

PSYC525

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Course : PSYC525 **Title :** Physiological Psychology

Length of Course : 8

Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This advanced level course focuses on the physiological processes underlying normal and pathological behavior. Neurological features of disorders such as schizophrenia and depression are examined.

Course Scope:

In this course, students will examine the body of knowledge concerning the connection between biological processes and psychological phenomena, including sensation, movement, emotion, memory, and psychopathology, in terms of their underlying biology.

Objectives

Students successfully completing this course will:

1. Examine seminal and contemporary models of the biological basis for behavior
 2. Evaluate methods used to study the biological basis of behavior
 3. Investigate ethical issues related to the study of biological bases for behavior
 4. Examine structures and functions of the brain and nervous system
 5. Articulate models of genetics and their role in behavior
 6. Examine the role of the brain and nervous system in physical and mental health and disease
 7. Demonstrate ability to gather, review, synthesize and critically evaluate scholarly publications in the field and communicate related knowledge in correct APA style and with writing skills commensurate with graduate level
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Outline

Week 1:

Assigned Readings

Ch. 1: Nerve Cells and Nerve Impulses

Ch. 2: Synapses

Weekly Learning Focus

- The scope of the sub-discipline of physiological psychology.
- Seminal and contemporary models of the biological basis for behavior.
- Methods used to study the biological basis of behavior.
- Structures and functions of the brain and nervous system.
- Models of genetics and discuss their role in behavior.
- The role of the brain and nervous system in physical and mental health and disease.
- APA style and writing skills appropriate for graduate level work.
- Ethical and legal issues related to the study of psychology.

Graded Coursework

Week 1 Forum

Week 1 Quiz

Week 2:

Assigned Readings

Ch. 3: Anatomy and Research Methods

Ch. 9: Internal Regulation

Weekly Learning Focus

- Seminal and contemporary models of the biological basis for behavior.
- Methods used to study the biological basis of behavior.
- Structures and functions of the brain and nervous system.
- The role of the brain and nervous system in physical and mental health and disease.
- APA style and writing skills appropriate for graduate level work.

Graded Coursework

Week 2 Forum

Week 2 Quiz

Week 2 Paper

Week 3:

Assigned Readings

Ch. 5: Vision

Ch. 6: Other Sensory Systems

Weekly Learning Focus

- Seminal and contemporary models of the biological basis for behavior.

- Methods used to study the biological basis of behavior.
- Structures and functions of the brain and nervous system.
- The role of the brain and nervous system in physical and mental health and disease.
- APA style and writing skills appropriate for graduate level work.
- Ethical and legal issues related to the study of psychology.

Graded Coursework

Week 3 Forum

Week 3 Quiz

Week 4:

Assigned Readings

Ch. 7: Movement

Ch. 8: Wakefulness and Sleep

Weekly Learning Focus

- Seminal and contemporary models of the biological basis for behavior.
- Methods used to study the biological basis of behavior.
- APA style and writing skills appropriate for graduate level work.
- Ethical and legal issues related to the study of psychology.

Graded Coursework

Week 4 Forum

Midterm Exam

Week 5:

Assigned Readings

Ch. 4: Genetics, Evolution, Development, and Plasticity

Ch. 10: Reproductive Behaviors

Weekly Learning Focus

- Seminal and contemporary models of the biological basis for behavior.
- Methods used to study the biological basis of behavior.
- APA style and writing skills appropriate for graduate level work.
- Ethical and legal issues related to the study of psychology.

Graded Coursework

Week 5 Forum

Week 5 Quiz

Week 6:

Assigned Readings

Ch. 11: Emotional Behaviors

Ch. 12: The Biology of Learning and Memory

Weekly Learning Focus

- Seminal and contemporary models of the biological basis for behavior.
- Methods used to study the biological basis of behavior.
- APA style and writing skills appropriate for graduate level work.
- Ethical and legal issues related to the study of psychology.

Graded Coursework

Week 6 Forum

Week 6 Quiz

Week 6 Paper

Week 7:

Assigned Readings

Ch. 13: Cognitive Functions

Weekly Learning Focus

- Seminal and contemporary models of the biological basis for behavior.
- Methods used to study the biological basis of behavior.
- APA style and writing skills appropriate for graduate level work.
- Ethical and legal issues related to the study of psychology.

Graded Coursework

Week 7 Forum

Week 7 Quiz

Week 8:

Assigned Readings

Ch. 14: Psychological Disorders

Weekly Learning Focus

- Seminal and contemporary models of the biological basis for behavior.
- Methods used to study the biological basis of behavior.
- APA style and writing skills appropriate for graduate level work.
- Ethical and legal issues related to the study of psychology.
- Career opportunities in physiological psychology

Graded Coursework

Week 8 Forum

Final exam

Evaluation

General Assignment Expectations:

It is expected that graduate students will exhibit advanced level critical thinking; the ability to synthesize multiple sources of information, writing skills and academic integrity in all course activities. With the exception of forum posts, assignment submissions completed in a narrative essay or composition format may not be written in first or second person (“I” or “you”). All submitted paper assignments must follow the citation and reference style established by APA the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th ed. (2009, Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association), in size 12 Times New Roman font, double-spaced with 1” margins on all sides of the page and include a cover page with the following centered vertically and horizontally: Student Name, Date of Submission, Assignment Title, Course Name and Professor Name. With the *rare* exception of briefly quoting specific statistical research findings, in which case the publication’s author and year date of publication must be properly cited with quoted material placed inside quotation marks, all paper content **MUST** be paraphrased (summarized in the student’s own words) with correct source citations properly formatted in APA style. ANY copying of any kind and/or failure to include source citations in the paper body and in the assignment’s attached “References” page will result in an assignment score of zero with any repeat instances causing a failing course grade. The website <http://owlenglish.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/> is an excellent, easy to understand resource for APA style formatting and source citation.

Unless otherwise instructed, students may *not* use commercial websites as the basis for completion of any assignments. Encyclopedia websites, such as Wikipedia or Encarta, dictionaries, blogs or opinion slanted news media outlets, and commercial Internet sources such as Web MD or About.com may not be used for any writing assignment. Scholarly, peer-reviewed journals from the APUS Online Library must be used for assignment completion.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Forums: Due Weeks 1 through 8

Scholarly dialogs with classmates will be based on engagement with assigned course readings and/or related multi-media and will take place in the online classroom on designated Forums. General posting and topical instructions for each dialog are posted on its respective forum. No references are required for the discussion forums. Reply posts are required in order to ensure Forum interaction. Initial posting minimum word count is 400 words and each of the three replies minimum word count requirement is 250 words. The initial posting is due on Wednesday and the replies are due on Sunday.

QUIZZES: Due Weeks 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7

These tests are administered online. They are not intended to cover every aspect of the textbook but instead to foster engagement with course materials. They are open-book and untimed.

Midterm and Final Exams: Due Weeks 4 and 8

Non-cumulative midterm and final exams are required. These short essay questions exams are accessible in the classroom via clicking the Assignments link during their scheduled weeks.

Eating Disorders and Treatment Paper: Due Week 2

Students will conduct a search of published literature covering the biological and neurological causes of a selected eating disorder. Additional research discussing the biological treatments must also be included. This paper should contain a minimum of six empirical research studies on the causes and treatments of the disorder. This assignment should be 5 to 6 pages in length excluding the title page, abstract, and reference section and must be complete in APA format (6th ed.).

Treatment of Basal Ganglia Disorders Paper: Due Week 6

Students will conduct a search of published literature covering the biological and neurological causes of a selected disorder of the Basal Ganglia. Additional research discussing the biological treatments must also be included. This paper should contain a minimum of six empirical research studies on the causes and treatments of the disorder. This assignment should be 5 to 6 pages in length excluding the title page, abstract, and reference section and must be complete in APA format (6th ed.).

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Forum Discussions	32.00 %
Week 1 Forum	4.00 %
Week 2 Forum	4.00 %
Week 3 Forum	4.00 %
Week 4 Forum	4.00 %
Week 5 Forum	4.00 %
Week 6 Forum	4.00 %
Week 7 Forum	4.00 %
Week 8 Forum	4.00 %
Week 2 Paper	15.00 %
Week 2 Paper Eating Disorders and Treatments	15.00 %
Week 6 Paper	15.00 %
Week 6 Paper Treatment of Basal Ganglia Disorders	15.00 %
Exams	30.00 %
Week 4 Midterm	15.00 %
Week 8 Final Exam	15.00 %
Quizzes	8.00 %
Week 7 Quiz	1.30 %
Week 6 Quiz	1.30 %
Week 5 Quiz	1.30 %
Week 3 Quiz	1.30 %
Week 1 Quiz	1.40 %
Week 2 Quiz	1.40 %

Materials

Book Title: Anthropologist on Mars

Author: Sacks, Oliver W.

Publication Info: Vintage Books

ISBN: 9780679756972

Book Title: Biological Psychology, 12th ed.

Author: James W. Kalat

Publication Info: Cengage

ISBN: 9781305105409

Kalat, J. W. (2012). Biological psychology (12th ed). Wadsworth Publishing.

Sacks, O. (1996). An anthropologist on mars: Seven paradoxical tales. Vintage Books

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted as part of coursework in the Psychology Department.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on forum assignments in the School of Arts & Humanities—only attribution of sources (please see details regarding forum communication below).

Tutoring

[Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, we understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact your instructor before the due date so you can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes/tests, and assignments. Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes/tests, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.

Turn It In

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc.) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc.). See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure the all submitted work can be accessed and opened by the instructor.

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of a particular group or class.

Communicating on the Forum

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting day/time after which the instructor will grade and provide feedback, you are strongly discouraged from waiting until the due date to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
- "Substantive" means comments that contribute something new and important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says "I agree", even if wordy and thus, meets the length requirement, is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each other as colleagues. Hateful, aggressive, or hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
- Students must post a response to the weekly forums prompt and post the required number of replies to other students – refer to the grading rubric and/or forum instructions for specific expectations on number of replies and word count requirements.

Quizzes and Exams

- Quizzes and exams may consist of true/false, multiple choice, and short essay questions. Each quiz/exam is accessible only once. Once a quiz/exam is accessed, you will not be able to access it again if you disconnect. Therefore, allocate time to complete your assessments.

University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)

- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

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