



**School of Arts & Science
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

**PSYC 215-001
Biological Psychology**

Winter 2010

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	John S. Conklin		
(b)	Office Hours:	See website: Conklin Web Site		
(c)	Location:	F 350 C		
(d)	Phone:	250 370 3196	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	conklin@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:	Conklin Web Site		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Summarize the history of biopsychology, and the relationship of biopsychological theories and methods to the broader field of psychology.
2. Compare the most important research methods used in biopsychology.
3. Discuss the basic concepts, supporting the evidence for the interaction of evolution, genetics and experience in the development of behaviour.
4. Label and summarize the basic structures and functions of the human nervous system.
5. Explain the processes involved in neural conduction and synaptic transmission.
6. Label images of the human visual system and explain basic visual processes in the central nervous system.
7. Discuss the mechanisms of perception, consciousness, awareness and attention.
8. Describe the functioning of the human sensorimotor system.
9. Summarize the processes involved in the development of the human nervous system and the ways in which the human brain attempts to cope with brain damage with an emphasis on neuroplasticity.

10. Discuss human learning, memory and amnesia as they relate to the human brain.
11. Summarize human sexual development, human sexual dimorphism and the effects of hormones on human development and behaviour.
12. Describe a model of drug addiction and a general model of the effects of various drugs on the neuronal function.
13. Discuss various disorders of cognition and emotion with regard to the human brain.
14. Summarize the effects of stress and emotions on human neurophysiology.
15. Discuss the neurophysiology of schizophrenia, depression and anxiety and attempts to treat these disorders.

3. Required Materials

(a) Texts: Pinel, John. (2009: 7e). Biopsychology. Toronto: Allyn and Bacon.

4. Course Content and Schedule See course website in Desire2Learn

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC	READING	ASSIGNMENTS
1	Sept 8	First Seminar: Relaxed introductions/D2L / Course Outline, etc. Weekly lab Ch1; Weekly Practice Test Ch 1	Pinel Ch 1 Read before lecture	See D2L Contents
2	Sept 13	Lecture : Ch 1 and 2 Introduction	Pinel Ch 3:Read before Lecture	-
2	Sept 15	Seminar : Presentations of Weekly lab 1	-	
3	Sept 20	Lecture : Chs 3:, nervous system anatomy	Pinel Chs 4 & 5 Read before next lecture	-

3	Sept 22	Seminar: Weekly lab	-	
4	Sept 27	Lecture: Chs 4 & 5 Synaptic Transmission and Research Methods	Pinel Ch 6 and 7 Read before next lecture	-
4	Sept 29	Seminar : Discussion of Weekly lab Chs 4 & 5	-	
5	Oct 4	Lecture: Ch 6 Vision and 7 Perception	-Chapter 8 and 9	
5	Oct 6	: Article Review Due in Seminar	-	
6	Oct 11	College Closed		
6	Oct 13	Seminar		
6	Oct 18	Lecture Ch 8 Sensory motor and Ch 9 Development	-Chapter 10	-
6	Oct 20	Seminar	-	
8	Oct 25	Lecture Ch 10 + Review for Midterm	-Ch 10 and 11	-
8	Oct 27	Seminar 7	Midterm Exam in Seminar in computer lab Chapters 1-10	
9	Nov 1	Lecture 7 Ch 11 Brain Damage	- Ch 13	
9	Nov 3	Seminar .		-
10	Nov 8	Lecture Ch 13 Hormones and Sex	-Ch 15	-
10	Nov 10	Seminar	-	-

11	Nov 15	Lecture Ch 15 Drugs and Reward	- Ch 16	-
11	Nov 17	Seminar		
12	Nov 22	Lecture Ch 16	-Ch 17	-
12	Nov 24	Seminar 11	--Research Papers Due before Seminar in D2L "Dropbox"	
13	Nov 29	Lecture: Ch 17	-Ch 18	
13	Dec 1	Seminar		-
14	Dec 6	Lecture Ch 18.	-	
14	Dec 8	Seminar [Last day of classes] Review		-
		Final Exam During Exam Week TBA		

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a) Weekly labs and practice tests: 20%

(b) Article Review: 10%

(c) Midterm Exam: 20%

(d) Research Paper: 25%

(e) Final Exam: 25%

Notes:

In order to get credit for a weekly lab you must do the assignment, post it, and be in class to discuss it. In order to get credit for the weekly practice test you must take it before lecture and get 50% or better on it. Only the first attempt counts for credit. Other attempts are for practice.

You may earn a maximum of 20 points or 20% for the combined total of weekly labs and practice tests. There are more than 20 opportunities so you may miss a couple for illness or sloth or whatever and it will not lower your final mark.

6. Grading System: Camosun Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

Temporary Grades Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete</i> : A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress</i> : A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
CW	Compulsory Withdrawal: A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

8. STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**.

It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

Details of weekly assignments, practice tests, article review and research paper will be discussed in class. There is also additional information in the course website.