

PSY 303 Spring 2016
Physiological Psychology

Instructor:
Office:
Phone:
Email:
WebCampus site details to follow

Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00-2:00
and by appointment

Course Text: Physiology of Behavior (11th edition)
by Neil R. Carlson

Prerequisites: All students should have completed an introductory biology course.

Grades: Your course grade will be based on a total of 3 exams (each worth 30% of overall grade). Each exam will consist of fill-in, matching, and short answer questions. The exams will cover lecture material as well as assigned readings from the text and other sources. Attendance for the lectures is vital for success in this course as the lectures are designed to cover additional materials and topics not in the assigned readings. The remaining 10% of your grade will be based on a brief paper (3-5 pages) reviewing an original research article in the field of physiological psychology/behavioral neuroscience. The paper will be evaluated for clarity of the description, understanding of the topic, review of the methods, interpretations of the data, and any limitations of the project. All students must select a peer-reviewed article and have it approved by the instructor as appropriate by **March 16**. The deadlines for approval of the research paper as well as the due date for the paper will not be extended. Students may turn in the research paper anytime before the deadline but papers will not be accepted for any reason after the due date.

Course Overview/ Learning Outcomes:

The course will focus on the field of physiological psychology and a broader domain known as behavioral neuroscience. This research focuses on how the brain produces behavior as well as how the environment influences brain function. The material presented is complex and will require each student to keep up with the assigned reading and lecture material. We will start with the basic overview of the nervous system and how it functions and progress to more complex systems and behaviors. Throughout the semester each student should be able to define and describe not only how the nervous system functions but how it gives rise to behavior in a variety of areas.

In class activity: All students are expected to participate in classroom activity as well as avoid disrupting the class for other students. All cell phones are to be off or set on silent. Any student that cheats on an exam or plagiarizes another's work will receive a failing grade in the class and will be referred to the appropriate disciplinary authority at UNLV.

Policies for missed exams or assignments: Students are required to notify the instructor if they are unable to complete an exam or assignment at the scheduled time. This notification must also include a valid reason for missing the exam. If no notification and justification are provided the student will receive a zero for the assignment. In the case of an emergency a student must inform the instructor as soon as possible (within 24 hours) with documentation for the reason for missing an exam/assignment. Any student that provides a valid reason for missing an exam will be given until the next scheduled meeting of the class to complete the exam, which will be administered by the Department of Psychology main office staff. In the rare occasion that a student cannot complete the exam prior to the next scheduled class meeting due to a valid reason, the student will be allowed to complete a make-up exam (essay questions using a blue-book) within one week of the exam date. Failure to provide adequate justification for missing an assignment OR failure to complete an assignment within the time frames listed above will result in no points for the exam or assignment.

University Policy and Resources:

Copyright –

The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **YOU ARE INDIVIDUALLY AND SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLATIONS OF COPYRIGHT AND FAIR USE LAWS. THE UNIVERSITY WILL NEITHER PROTECT NOR DEFEND YOU NOR ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEE OR STUDENT VIOLATIONS OF FAIR USE LAWS.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. To familiarize yourself with copyright and fair use policies, you are encouraged to visit the following website: <http://www.unlv.edu/committees/copyright/>.

Disability Resource Center (DRC) – The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, <http://drc.unlv.edu/>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you.

If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that **you** may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor before or after class to discuss your accommodation needs.

Academic Misconduct – Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the *Student Academic Misconduct Policy* (approved December 9, 2005) located at: <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct>.

Religious Holidays Policy – Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor no later than the end of the first two weeks of classes, January 30, 2015, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: <http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.

Incomplete Grades - The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student's control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

Tutoring – The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring and academic assistance for all UNLV students taking UNLV courses. Students are encouraged to stop by the ASC to learn more about subjects offered, tutoring times and other academic resources. The ASC is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Students may learn more about tutoring services by calling 702-895-3177 or visiting the tutoring web site at: <http://academicsuccess.unlv.edu/tutoring/>.

UNLV Writing Center – One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student's Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: <http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>

Rebelmail – By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always [@unlv.nevada.edu](mailto:unlv.nevada.edu). **Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.**

Tentative Course Schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Content and Corresponding Book Chapter</u>
Jan. 18th-	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday	
Feb. 15 th -	Washington birthday holiday	
Feb. 22nd-	Exam 1	Basic structure and function of NS Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and supplements
March 16 -	Deadline for instructor to approve research article for review paper	
March 21 and 23-	Spring break	
March 30-	Exam 2	Sensory systems, movement, and sleep Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9, and supplements
April 27th-	Research Review Paper Due (by the beginning of class)	
May 9th-	Exam 3	Learning and memory, neurological and psychological disorders, drug effects/ abuse Chapters 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, and supplements