



Physiological Psychology PSYC 4640

Spring 2025 Course Syllabus

Lecture: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30 AM-10:50 AM

Location: TH 121

Instructor: Michael D. Barnett, Ph.D.

TA: Harrison G. Boynton

Office: TH 242

TA Office: Office hours via zoom

Office Hours: TBD

TA Office Hours: Th 11 am-12 pm; W 10-11 am

Email: Michael.Barnett@unt.edu

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COURSE OVERVIEW: This course offers an overview of physiological psychology and is designed to prepare students for graduate school. The anatomy and physiology of the CNS will be discussed, as well as specific topics including (but not limited to) neurochemistry, neuropharmacology, the physiology of stress/psychoneuroimmunology, memory, and the biological basis of psychological disorders.

TEXTBOOK: Kalat, J. W. (2017). *Biological Psychology*. (13th ed.). Cengage. (ISBN: 978-1-337-40820-2)

ASSIGNMENTS

- **Exams:** There are four handwritten exams that will be taken in person. On exam days, students **1) must bring their own writing utensil and paper, and 2) all electronic devices must be put away!** You will have the entire class time to answer five short essay prompts. We will not deduct points for spelling or grammatical errors, as long as your response is legible enough to be understood. Exam days are on Thursdays, and there will be no formal class on Tuesdays before an exam, so you can use that time to study. A study guide will be posted at least one week before each exam.
- **Extra Credit:** Students may increase their final grade by earning research credits through the SONA system. One research credit earned through SONA is worth 4 course points, and students can apply a maximum of 10 research credits (40 course points). For more information on how to register, visit **SONA Website:** <http://unt.sona-systems.com/> or **SONA Help page:** <http://sites.google.com/site/sonasystemshelp/>.

GRADING SCALE

Assignment	Points	Final Grade
Exam 1	100	A = 360-400
Exam 2	100	B = 359-320
Exam 3	100	C = 319-280
Exam 4	100	D = 279-240
Extra credit	40	

COURSE GUIDELINES

- **Late Policy:** Assignments may receive -2 points every 24 hours late.
- **Student Behavior in the Classroom:** Please limit distractions and respect others.
- **Email Policy:** Before sending a message, please check the syllabus. If you have questions about course content, please email me at Michael.Barnett@unt.edu. Email the TA regarding questions about specific assignments or due dates/course schedule.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Topic	Date	Topic	Exams
1	01/13	Syllabus review	01/15	Ch.1 Nerve Cells and Nerve Impulses	
2	01/20	Ch. 2 Synapses	01/22	Ch. 2 cont.	
3	01/27	Ch. 3 Anatomy and Research Methods	01/29	Ch. 3 cont.	
4		<i>(02/03 + 02/05) - <u>No in-person class.</u> The exam will be completed on Canvas</i>			EXAM 1 due @ 11:59 PM 02/05
5	02/10	Ch. 4 Genetics, Evolution, Development, and Plasticity	02/12	Ch. 4 cont.	
6	02/17	Ch. 5 Vision	02/19	Ch. 5 cont.	
7	02/24	Ch. 6 Other Sensory Systems	02/26	Ch. 6 cont.	
8		<i>03/03 + 03/05 - <u>No in-person class.</u> The exam will be completed on Canvas</i>			EXAM 2 due @ 11:59 PM 03/05
9		<i>(03/10 + 03/12) - <u>No Class</u> - Spring Break</i>			
10	03/17	Ch. 7 Movement	03/19	Ch. 7 cont.	
11	03/24	Ch. 8 Wakefulness and Sleep	03/26	Ch. 8 cont.	
12		<i>(03/31 + 04/02) - <u>No in-person class.</u> The exam will be completed on Canvas</i>			EXAM 3 Due @ 11:59 PM 04/02
13	04/07	Ch. 10 Reproductive Behaviors	04/09	Ch. 10 cont.	
14	04/14	Ch. 11 Emotional Behaviors	04/16	Ch. 11 cont.	
15	04/21	Ch. 14 Psychological Disorders	04/23	Ch. 14 cont.	
16		<i>(04/28 + 04/30) - <u>No in-person class.</u> The exam will be completed on Canvas</i>			EXAM 4 Due @ 11:59 PM 04/30
17		<i>No Class-Finals Week</i>			

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY / MISCONDUCT: Students are reminded that academic misconduct will not be tolerated. For example: (a) copying another students work, in part or in whole; (b) unauthorized communication to obtain information about a test(s); (c) using unauthorized material during a test; (d) handing in any work product that is not your own; (e) signing someone else's name; (f) failing to give credit to the intellectual property of another in any written work (including, but not limited to, plagiarizing). For a more extensive listing of behaviors that are considered "cheating" or "plagiarism", please refer to the official statement of UNT regarding these matters, which may be accessed as part of the *Student Handbook* at the following website: <http://www.unt.edu/csrr> Please note that specific penalties, including assigning a failing grade in this course, may be assigned by the course instructor. For further information on academic misconduct, penalties, and appeal procedures, please view the "Code of Student Conduct and Discipline" at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html

ACCOMMODATIONS: If anyone needs note-taking or test-taking accommodations, please discuss these with the course instructor early in the semester, no later than the 12th day of class. Also, anyone needing test-taking accommodations for religious observances is invited to discuss this with the course instructor early in the semester, again no later than the 12th day of class.

The University of North Texas is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 – The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request an accommodation at any time. However, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

INCOMPLETE GRADES: "I" is a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a term/semester and only if a form signed by the instructor, student, and department chair and must be entered on the grade roster by the instructor. See also "Removal of I" policy in the Academics section of undergraduate catalog. (The UNT Catalog generally allows up to 1 year to remove an "I" grade.). Grades of "I" assigned to an undergraduate course at the end of the Fall 2007 semester and later, will default to "F" unless the instructor has designated a different automatic grade.