

# Physiological Psychology

PSB 4004C, section 521 – Spring 2012

University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee

Instructor: Richard Reich, Ph.D.

Office Hours: Thu. 12:15-2:15,  
& by Appt

Meeting time: Tue & Thu, 11:00-12:15 PM

Office: C252

IN PERSON: 1/10, 2/16, 3/29, 5/1

Classroom: TBA

Phone: (941) 359-4219

Course Website: <https://my.usf.edu>

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**Psychology Mission Statement:** The curriculum for a Psychology degree from USF Sarasota-Manatee prepares graduates for the many occupations (e.g., human services, community or public relations, administration, and advertising and market research) and graduate work in such disciplines as clinical, cognitive, social or industrial psychology, education, gerontology, counseling, management, medicine, law, and other human service programs. By the time our majors are ready to graduate, they are equipped with two vital skill sets. First, our majors are familiar with numerous factors influencing behavior and mental processes, and the interactions between them. These factors range from the molecular (communication in the brain) to the cultural (human diversity). Second, our majors have developed the critical thinking skills necessary for the consumption and production of psychological research. These skills include writing and familiarity with the ethics of conducting psychological research. Students will have the opportunity to take a capstone course that allows them to create their own research study to demonstrate these competencies.

**Course Introduction:** Physiological psychology is a course in how humans work. From thinking to moving to sleeping to sex, all human behavior is based in actual tissue—our physiology. The most remarkable and powerful of this tissue is the brain. This course will provide in-depth coverage on all of the physiological bases of a wide variety of behaviors. Specific attention will be given to how the brain and central nervous system play a role in each of these behaviors. Additionally, we will pay attention to the genes that guide the development of all bodily tissue. The goals of this class are to familiarize you with the human body from large organs to microscopic neurons, and to study how the body develops throughout the life span.

This course will be composed of lectures that correspond to chapters in the textbook. Because the class is online, participation by students will be solicited, although not required. Grades will be based on 3 exams, an article summary/critique, and a video clip. The student completing this course should be (1) familiar with the major areas of the human brain 2) familiar with how neurons send information to all body parts (3) familiar with how the body guides specific behaviors; (4) familiar with the current understanding of basic human genetics.

**Prerequisite:** Research Methods with grade of “C” or better.

**Required Text:**

Kalat, J.W. (2013). *Biological Psychology: 11<sup>th</sup> Edition*. CA: Wadsworth-Thomson Learning.

**Website:** The syllabus, lecture outlines, lectures, grades, and other course-related materials, announcements, discussion board and assignments will be posted on the “My USF” website. You can access this site at <https://my.usf.edu>. **It is expected that all students will have access to this site, and therefore will be responsible for assignments/materials. Please check the site frequently!**

Students needing instruction in Blackboard:

- [http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/CampusComputing/Documents/CC\\_Student\\_Resources.php](http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/CampusComputing/Documents/CC_Student_Resources.php)

Students needing technical assistance with Blackboard:

- Toll-free Helpline: 866-974-1222
- Live online help:  
<http://usfsupport.custhelp.com/cgi-bin/usfsupport.cfg/php/enduser/chat.php>

We will be using Elluminate software for the lectures. To make sure your computer is capable of handling the Elluminate sessions, please check the following website:  
<http://elluminate.com/support/index.jsp>

**Students with Disabilities**

Students are responsible for registering with the Office of Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) in order to receive academic accommodations. Reasonable notice must be given to the SDS office (typically 5 working days) for accommodations to be arranged. It is the responsibility of the student to provide each instructor with a copy of the official Memo of Accommodation. Contact Information: Pat Lakey, Coordinator, 941-359-4714; [plakey@sar.usf.edu](mailto:plakey@sar.usf.edu) ; [www.sarasota.usf.edu/Students/Disability/](http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/Students/Disability/)

**Religious Preference Absence Policy** : Students who anticipate being absent from class on a day in which an exam is to be given due to the observation of a major religious observance or USF business must provide notice of the date to the instructor, in writing, by the second class meeting.

**Requirements & Evaluation:** Attendance is required on the first day of class and each session in which an exam will be given. Although attendance to other class sessions is not mandatory, students who attend class and have read the assigned material tend to learn more and get better grades than those who do not. Participation in class discussion and activities is recommended to enhance understanding of the material. One extra credit point will be awarded for each live online lecture attended. Your knowledge of physiological psychology will be evaluated through three exams. These exams will be multiple-choice and cover the lecture, book materials, and discussion board. Additionally, you will be required to submit a brief article summary/critique on a

supplemental topic. This will be posted to the course discussion board and could be a topic of discussion during lecture. You will be assigned the topic. Topics will be announced at least two weeks in advance. You will be the administrator for your discussion board "thread." As such, you will be expected to respond to the comments of classmates. More details will be posted on the course website. Students also will be asked to identify a brief (< 5 minutes) video clip demonstrating some aspect of biological psychology. The nature of these clips is very open-ended. These clips will be posted to the course website and will be presented via Elluminate toward the end of the semester. The topic for the video clips will be your choice. Finally, in addition to the required posts mentioned above, students will be required to make 5 thoughtful posts to different discussion topics throughout the semester.

### Course Point Allocation Scheme:

Exam 1	125 points
Exam 2	125 points
Exam 3	125 points
Posted article summary/critique	75 points
Posted video clip	25 points
Discussion board activity	25 points
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	500 points

### Grading Scale:

488 to 500 points = A+
463 to 487 points = A
448 to 462 points = A-
438 to 447 points = B+
413 to 437 points = B
398 to 412 points = B-
388 to 397 points = C+
363 to 387 points = C
348 to 362 points = C-
338 to 347 points = D+
313 to 337 points = D
298 to 312 points = D-
0 to 297 points = F

**Attendance to Exams:** Students **must** be in attendance for exams with their USF student ID. If an emergency necessitates missing exam or any in-class assignment, adequate and appropriate documentation of the emergency will be required to take a make-up exam. Students with such emergencies must notify the instructor **prior or within 24 hours** of the scheduled time for the exam.

During exams you **may not leave the room**. You must bring your student ID to **each exam**. You will only be permitted to have pencils, erasers and student ID at your desk. Please leave refreshments, book bags, and other materials in the front of the

classroom or do not bring them at all. Turn off all cell phones. You are responsible for bringing your own #2 pencils to the exams.

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**Extra Credit:** You can earn up to 10 extra credit points by participating in approved Psychology Department research projects. Each half-hour or portion thereof, will earn you 1 experimental point. The experimental points will be added to your grade at the end of the semester. If you wish to sign up for research projects, please start early in the semester as there may not be any opportunities to participate in experiments at the end of the semester.

I receive notification of your experimental point values through the department at the end of the semester. You can verify the point values with me on the day of the final exam. The URL for experiments was <http://usf.sona-systems.com> . There is also a link through the Tampa campus's psychology department homepage.

Many of the available experiments are only available at the Tampa campus; however, online surveys are available, and I will be inviting researchers to run studies at the end of some of our classes (I will notify you in advance).

You may earn 1 extra credit point for every live Elluminate lecture you attend. You must be in attendance when I take roll during the lecture. That will typically be near the end of the lecture. Partial lecture attendance will not count.

You may earn a maximum of 20 extra credit points (Research participation + lecture attendance)

**Academic Honesty:** Cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated. The policy in the Department of Psychology is that, in general, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the chair, who will, following the appropriate procedures, recommend disciplinary action. The University's policy on Academic Honesty from the undergraduate catalog can be accessed at the following website:  
<http://www.ugs.usf.edu/catalogs/0203/adadap.htm>

**Academic Disruption:** The University does not tolerate behavior that disrupts the learning process. The policy for addressing academic disruption is included with Academic Dishonesty in the catalog: [www.ugs.usf.edu/catalogs/0607/adadap.htm](http://www.ugs.usf.edu/catalogs/0607/adadap.htm). Occurrences of academic disruption should be addressed by the professor (depending on the situation, the student may be asked to leave or security may be called). Following the incident, the professor should establish with the student terms for continued course participation, and the professor should also submit a report to the dean. The consequences to the student can range from an administrative reprimand to suspension from USF.

### **Contingency Plans**

In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for USFSM to suspend normal operations. During this time, USFSM may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Blackboard, Elluminate, Skype, and email

messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It's the responsibility of the student to monitor Blackboard site for each class for course specific communication, and the main USFSM and College websites, emails, and MoBull messages for important general information. The USF hotline at 1 (800) 992-4231 is updated with pre-recorded information during an emergency.

### **Emergency Preparedness**

It is strongly recommended that you become familiar with the USF Sarasota-Manatee Emergency Action Plan on the Safety Preparedness site  
<http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/facilities/SafetyPreparedness.php>

### **Fire Alarm Instructions**

At the beginning of each semester please note the emergency exit maps posted in each classroom. These signs are marked with the primary evacuation route (red) and secondary evacuation route (orange) in case the building needs to be evacuated.

**Last Date to Withdraw: 03/24/2012**

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### **Schedule of Events**

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Week	Date	Topic	Kalat Chapter(s)
1	1/10, 1/12	Introduction	1
2	1/17, 1/19	Neurons	2
3	1/24, 1/26	Synapse	3
4	1/31, 2/2	Nervous System	4
5	2/7, 2/9	Brain Development	5
6	2/14, <b>2/16</b>	Review and <b>Exam 1 in class</b>	1-5
7	2/21, 2/23	Vision	6
8	2/28, 3/1	Other Sensory Systems	7
9	3/6, 3/8	Movement	8
10	3/20, 3/22	Sleep, Internal Regulation	9, 10
11	3/27, <b>3/29</b>	Review and <b>Exam 2 in class</b>	6-10
12	4/3, 4/5	Reproduction, Emotion	11,12
13	4/10, 4/12	Cognition	13, 14
<b>Last day to submit video clips (4/12)</b>			
14	4/17, 4/19	Psychological Disorders, Catch-up	15

**All discussion board replies must be complete**

**Video clip votes due (4/19)**

15	4/24, 4/26	Video Clips/Review
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16	5/1	<b>EXAM 3 in class (Chapters 11-15)</b>
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