

Physiological Psychology Lab PSYC 373 - 201, 202 Fall 2006

Instructor:	Daniel G Ehlinger	E-mail address:	dehlinge@gmu.edu
Class time:	201: 8:30am-10:20am 202: 10:30am-12:20am		
Class location:	DK 3044	Office phone #:	703-993-1358
Office hours:	Tues. 12:30-1:30pm and by appt.	Office location:	DK 2027

Goals of Lab: The primary goal of this lab is for students to learn brain and eye structure location with understanding of related function.

Materials you need to buy:

- ❑ Dissection kit
- ❑ 2 small Tupperware containers to store brains or Zip-lock bags
- ❑ Cooley, R.K., & Vanderwolf, C.H. (2001). *The Sheep Brain: A Basic Guide*. A.J. Kirby Co.: London.

Things to know: It is strongly recommended that you attend class. Material covered in lab will be on quizzes and exams. Attendance during dissections is imperative **this is your only opportunity to view the sheep brain and eye**. If you must miss class, please ask fellow classmates for notes before coming to me. I will be glad to meet with you to discuss anything after you do this. It is not always possible to make-up a missed dissection. If you know ahead of time (at least 24 hours before morning labs meet) that you will be absent for a class, talk to me and I may possibly be able to arrange for you to attend another lab time. This will not be acceptable on days we have quizzes, exams, and presentations.

NOTE: This syllabus is tentative. You are responsible for any and all announcements and modifications made to the syllabus whether you are present each week or not.

Lab Practical Exams are approximately 50% of your grade in this lab. These exams consist of several pinned brains/brain parts. You will be expected to identify and/or answer question(s) about each. The Lab Practical Exams cannot be made up at a later date. The nature of the exam does not allow it to be reproduced or preserved.

Quizzes: There will be 2 quizzes worth 30 points each based on lecture material covered in class. These quizzes will not require identification of pinned brains/brain parts. Questions will be in the form of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, labeling a diagram, or short answer. Unless the student has obtained my consent to postpone a quiz or has written medical documentation for absence from a quiz, there will be an automatic grade-loss penalty of 10% that will be deducted from the score of the make-up quiz. Permission to postpone a quiz will only be given for very important and acute reasons. The make-up quiz will be structured like the original quiz, but the content may be different. Make-up quizzes are to be taken before the next class period meets.

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Presentations: Each student must give an 8-10 minute presentation on a neuroscience/biology topic of his/her choice. Topic choices must be turned in no later than September 26th. On October 24th you must turn in to me an outline of your proposed presentation. The outline will contain a summary (bullet points are fine) of the material you intend to cover, a description of your intended visual aid and all references. I will provide feedback and help you to prepare for your presentation. Each student will be required to provide some sort of visual aid (handouts, overheads, PowerPoint presentation) to accompany the presentation. Additionally, each student will receive written feedback on the presentation from classmates. **Part of your presentation grade will be based on your presence at others' presentations.**

Assignment deadlines and guidelines: All assignments are to be typed and turned in at the beginning of lab. There will be an automatic grade-loss penalty of 10% each week the assignment is late.

The GMU honor code will be strictly enforced. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will be reported to the University Honor Board &/or penalized. Information used from an outside source must be cited in correct APA format.

The topics covered in this course can be difficult to grasp. By attending classes and discussing the information with classmates and myself, you should be able to obtain a better understanding of the material. Feel free to meet with me during office hours or by appointment concerning this material or send me questions and/or comments via e-mail.

Technology statement: Required knowledge of technology for this course includes ability to retrieve handouts sent via email to your GMU address. Occasionally I may use computer programs or the Internet in class to present demonstrations of relevant material. You may also wish to use websites provided by me to study for the lab practical exams.

Students with Disabilities: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Add/Drop Deadlines: The last day to add a class is **September 12th**. The last day to drop a class is **September 29th**.

****This course does require participation in dissection of animal parts. If you have a concern about this, please meet with me as soon as possible.**

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	Tentative Course Schedule:	Assignments Due:
August 29	Introduction/Neurophysiology	
September 5	Neurophysiology cont'd (Action Potential/Postsynaptic Potential)	
September 12	QUIZ 1 (Neurophysiology, Action Potential/Postsynaptic Potential) Brain Tour Part I	Sheep Brains provided Bring in containers for brains and dissection kit
September 19	Brain Tour Part II (Cranial Nerves)	
September 26	Lab Activities & Study Session for Lab Practical 1	Presentation Topic Due
October 3	Lab Practical I (Brain Tours I & II)	
October 10	NO CLASS-MONDAY SCHEDULE	
October 17	Visual System (Sheep Eye Dissection)	Eyeballs provided
October 24	Quiz 2 (visual system) Midsagittal Dissection	Presentation Outline Due
October 31	Fornix/Hippocampal Region and Coronal Dissections	
November 7	Study Session/Review of dissections for Lab Practical II	
November 14	Lab Practical II (cumulative)	
November 21	Presentations	Present topic on your day
November 28	Presentations	Present topic on your day
December 5	Presentations	Present topic on your day

Grades:

Attendance/participation	10 points
Quizzes (30 pts each x 2)	60 points
Lab Practical 1	50 points
Lab Practical 2	100 points
Presentation	50 points
Presentation Topic	15 points
Presentation Outline	15 points
Total	300 points

A+ (97%+); A (93-96%); A- (90-92%); B+ (87-89%); B (83-86%); B- (80-82%);
C+ (77-79%); C (70-76%); D (60-69%); F (59% & below)