

Physiological Psychology
PSYC 372 – C01, Summer 2006

Instructor: Amy K. Eppolito	E-mail address: aeppolit@gmu.edu
Class time: MTWR 11:45AM-1:50PM	
Class location: Robinson Hall A, Room 106	Office phone #: 703-993-1358
Office hours: Tuesday 2:00 -3:00 & by appt.	Office location: DK 2027

Course description and goals: This course is a broad introduction to the field of neuroscience, including basic neuroanatomy, neural and synaptic transmission, neural mechanisms underlying normal and abnormal behavior, and biological mechanisms of drug action. We will explore how underlying physiology of the nervous system affects virtually all aspects of behavior and development across the lifespan. The goal of this course is to develop a foundation for the understanding of the central nervous system and how brain function relates to behavior.

Text: Kalet, J.W. (2007). *Biological Psychology* (Ninth Edition). Thomson Wadsworth Co. Belmont, California.

Things to Know: It is strongly recommended that you attend class. The material I cover in class will be on exams and some material will come from sources other than your textbook. If you must miss class **please go to a classmate first for notes**. I will be glad to meet with you during office hours to discuss any questions about the material after you do this. **You are responsible for all announcements and any syllabus modifications made in class each day whether you are present or not.**

Some of the material in this course can be difficult to grasp. Many terms used in the field of neuroscience will be completely new to you. Do not fall behind on the reading. This will be especially important, as the summer session requires that we move at a rapid pace. I encourage you to form study groups with your classmates. I welcome questions via e-mail anytime, and I am always happy to meet with you during office hours or by appointment concerning class material.

Mini Presentation: Each of you will be required to research and answer a brief question on a brain related phenomenon and present your findings to the class. You will have the opportunity to select a topic from a list of questions that I have compiled. This is a very informal presentation and should be no more than 5 minutes. In addition to presenting your findings to the class you must hand in a written copy of your answer with references. References must be in APA format. Examples for APA formatting of references will be made available on WebCT. There are no requirements for where you find the information but some suggestions include scientific articles (i.e. *Journal of Neuroscience*, *Developmental Psychology*), textbooks, web sites, magazines, and newspapers. The presentation will be worth 80 points (20% of your overall grade in the class). The date of each presentation is determined by the topic (i.e. a question regarding mental illness would be due Aug 2) and will be indicated on the handout you receive in class. Late presentations will be penalized 2 points for each day beyond the due date. I will not accept any presentations over email. The presentation questions will appear in some format on the quizzes.

Exams: There will be five non-cumulative quizzes (one given during the final exam period). Quizzes are 65 points each (80% of your overall grade). **I will not be offering any opportunities for make-ups on the weekly quizzes.** Quizzes will consist of multiple-choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer questions. I may also occasionally include diagrams that we have covered in class. The final exam will be non-cumulative, covering the material from the last few classes. The format will be identical to the previous quizzes (also worth 65 points).

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Grades will be awarded based on the following scale:

A+ 391-405 points (97%+)	C+ 310-321 points (77-79%)
A 375-390 points (93-96%)	C 294-309 points (73-76%)
A- 363-374 points (90-92%)	C- 282-293 points (70-72%)
B+ 351-362 points (87-89%)	D 241-281 points (60-69%)
B 335-350 points (83-86%)	F 240 points and below (59% & below)
B- 322-334 points (80-82%)	

The GMU honor code will be strictly enforced. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated and will be reported to the University Honor Board. Honor code violations that occur during an exam will result in a grade of 0 for that exam. The honor code reads in part, "Student members of the GMU community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work." Find the complete Honor Code at <http://www.gmu.edu/departments/unilife/honorcode.html>.

Technology statement: This course requires the ability to access email sent to **your GMU address** and to retrieve notes, study guides, and other information from **WebCT**. WebCT will be updated frequently with notes and study guides so you should plan to access it at least a couple of times per week. Occasionally I will contact the class via email. If you normally forward your GMU email to another account, please note that you are responsible for ensuring that your GMU mailbox is not full. See me if you need help activating your account.

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

Important dates: Add and drop deadlines for C session are as follows. Last day to add - July 11th. Last day to drop - July 14th.

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Tentative Schedule:		Chapter & Required Reading:
July 5	Administrative Issues/Assign Presentations Introduction Translational Neuroscience Anatomy of the Nervous System	<i>Translational Neuroscience Accomplishments</i> (available via WebCT) 4: p 81-116
July 6	Neuroanatomy (cont) Nerve Cells and Nerve Impulses	4 2: p 29-48
July 10	QUIZ I: Chapters 2 & 4 Synapses	3: p 51-76
July 11	Drug Addiction Development and Plasticity of the Brain	15: p 452-458 5: p 121-146
July 12	Development and Plasticity of the Brain (cont)	5
July 13	Vision (note: this will be on Quiz III)	6: p151-191
July 17	QUIZ II: Chapter 3, 5 &15 (p 452-458) Vision (cont)	6
July 18	Auditory & Vestibular Sensory Systems	7: p 195-205
July 19	Sensory Systems: Touch & Pain Taste & Smell	7: p 206-214 7: p 215-227
July 20	Movement	8: p 231-262
July 24	QUIZ III: Chapters 6-8 Wakefulness and Sleep	9: p 265-292
July 25	Wakefulness and Sleep (cont) Internal Regulation	9 10: p 295-321
July 26	Internal Regulation (cont)	10
July 27	Reproductive Behaviors	11: p 325-350
July 31	QUIZ IV: Chapters 9-11 Biology of Learning and Memory	13: p 383-412
August 1	Biology of Learning and Memory (cont)	13
August 2	Psychological Disorders/Mental Illness Emotional Behaviors (time permitting)	15: p 459-481 12: p 353-380
August 3	FINAL EXAM: Chapters 12-13, 15 (p 459-481)	1:30PM – 4:15PM