discrimination, the information will be kept as private as possible, however, faculty and designated staff are required to bring it to the attention of the University's Title IX Coordinator. Faculty can refer you to fully confidential resources, and you can find information and contacts at [www.aub.edu.lb/titleix](http://www.aub.edu.lb/titleix) <https://www.aub.edu.lb/titleix>. To report an incident, contact the University's Title IX Coordinator at 01-350000 ext. 2514, or [titleix@aub.edu.lb](mailto:titleix@aub.edu.lb). An anonymous report may be submitted online via EthicsPoint at [www.aub.ethicspoint.com](http://www.aub.ethicspoint.com).

**Disability:**

AUB strives to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers due to a disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), you are encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Office for reasonable accommodation: [accessibility@aub.edu.lb](mailto:accessibility@aub.edu.lb); +961-1-350000, x3246; West Hall, 314'. You should also be aware that you can always contact the Counseling Center in the Office of Student Affairs (Ext. 3196).

**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 and exam dates can change)

Week 1	Introduction	Chapter 1
Week 2	Cell Structure & Neural Communication	Chapter 2
Week 3	Functional Neuroanatomy	Chapter 3
Week 4	Psychopharmacology	Chapter 4
Week 5	Psychopharmacology	Chapter 4
	<b>Test 1 (Sa 29.9.2019; 9:00 – 11:00)</b>	
Week 6	Vision	Chapter 6
Week 7	Biological Rhythms	Chapter 8
Week 8	Biological Rhythms	Chapter 8
Week 9	Emotions	Chapter 10
	<b>Test 2 (Sa 27.10.2019; 9:00 – 11:00)</b>	
Week 10	Movement	Selected Reading
Week 11	Learning and Memory	Chapters 12
Week 12	Learning and Memory	Chapters 12
Week 13	Psychological Disorders I	Chapters 15
Week 14	Psychological Disorders II	Chapters 16

**Final Exam**