

School of Arts & Science PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

PSYC 215-001 Biological Psychology

Winter 2011

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 [Students use D2L email please)		
(f)	Website:	Conklin Web Site	<u>e</u>	

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.
- 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	Jan 10	Introduction: Course Outline, D2L, MyPsychLab, Biopsychology	Ch 1	Weekly lab 1Practice Tests Ch 1
1	Jan 12	First Seminar: Relaxed introductions/D2L / Course Outline, etc. Weekly lab 1; Weekly Practice Test Ch 1	Pinel Ch 2 Read before lecture	See D2L Contents
2	Jan 17	Lecture : Ch 1 and 2 Introduction	Pinel Ch 3:Read before Lecture	-
2	Jan 19	Seminar : Presentations of Weekly lab	-	

3	Jan 24	Lecture : Chs 3:, nervous system anatomy	Pinel Chs 4 & 5 Read before next lecture	-
3	Jan 26	Seminar: Weekly lab	-	
4	Jan 31	Lecture: Chs 4 & 5 Synaptic Transmission and Research Methods	Pinel Ch 6 and 7 Read before next lecture	-
4	Feb 2	Seminar : Discussion of Weekly lab Chs 4 & 5	-	
5	Feb 7	Lecture: Ch 6 Vision and 7 Perception	-Chapter 8	
5	Feb 9	: Article Review Summary	- Article Review Due before Seminar in D2L "Dropbox"	
6	Feb 14	Lecture Ch 8	-Chapter 9	
6	Feb 16	Seminar Ch 8		
7	Feb 21	Ch 9 Development	-Chapter 10	-
7	Feb 23	Seminar	-	
8	Feb 28	Lecture Ch 10 + Review for Midterm	-Ch11	-
8	Mar 2	Seminar	Midterm Exam in Seminar in computer lab Chapters 1-10	
9	Mar 7	Lecture Ch 11 Brain Damage	- Ch 13	

9	Mar 9	Seminar .		-
10	Mar 14	Lecture Ch 13 Hormones and Sex	-Ch 15	-
10	Mar 16	Seminar	-	-
11	Mar 21	Lecture Ch 15 Drugs and Reward	- Ch 16	-
11	Mar 23	Seminar		
12	Mar 28	Lecture Ch 16	-Ch 17	-
12	Mar 30	Seminar 11		
13	Apr 4	Lecture: Ch 17	-Ch 18	
13	Apr 6	Seminar Research Paper Summary	Research Papers Due before Seminar in D2L "Dropbox"	-
14	Apr 11	Lecture Ch 18.	-	
14	Apr 13	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.

See the Article Review Guidelines before starting work on the article review. You must use a primary, research article as the source, it is only 250 words, it must be in APA format, you must cite sources, etc.

See the Research Paper Guidelines for starting work on the research paper.

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

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	Α		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	В		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	С		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	Incomplete: 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	In progress: 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. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
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.