

PSYC 460 -- PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY
Section 01 -- Spring 2019 -- MWF 11:00-11:50 -- Sci2 206
COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY -- Dr. King

Catalog Description: A survey of the relationships between the nervous system and behavior. Topics include basic neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, signaling and information processing in the nervous system, psychopharmacology, and selected behavioral topics such as biological rhythms, hunger, thirst, learning and memory. Prerequisite is Psyc 101.

Required Textbook: Neil R. Carlson (2014). *Foundations of Behavioral Neuroscience* (9th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon (Pearson). ISBN: 978-0-205-94029-5.

Attendance Policy: Grading in the class is not based upon attendance, participation, or effort, but only upon performance on the exams. While students are encouraged to attend every class, *attendance is required* only on exam days. No make-up exams will be given **for any reason**. If you do decide to attend class, please be considerate of the people who got here on time. If you miss class, I do not need to know why.

Tests and Grading: Grades in this class will be based on six 50-point topic exams and a 100-point comprehensive final exam. An exam will be given at the conclusion of every topic (see the Course Outline on the next page). That will be *approximately* one exam every two weeks. I will announce the dates for these exams in class and post that information at the website at least one week in advance. You must take four of the topic exams. If you take all six, your two lowest scores will be dropped. If you miss an exam, it will count as 0 and be dropped as one of your low scores. All exams will be objective (multiple choice, matching, T/F) in format.

The comprehensive final exam will consist of 100 questions taken off the topic exams (copied and pasted word for word, although I reserve the right to rearrange the answer options and correct errors). *You must take the final exam. The final exam is NOT optional.*

Final grades will be based on a total of 300 points. No extra credit of any kind is available and there are no points for effort or attendance. Final grades will be based on a 90% A, 80% B, 70% C, 60% D scale, with the upper half of those intervals being plus grades. Grades are based on total points (so rounding the percentages is not valid). There will be no curve.

Dropping the Course: There is no circumstance under which you will be automatically dropped from the course roll. If you decide not to complete the course requirements, *you must file an add-drop form with the registrar* (see your adviser). Otherwise, you will receive a grade of F. The last day to withdraw from the course with a grade of W is Wednesday, March 27th. Thereafter, a grade of WF will be assigned (by the registrar) to those who drop. (W does not count against your GPA, but WF does.)

Notice to Seniors: If you are planning to graduate next Fall, you must file an application to graduate *this semester* (and, of course, there is also a fee that must be paid). It is already TOO LATE to apply for Spring graduation. Please look at your program evaluation before submitting your graduation application online. If it does not say Pending Anticipated Complete at the top, your application will not be approved. See your adviser. If it does say that, you should be good to go. Last date for applying is Friday, April 12th (to the dean). If you don't meet this deadline, your application will be considered late, and the fee is doubled. It would be best if you applied as early as possible after you preregister. Waiting until the last minute is a bad idea in the event that there may be problems.

Web Site: Go to ww2.coastal.edu/kingw and click on the link to Psyc 460. I do NOT use Moodle.

Office and Office Hours: My office is Smith Bldg. 217-I. My office hours this semester are MWF 10:00-10:45, TTh 11:00-11:45, and W 2:00-2:45. It's not easy to reach me by phone, and I do not return calls. My e-mail address is [kingw\(at\)coastal\(dot\)edu](mailto:kingw@coastal.edu). If you send an e-mail, please include a subject line and tell me your name. I delete e-mails without a subject line without looking at them.

Course Outline: The following list of topics is tentative and may be modified if time appears to be a problem. All such modifications will be announced in class and posted at the website. The readings listed in the right column are from the Carlson (2014) textbook and should be considered required. Additional material may be posted at the website or videos shown in class and may also be subject to being included on exams as announced.

topic	required reading
1. Structure and Function of Cells of the Nervous System Exam 1: date TBA	Chapter 2 (all)
2. Structure of the Nervous System (neuroanatomy--brief) Exam 2: date TBA	(Chapter 3--look at the pictures)
3. Psychopharmacology (drugs and behavior) Exam 3: date TBA	Chapter 4 (all)
4. Sleep and Biological Rhythms Exam 4: date TBA	Chapter 8 (pgs. 197 bottom - 215)
5. Ingestive Behavior (hunger and thirst) Exam 5: date TBA	Chapter 11 (pgs. 267-285)
6. Learning and Memory Exam 6: date tentatively Monday, April 29th	Chapter 12 (pgs. 299-TBA)

Dates to Remember: You may want to make note of the following dates.

- Monday, January 21st -- Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday (no classes)
- Monday-Friday, March 11th-15th -- Spring Break
- Wednesday/Thursday, March 20/21st -- Advanced Registration for Seniors (Apr 3/4th Juniors)
- Wednesday, March 27th -- last day to drop with a W
- Friday, April 12th -- last day to apply for Dec 2019 graduation (application to dean)
- Friday, April 19th -- Student Holiday (no classes) (very Good Friday)
- Wednesday, May 1st -- last day of classes this semester
- Friday, May 3rd at 11:00 AM -- **Final Exam** for this class (regular classroom)

=====**Official Nonsense That You Don't Need to Read**=====

Course Objectives: The goal of this course is to familiarize students with the basic principles behind brain function and its relationship to cognition and behavior. The course will prepare students to: 1) understand how psychologists think about behavior from a biological/physiological perspective; 2) understand the structure and chemistry of the brain; 3) understand the relationship between brain function and behavioral states such as sleep, eating, and drinking; 4) understand how the brain is changed by experience.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, you should know: 1) what kinds of cells exist in the nervous system and their structure and function; 2) the gross anatomy of the nervous system; 3) what chemicals serve as neurotransmitters in the brain and how those are influenced by drugs; 4) current research on the causes and functions of sleep; 5) how the brain regulates hunger, eating, thirst, and drinking; 6) how memories are formed in the brain.

ADA Statement: Coastal Carolina University is committed to equitable access and inclusion of individuals with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Individuals seeking reasonable accommodations should contact Accessibility & Disability Services (843-349-2503 or <https://www.coastal.edu/disabilityservices/>).