

BioPsychology 2730

Spring 2012

SS 378

TTh 10:30 - 11:45 am

Professor's Name: Dr. Lauren Fowler

Professor's e-mail: lfowler@weber.edu OR Through Canvas mail tool

**(This is BY FAR the best way to contact me!)

Professor's Office Phone: 801-626-7620 (answering machine)

Office Hours: TTh 9:30 - 10:30 am; MWF 10:30 - 11:00 am; also by appointment

Office Location: SS 368

Web Site: <http://canvas.weber.edu> ; also <http://faculty.weber.edu/lfowler>

I. Required Materials

- A. Textbook: Kalat, J. W. (2009). *Biological Psychology* (10th ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company. NOTE: 9th edition will also work!
- B. #2 Pencils for taking exams
- C. 50 cents, for purchasing exam scan-tron sheets
- D. Desire to learn and have fun with BioPsychology!

II. Course Grade

A. Examinations

- 1. Four preliminary examinations will be given during the semester (each will make up 25% of your grade). All exams will be taken in the Social Sciences Testing Center. See end of syllabus for information on testing center hours. You have 3 days to take each exam.
- 2. A comprehensive final examination (25% of grade) will be given April 12th - 17th in the Social Sciences Testing Center.
- 3. You may NOT make-up any exam that is missed. You have 3 days to take each exam, so please schedule your time wisely. We will not have class on the day of the exam. If you have a scheduling conflict, you may schedule to take an exam a day early at no penalty (you must notify me in writing to do this). NO EXAMINATIONS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER THE EXAMINATION PERIOD IS OVER. Your lowest exam grade will be dropped. So, if after the 4 preliminary exams you have an A average, you do NOT have to take the final exam! So do well during the semester ☺

4. Extra Credit will be offered on each exam. As the name implies, this is credit for work above and beyond what most students normally do. This means that the grading for extra credit is more rigorous, and it is all or none. If you perform in a substandard fashion, you will not receive any credit. You may not go back at the end of the semester and try to bring your grade up by completing numerous extra credit assignments.
5. After the exam period is over, you may review the exam on chitester to see which questions you missed (it will only tell you what you missed; you may review the actual test after I hand it back in class). You may see your grade on the multiple choice portion of the test immediately after you complete the exam by going to your student portal or to chitester.weber.edu. I will attempt to return all exams approximately 1 week after the end of the exam period.

B. NCUR Research Write-Up

Weber State is hosting the National Conference for Undergraduate Research from March 29th - 31st. We will not have class on the 29th, and instead you will have the opportunity to attend the conference and observe research pertaining to biological psychology. You will attend either 2 oral presentations or 3 posters and write up a summary and description of the research you observed, and tell what you learned. More information on this will be found on the Canvas website. This write-up will be turned in using Canvas, and it is due by the start of class (10:30 am) on April 3rd.

C. Course Grade

The course grade will be assigned according to the scale indicated below:

<u>Numeric Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
90-100	A
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
60-66	D
Below 60	E

III. Course Outline

<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Date</u>
(1), 2, 3	Exam 1	January 26 th - 28 th
4, 5	Exam 2	February 16 th - 18 th
6, 7	Exam 3	March 8 th - 10 th
14, 15	Exam 4	*April 5 th - 10 th
Comprehensive	Final	April 12 th - 17 th

*There is no class on the first day of each exam, except for exam 4. For exam 4, we will have class on the 5th, and the exam will start after class and run through the 10th, when there will be no class.

IV. Additional Information

A. Attendance

Attendance is not required for this class. However, anything discussed in class may be included on an exam, even if that information is not found in the textbook or study guide. In addition, I frequently show video clips or longer videos that cannot be viewed at any time other than during class. Thus, it is in everyone's best interest to attend, and it is **STRONGLY** suggested!!!

**IF you miss class, there are two things you can do to get the material you missed. You may get the outline from the PowerPoint online, and/or you may get notes from someone in class. PLEASE do not come to my office and ask me IF YOU MISSED anything or if I will re-teach the material that you missed. I will be more than happy to answer your questions, but you have to put in the time to learn the material first!

B. Class Contact

Often it is necessary to miss a part or all of class. When that happens, or when you have questions that you cannot answer on your own, it is helpful to have another student in class that you can contact. On Canvas, you can contact any student in class, or the entire class (if you want).

C. Class Courtesy

This is a large class, so please be courteous to others when coming late to or leaving early from class. Also, please refrain from talking during class lecture,

unless you are participating in a class discussion. Eating and drinking in class are allowed, as long as it is not disruptive to the learning environment. **PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES IN CLASS!!** It is inappropriate and rude to text message or use your cell phone during class. Any disruptive behavior will be addressed immediately, and if the behavior does not cease, you will be asked to leave class.

D. Grade Appeals

If, after receiving an exam back during class, you think a mistake has been made in the grading of **your** exam, please email me with your concern, along with support of your answer based on the textbook and course materials.

You will receive a response, and any grade adjustment necessary, within a week. You may also do this with homework assignments. **THIS IS THE ONLY WAY** that your concerns will be addressed. **ONLY** written questions **THAT YOU SUPPORT** will be evaluated for grade changes.

E. Plagiarism/Cheating

Whenever you try to pass off someone's work that is not your own, that is cheating. If you cheat on **ANY** assignment (even extra credit!), you will receive a grade of **E (Failing) for the course**. Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of infringements that constitute cheating.

<http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

Plagiarism is when you represent someone else's ideas or words as your own. For a **very** detailed description of plagiarism, please go to the web site and review the **PLAGIARISM** description (in the file **HOW TO AVOID PLAGIARISM BY REALLY TRYING**). You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism. **ANY** plagiarism (even unintentional) will result in a failing grade **for the course**.

F. Students with Disabilities

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD).

G. Students' Rights and Responsibilities

Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of all WSU student rights and responsibilities.

<http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

H. Canceled Classes

In case of class cancelation for any reason, please check Canvas as soon as possible. Class may be canceled due to weather, force of nature, pandemic, illnesses, or free donuts at Krispy Kreme. In case of closure, check your email through the course website to determine if there are any changes in due dates, class requirements, etc. If you set up your notifications in Canvas so that you receive a text and/or email if I post an announcement, that is the ideal situation. That way you know immediately if I have to cancel class.

V. Course Objectives

- A. This course will teach students how Biological Psychologists attempt to relate behavior and experience to the activities of the brain and the rest of the body. Specifically, human and non-human behaviors will be studied to determine how they relate to specific brain activities and functions.
- B. Students will learn about the relationship between the nervous system of the human body and how a body reacts to its environment. Students will learn how physiological systems, including parts of the nervous system, sensory systems, perceptual systems, and regulatory systems, interact with the environment to produce behaviors and provide functioning in a variety of situations.

VI. Grade Record

Please keep a record of the grades you receive on each exam. This will help insure that you are always aware of your academic progress in this class. You may also check your grades on the grades tool on Canvas (note: I will update these approximately 1 week after exams are returned).

Exam #1	_____ (22%)
Exam #2	_____ (22%)
Exam #3	_____ (22%)
Exam #4	_____ (22%)
NCUR Write-up	_____ (12%)

Final Exam

_____ (22%)

Your final grade is determined by dropping the lowest of the 5 exams and then averaging the remaining 4 exams and the NCUR write-up.

**The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary. By continuing in the course after reading the syllabus, you are indicating that you accept the terms of the syllabus.