

PSYC 271 - Brain and Behaviour I Syllabus

Term Dates and Exam

Winter Term: Jan 5 - Apr 2, 2015

Examination Period: Apr 9 - 25, 2015

Course Description

An introduction to behavioural neuroscience. The course primarily focuses on the basics of neuronal operation, functional neuroanatomy, neuropharmacology, and behavioral neuroscience methods. This will be followed by an examination of input (sensory) and output (motor) systems of the brain. Finally, topics relevant to lateralization of function and language will be covered.

Prerequisite: PSYC 100/6.0

Course Introduction

First, you will gain a working knowledge of basic brain terminology and functioning. This information can then be used to gain an understanding of how the brain is able to process complex information and respond accordingly.

Second, you will learn about theories developed to explain how the brain works and also how scientists study the brain in order to assess these theories.

Biopsychology is very multidisciplinary and our body of knowledge comes from various fields of study, including physiological psychology, neuropsychology, neurology and neuroimmunology. By combining research ideas from all of these disciplines, a more complete picture of the brain is beginning to emerge. I say beginning because the brain is truly a challenge for scientists to understand, as its ability to evolve and adapt is so great. I believe understanding the brain and its role in behaviour is the ultimate challenge for science!

Key Dates

Biopsychology, 9th Edition, by John P.J. Pinel, with accompanying [MyPsychLab](#) access code (online study resource)

If you wish to buy access to MyPsychLab separately:

MyPsychLab standalone access code card (includes ebook) ISBN: 020598827X - Available from [Queen's Campus Bookstore](#)

MyPsychLab standalone access code card (without ebook) - Purchase online through <https://pearsonmylabandmastering.com> when registering

Please see the [MyPsychLab Student Registration Instructions](#) for more information on MyPsychLab access. The Course ID is valsangkar-smyth14897. The textbook website has online videos, simulations and review quizzes which can be found on the Course Homepage

The 3-hour final exam will be written during the Exam Period (April 9-25). It will consist of 120 Multiple Choice Questions, covering the entire course and is worth 60% of your final grade.

PLEASE NOTE: You must PASS the final exam in order to pass the course.

Once the exam schedule has been finalized the exam date will be posted on your SOLUS

of date/time/location of their exam. Please note: off campus exams will be held on the same day as Kingston exams, but the **start time** may vary slightly due to the requirements of the off-campus exam centre.

When you registered for the course, you indicated the exam centre location. If you do not remember the exam location you chose, or if you wish to change your exam location, please email: cds@queensu.ca or call 613-533-3322. The deadline for changing your exam centre can be found at http://www.queensu.ca/artsci_online/e-learning/completing-your-course. You must request the change prior to this deadline or you will be subject to a non-refundable administrative fee of \$100.00 per exam.

All special needs students should contact CDS, immediately following registration to inform them of any special accommodations which may be required for proctored exams. For further information regarding exams, see: http://www.queensu.ca/artsci_online/e-learning/completing-your-course

Accommodations

PLEASE NOTE: If you require special accommodations for the assignments, please contact the instructor within the first 2 weeks of the course.

Queen's University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Disability Services Office (DSO) and register as early as possible. For more information, including important deadlines, please visit the DSO website at: <http://www.queensu.ca/hcds/ds>

Grading

All components of this course will receive numerical percentage marks. The final grade you receive

A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52
F	49 and below

Moodle Announcements and News

The instructor will use the Announcements forum to post news to the class. Copies of the

Moodle Question and Answer Forum

You are encouraged to use these forums to post questions of general interest to the class. The instructor, TA (if any), and other students in the class can reply to the posts in this forum.

Timeline and Calendar

The link to the Course Timeline is located in the top right corner of the table on the course homepage and shows the dates for all of the assessments used in this course as well as provides links to other important course information. Please check the Timeline each time you enter the course.

The calendar located in the top right corner of the course Moodle homepage shows important course dates, such as assignment due dates and quiz due dates. Please check the calendar frequently.

If there are discrepancies between dates in the course Moodle site, the Timeline will be considered accurate.

Computer Requirements

Microsoft Window Client:

Windows: XP/Vista/Windows 7/Windows 8
Pentium III 1 GHz processor
256 MB RAM
Soundcard with speakers and microphone or preferably a headset

Mac:

OS X 10.5
G4, G5 or Intel processor
256 MB RAM
Internal, USB or external iSight microphone

Browser:

FireFox (recommended)
Internet Explorer version 6 or higher

Java:

Version 1.5 or higher (Note: Windows users can use only the 32-bit version of Java -

Contact CDS: cds@queensu.ca or phone 613-533-

grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.