

**SYLLABUS**  
**George Mason University**  
**Physiological Psychology – Psych 372-002**  
**Spring 2006**

**Instructor:** Marjorie M. Battaglia, Ph.D. ([battagliamarj@aol.com](mailto:battagliamarj@aol.com))

**Class Hours & Location:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, Jan 24 – May 4, 2006  
1:30 pm – 2:45 pm  
Robinson B 201

**Office Hours:** Mondays and Tuesdays  
11:30 am – 12:30 pm

**Office Location:** Thompson Rm. 131

**Home Phone:** 703 437- 8763 (No phone calls after 9 p.m. please.)

**Email** [battagliamarj@aol.com](mailto:battagliamarj@aol.com)  
I answer emails within 24 hrs. I much prefer to be contacted by email than by phone.

**REQUIRED TEXT:** *Biological Psychology* 8<sup>th</sup> ed. (2004) by James W. Kalat  
Thomson Learning, Inc. Wadsworth Publishers  
ISBN: 0-534-58816-6

**Suggested text:** *Study Guide for Kalat's Biological Psychology* 8<sup>th</sup> ed.  
(2004) by Elaine M. Hull; Thomson Learning, Ind.  
Wadsworth Publishers; ISBN: 0-534-58819-0

**COURSE OBJECTIVES AND REQUIREMENTS:**

Physiological psychology explores the biological, chemical, anatomical, and physiological aspects of the brain, demonstrating the integration of the fields of psychology and neuroscience. By course end, the student should be able to identify anatomical parts of the brain, and understand how physiological functioning relates to and influences human behavior.

**PARTICIPATION:** Class attendance will be taken in each class. Although not mandatory, regular class attendance can result in up to 1 point added to the final grade. Class attendance will be considered as participation in the course.

**LECTURE:**

Lecture material will be taken from the assigned textbook. The student will be held responsible for all material discussed in class and the material contained in the text, unless otherwise noted by the instructor. It will be impossible to cover all material in class. Thus, the student must read, study, and review the chapters carefully in order to maintain a good class grade.

**EXAMS:**

There will be seven in-class short exams. The first exam is worth ten points. The other six exams are worth fifteen points each. There will be no makeup exams – no exceptions!! There will be no final exam. It is important for the student to attend class, since exam dates are subject to change.

**FINAL GRADE COMPOSITE:**

Attendance/Participation:	Up to 1 point
Exams	100 points
<b><u>Possible Total points:</u></b>	<b><u>101 possible points</u></b>

**\*Keep in mind that the psychology department requires a minimum grade of C- in order for psychology majors to pass this course.**

**Honor Code:**

Strict adherence to the GMU Honor Code as stated in the GMU catalog is expected and enforced.

**Accommodations :**

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 accommodations must be arranged through that office.

**GRADE BREAKDOWN:**

100 +	A+	74-76	C
95 +	A	70-73	C-
90-94	A-	60-69	D
87-89	B+	< 60	F
84-86	B		
80-83	B-		
77-79	C+		

**\*Deadlines for add and drop for classes:**

**Last day to add – Feb 7th**  
**Last day to drop – Feb 24th**

**COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to change)**

**Chapters are listed from textbook.**

<b>Tues. Jan 24</b>	<b>Chpt. 1</b>	<b>Major Issues and Over-view</b>
<b>Thurs. Jan 26</b>	<b>Chpt. 2</b>	<b>Nerve cells and nerve impulses</b>
<b>Tues. Jan 31</b>	<b>Chpt. 2</b>	<b>Nerve cells and nerve impulses</b>
<b>Thurs. Feb 2</b>	<b><u>Exam #1</u></b>	<b>chpts. 1 &amp; 2; begin chpt. 3</b>
<b>Tues. Feb 7</b>	<b>Chpt. 3</b>	<b>Communication at synapses</b>
<b>Thurs. Feb 9</b>	<b>Chpt. 3</b>	<b>Communication at synapses</b>
<b>Tues. Feb 14</b>	<b>Chpt. 3</b>	<b>Communication at synapses</b>
<b>Thurs. Feb 16</b>	<b><u>Exam #2</u></b>	<b>on chapter 3; begin chpt. 4</b>
<b>Tues. Feb 21</b>	<b>Chpt. 4</b>	<b>Anatomy of nervous system</b>
<b>Thurs. Feb 23</b>	<b>Chpt. 4</b>	<b>Anatomy of nervous system</b>
<b>Tues. Feb 27</b>	<b>Chpt. 4</b>	<b>Anatomy of nervous system</b>
<b>Thurs. Mar 2</b>	<b><u>Exam #3</u></b>	<b>on chpt. 4; begin chpt. 5</b>
<b>Tues. Mar 7</b>	<b>Chpt. 5</b>	<b>Development &amp; plasticity of the brain</b>
<b>Thurs. Mar 9</b>	<b>Chpt.5</b>	<b>Development &amp; plasticity of the brain</b>
<b>March 12<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> – Spring Break – No classes</b>		
<b>Tues. Mar 21</b>	<b>Chpt. 6</b>	<b>Vision</b>
<b>Thurs. Mar 23</b>	<b>Chpt.6</b>	<b>Vision</b>
<b>Tues. Mar 28</b>	<b>Chpt.6</b>	<b>Vision</b>
<b>Thurs. Mar 30</b>	<b><u>Exam #4</u></b>	<b>on chpts. 5 &amp; 6; begin chpt. 7</b>
<b>Tues. Apr 4</b>	<b>Chpt. 7</b>	<b>Other sensory systems; attention</b>
<b>Thurs. Apr 6</b>	<b>Chpt. 7</b>	<b>Other sensory systems; attention</b>

Tues. Apr 11	Chpt. 7	Other sensory systems; attention
Thurs. Apr 13	<u>Exam #5</u>	on chpt. 7; begin chpt. 13
Tues. Apr 18	Chpt. 13	Biology of learning & memory
Thurs. Apr 20	Chpt.13	Biology of learning & memory
Tues. Apr 25	<u>Exam #6</u>	on chpt.13; begin chpt. 15
Thurs. Apr 27	Chpt. 15	Psychological disorders
Tues. May 2	Chpt. 15	Psychological disorders
Thurs. May 7	<u>Exam #7</u>	on chpt. 15; last exam – no final exam

There will be no exam make-ups. If you miss an exam, you forfeit those points. My advice is to come to class, since exam dates are subject to change, given unforeseen circumstances and class pace.

Copies of power point slides are on reserve at Johnson Center Media Dept. under this course listing and my name. (2 hr max) Please be careful making copies so that no pages will be lost.