BIOPSYCHOLOGY
PSY 2330
SUMMER 2024

Professor Information:
Name: Dr. Nathan Sparkman
Department: Psychology
Office Phone: 936-468-4402 *- D2L email is best
e-mail: sparkmannl@sfasu.edu
Office hours: All office hours will be virtual this semester.
By appointment
Recommended Text:
Course Description:
Biopsychology PSY 2330 - Examination of relationships between behavior and underlying physiological mechanisms. Aspects covered include neural conduction, sensory receptor mechanisms, learning and memory, and other aspects of higher cortical functioning in both humans and animals.

Program Learning Outcomes: PLO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proficiency Level</th>
<th>The student will demonstrate familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced</td>
<td>The student will understand and apply basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advance/Mastery</td>
<td>The student will respect and use critical and creative thinking. Advance/Mastery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skeptical inquiry</td>
<td>The student will discuss how major biopsychological principles, theories, and findings relate to everyday life and real-world problems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>The student will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and reflect other values that are the underpinnings of psychology as a science.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:
1. understand and communicate theories pertaining to biopsychology
2. identify different research methods utilized in the field of biopsychology
3. define normal and abnormal brain functioning
4. discuss how major biopsychological principles, theories, and findings relate to everyday life and real-world problems

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Grading Policy:
Final grades for the course are based on the coursework described below. All grades will be posted in the D2L website.

Evaluation and Grading:
4 exams (100pts each)
Assignments (points varies)

Your course grade is calculated as the percentage of total points earned in the course.

Total Points Earned/Total Points Available= % of Points Earned

Grade= % of Points Earned
A 90 - 100 percent
B 80 - 89 percent
C 70 - 79 percent
D 60 - 69 percent
F less than 60 percent

Unit Tests: There will be 4 unit tests. Each test is comprised of material from the lectures and assigned readings/media/activities and assignments. The tests will be taken online and may be electronically proctored. Students will be given at least one-week notice of the exact test date(s) and materials. Each exam is of equal weight (100pts).

Assignments: Assignments will be weighted in accordance with assignment length and required effort. In completing assignments be aware that you in addition to answering the question, you are demonstrating your knowledge and attention to detail. Main things that you should be aware of: 1)Define all terms and explain how they pertain to the specific scenario in question 2)Avoid the use of generative AI or copying and pasting. This is plagiarism. 3)Reread your work before submitting. Look for missing words, spelling, pronoun use, run on sentences. 4)Keep it simple, straight forward, and address the writing prompt completely. I will always grade the last version of an assignment that you turn in. Your assignments must be submitted as a Microsoft office word doc (All students have access to word through mySFA).

Guidelines for the Course
Late and Make-Up Test/Work Policy
Late work will not be accepted; however, you should communicate with the professor regarding any missed work.

If a student misses a test, makeup tests will be scheduled in the event that documentation is provided to the instructor showing that the student was incapacitated during the time in which the test was offered. Students must provide documentation of a University-recognized excused absence to be eligible to take a make-up test. Make-up tests must be completed within a week. In order to do this, the student must contact the instructor, provide documentation of a University-recognized absence, and schedule a time to makeup the test. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor. If a student fails to do so or fails to meet with the instructor in a timely manner (1 week), he/she forfeits his/her opportunity to complete the work and grade of zero will remain in the grade book.

Withheld Grades - Semester Grades Policy (A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable Academic Integrity (4.1)
The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.
SFASU values students' mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

- Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one's own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one's own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.
- Collaboration is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.
- Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.
- Unauthorized use of generative AI tools may represent both plagiarism and/or collaboration and are forbidden for this course.

Withheld Grades  
Semester Grades Policy (5.5)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the coursework because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability-related accommodations, alternate formats, and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004.
(TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services promptly may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Student Wellness and Well-Being
SFASU values students' overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFASU provides a variety of resources to support students' mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
The Dean of Students Office (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents
936.468.7249
dos@sfasu.edu

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic Human Services, Room 202
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
936.468.1041

The Health and Wellness Hub “The Hub”
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.
To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:

- Health Services
- Counseling Services
- Student Outreach and Support
- Food Pantry
- Wellness Coaching
- Alcohol and Other Drug Education

www.sfasu.edu/thehub
936.468.4008
thehub@sfasu.edu

Crisis Resources:
- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
- National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- jnCrisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments
Schedule of topics covered and assignments are listed below. You are expected to have read and be familiar with assigned readings prior to class. Assignments will be made throughout the course and may include in-class activities and homework.

Note: All dates and assignments are tentative and the professor reserves the right to change them. To stay up to date on topics and due dates you should be checking D2L daily.

SFASU values students' mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFASU provides a variety of resources to support students mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Building, Room 202
Course Schedule and Reading Assignments

“Biopsychology” (3 credits) is designed to introduce students to the field of biopsychology by covering the relationships between behavior and underlying physiological mechanisms including neural conduction, sensory receptor mechanisms, learning and memory, and other aspects of higher cortical functioning in both humans and animals. The course typically meets 150 minutes a week in two 75-minute segments or three 50-minute segments for 15 weeks, and also meets for a 2-hour final examination period. Students typically have significant weekly reading assignments, writing assignments, are expected to take regular tests, and a final examination. These activities average at a minimum 6 hours of work each week to prepare outside of classroom hours. Online course sections contain extensive written content that includes the same information students in a face-to-face lecture sections receive, requiring students to engage the online modules for at least three hours per week. For every hour a student spends engaging with the online content, he/she spends at least two hours completing associated activities and assessments.

Schedule of topics covered and assignments are listed below. You are expected to have read and be familiar with assigned readings prior to completing an assignment. Assignments will be made throughout the course.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>LECTURE TOPIC/MODULE/CHAPTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>GETTING STARTED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>INTRODUCTION, OVERVIEW and MAJOR ISSUES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>NERVE CELLS AND THE NERVE IMPULSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SYNAPSES AND DRUGS</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ANATOMY AND RESEARCH METHODS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GENETICS, EVOLUTION, DEVELOPMENT &amp; PLASTICITY</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>THE BIOLOGY OF LEARNING AND MEMORY</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SLEEP AND WAKEFULNESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>MOOD DISORDERS AND SCHIZOPHRENIA</td>
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