Course: PSB 3340, Section 5735  Behavioral Neuroscience  Fall 2016

Meeting Times:  T Period 4 (10:40-11:30) and Th Periods 4/5 (10:40-12:35) in TUR L005

Instructor:  Lori Knackstedt, Ph.D.  Office hours: Tues 8:30-10 am & by request
            Email: knack@ufl.edu  Office: Psychology Building 322

T.A.:  Leslie Howard  Office hours:  Wed 12:30-2:30 pm
       Email: lrh223@ufl.edu  Office: Psychology Building room 311F

Undergraduate T.A.: John Wiegand  Office hours: Monday 12-1; Tues 12-1 pm
       Email: johnlwiegand1996@ufl.edu  Office: Psychology 236

Use email and NOT Canvas to communicate with Dr. Knackstedt and Ms. Howard

Goals and Objectives for the Course
This course is designed to introduce you to basic concepts of Behavioral Neuroscience. After covering the anatomy & physiology of the nervous system, we will be discussing topics of behavior such as sensory perception, learning, sleeping, and motivation. We will also learn about psychological disorders and their treatments. By the end of this course, students should be able to:

-Describe the major features of the brain and spinal cord.
-Understand the electrical and chemical properties of neurons.
-Understand the mechanisms of action for different drugs.
-Understand the basic principles of sensory stimuli.
-Describe the paths of sensory information.
-Describe how motor actions are generated.
-Explain how complex behaviors are studied by neuroscientists.
-Understand the neuroscience behind the behaviors of sleeping, mating, & learning
-Understand the causes and symptoms of psychiatric disorders such as schizophrenia and depression

Instructional Methods and Class Format:  Class format will primarily be lecture/discussion.  It is strongly advised that you take detailed notes as the exams are based solely on material covered in lecture AND there will be daily quizzes utilizing class notes.

Textbook: Biological Psychology 7th edition by Breedlove & Watson

Course Policies:

Attendance:  Attendance will not factored into your grade but you will not do well in this class if you do not attend and take notes. There will be open-notes quizzes on a daily basis (see below for details) and you cannot make these up. Powerpoints will be posted online but the majority of information will need to be written down by YOU.  If you have a family emergency or lengthy illness that requires a long absence from the class please send me an excuse from the Dean’s office or Health Services. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OBTAINING NOTES FROM MISSED CLASSES FROM A CLASSMATE.

Electronic Devices:  Use of electronic devices (cell phones, etc.) is prohibited during class.  IF YOU ARE TEXTING DURING CLASS YOU WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE.
Missed exams or assignments: There are no make-up opportunities for exams or quizzes.

Legibility of exams or assignments: *HANDWRITTEN EXAMS THAT ARE ILLEGIBLE WILL NOT BE GRADED*.

Academic dishonesty: Guidelines for this course will follow the University of Florida Student Honor Code, see http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php. DO NOT CHEAT - WE WILL CATCH YOU. Anyone caught cheating on an exam will fail the class, period.

Disabled Students: Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. The student is responsible for scheduling a room at the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to take their exams. For this class, it is required that the exam start no more than 30 minutes prior to and no more than 30 minutes after the regularly scheduled class exam. It is strongly suggested that you book your exam room early. If a regularly schedule exam date is changed, it is the student’s responsibility to change the exam date with the DRC. No late or early exams will be accepted from the DRC.

On a personal note… Courses which discuss psychological disorders can touch on personal issues, and may make you more sensitive to difficulties in your own life. Please feel free to talk to me about anything, anytime. If you feel like you could benefit from professional counseling, contact the Counseling and Wellness Center at 392-1575

Learning Assessment and Grading:

1. Exams: This course will have three tests and one final exam. Each test will be composed of 50 multiple choice, matching or T/F questions and one short essay question that serves as extra credit. Each of the first three tests will cover only the text and lecture material from the chapters that have most recently been discussed in class. Each of these 3 exams will count 30% toward your final grade. If you miss an exam or do poorly on an exam, you can replace this exam with the Final Exam. The optional final exam will be comprehensive. If you take all the three regular tests and are satisfied with your grade, you may skip the final exam. If you do poorly on a test, you can drop that test and take the final exam to replace it. In this case the better test score (regular test or replacement) will count. You don’t need to check with me – this will happen automatically.

The final is the only option for a missed or failed test. There will be no other makeup tests under any circumstances. This includes any illness or any other misfortune, even a family emergency. Feel free to discuss these circumstances with me, but be prepared that you will not be able to make up missed work.

You will need to bring an official photo ID (Gator1, driver’s license) to take exams. You will also need a #2 pencil to take exams. Note – If you arrive late for an exam, you may be refused. If you arrive after any student has completed the exam and left, you will not be permitted to write the exam.

2. The second component of your grade will be in class, open book “quizzes” consisting of one or two questions completed using TopHat. You will need to pay for a subscription to this service (if another class requires TopHat you only pay one fee for the entire semester). You must come to class with a mobile device or laptop to participate in “online” quizzes that will occur during every class period!

Your join code for our class is 114428
Login to TopHat.com or use the mobile app and enter this join code to participate. You must do this by **August 25** to participate in the first “quiz” during lecture.

There will be one TopHat Quiz question per class period (1 on Tuesdays; 2 on Thursdays). The dates of these Quizzes are noted in red on the schedule below. Each Quiz will be one question and worth 1 pt. They will be “open note”. You will have no more than 3 minutes to complete each Quiz. There are a total of 34 pts available this semester. You are permitted to miss 4 points (from absences or incorrect answers) so that the total number of points needed to get a 100% on the Quizzes is a 30. No bonus points will be awarded for points earned over 30.

What if you forget your mobile device? You will not be able to get credit for questions.
If you experience a malfunction with your device, please come to the front of the classroom during the question and tell me.

**Final Grade Calculation**

- Highest exam score (30% final grade) _____________
- 2nd highest exam score (30% final grade) _________
- 3rd highest exam score (30% final grade) _________
- Quizzes (10%) final grade = total # points earned/3: _____________

The grading scheme is APPROXIMATELY as follows:

- A (outstanding) 93-100
- A- (superior) 90-92.99
- B+ (excellent) 87-89.99
- B (very good) 83-86.99
- B- (above average) 80-82.99
- C+ (average) 77-79.99
- C (slightly below average) 73-76
- C- (below average) 70-72.99
- D+ (well below average) 67-69.99
- D (poor) 63-66.99
- D- (very poor) 60-62.99
- E (failure) <60.99

**If** any curve is applied to the grades, it will be done at the end of the semester to the Final course grade. If the average final course grade is lower than a 75%, points will be added to everyone’s grade until the average is a 75%. Last year there was no curve as the class average was higher than 75%. PLEASE DO NOT ASK ABOUT A CURVE. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED IF THERE IS A CURVE. WE DON’T KNOW IF THERE WILL BE A CURVE UNTIL THE FINAL EXAM HAS BEEN GRADED.

Please see the following website for UF policy on grades:
[https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/23</td>
<td>Introduction to the class</td>
<td>Ch. 1 (optional)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8/25</td>
<td>The neuron &amp; action potential (First Quiz)</td>
<td>pp. 23-33; Ch. 3</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>8/30, 9/1</td>
<td>Neurotransmission &amp; Psychopharmacology</td>
<td>Ch. 4</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>9/6, 9/8</td>
<td>Neuroanatomy</td>
<td>pp. 34-49</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>9/13, 9/15</td>
<td>Research Methods in Neuroscience</td>
<td>pp. 49-55; 87-88</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>9/20</td>
<td>Catch-up</td>
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<td>9/22</td>
<td>Review for Exam</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>9/27</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Ch. 8, 10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9/29</td>
<td>Sensation and Perception</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>10/4, 10/6</td>
<td>Sensation and Perception; Motor System</td>
<td>Ch. 9; 11</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>10/11, 10/13</td>
<td>Learning &amp; Plasticity</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10/18, 10/20</td>
<td>Sleep &amp; Circadian Rhythms</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>10/25</td>
<td>Hormones &amp; Behavior Overview</td>
<td>Ch. 5</td>
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<td>10/27</td>
<td>Hormonal Control of Behavior – Stress</td>
<td>pp. 479-489</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>11/1</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>Ch. 12</td>
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<td>11/3</td>
<td>Hormonal Control of Behavior – Mating</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>11/8, 11/10</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders – Depression/Bipolar</td>
<td>Ch. 16</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11/15</td>
<td>No class</td>
<td>Ch. 16</td>
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<td>11/17</td>
<td>Motivation</td>
<td>pp.116-121</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>11/22</td>
<td>Emotion</td>
<td>pp. 457-476</td>
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<td>11/24</td>
<td>No Class – Thanksgiving Break</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>11/29</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders – Schizophrenia</td>
<td>pp. 116-121</td>
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<td>12/1</td>
<td>Psychological Disorders – Anxiety/OCD</td>
<td>pp. 457-476</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>12/6</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
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Optional Final Exam: Wednesday December 14, 8:30-9:30 am (NOTE that we will start at 8:30 am instead of 7:30) in TUR L005
This is a difficult course – not because as an instructor I will deliberately make the tests hard, but due to the nature of the material. It is my goal to get you to understand this material so that you leave the class with a strong foundation in behavioral neuroscience. I am here to help you. However, there are several things that I will not do because I don’t believe that they “help” you learn.

**What I will not do:**

1. Offer extra credit to individuals. If the class average is below 75% after 2 exams I will consider offering extra credit to the entire class. This will most likely not happen.
2. Answer questions about class material via email that require more than a paragraph of typing. If you don’t understand something, please come see me before or after class, raise your hand in class and ask for clarification or come to my office hours.

**What I will do:**

1. Meet with you to explain material and go over exams – the best time is during office hours but also before and after class or by appointment. Your first stop to go over an exam should be the TA.
2. Do my best to explain material in a slow, coherent manner. If you feel that I am going too fast during lecture, please let me know. There is a good chance that your classmates feel the same way. Raise your hand during class to let me know this, stop by afterwards, or even drop an anonymous note in my Psychology Dept. mailbox. I won’t know that I am going too fast unless someone tells me.
3. Provide guidance regarding the format of exams.