Psychology 106: Behavioral Neuroscience
Fall, 2017

Professor: Dr. Karen Dobkins, Ph.D.
5117 McGill Hall    e-mail: kdobkins@ucsd.edu

Lecture Notes Available: https://quote.ucsd.edu/kdobkins/psych-106-notes/ (posted before each class)

Class Meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2:00 – 3:20 pm, Solis 107

Professor Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10 am- 12, Rm. 5117 McGill Hall

James W. Kalat
Cengage
Copies: Course Reserves at Social Sciences and Humanities in Geisel Library

Optional Study Guide: “Study Guide to Accompany Kalat’s Biological Psychology”
Packet: Book/Study Guide

TAs    e-mail                   Office Hours                     Where
Andy Arnold    ajarnold@ucsd.edu           Monday, 3:30 – 5:30 pm           McGill 3125B
Michael Turvey    mturvey@ucsd.edu          Thursday 9 – 11 am              Mandler 3552
Lily Trinh    n2trinh@ucsd.edu          Friday, 12 – 2 pm               Mandler 1503

Purpose: The goal of this course is to understand mental processes and behavior in terms of underlying biological mechanisms, using evidence from both human and animal studies. The course covers basic anatomy and physiology of the Nervous System and spans a wide range of interesting topics and methodologies, so that students can receive a well-rounded introduction to Physiological Psychology and Neuroscience.

Format: Lectures will be based on material in the textbook as well as from outside sources. You will be responsible for, and tested on, material from both the lectures and the textbook, although the exams focus largely on material from the lectures! Also, there will sometimes be guest lecturers who are particularly knowledgeable about a topic. You will be responsible for the material from these classes.

Exams and Grading: Grades will be based on three (3) exams (multiple choice only). These exams will not be cumulative, but rather, each will cover one-third of the course. The third exam will be given during FINALS week. Each of the three exams will contribute roughly the same to your final grade, but weighted by the number of questions on each exam. We will provide answer sheets for the exams. There are no make-up exams!!

Grading will be as per university standards, however, grades will be curved upwards if necessary.

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\begin{align*}
\geq 96.67 &= \text{A+} \\
93.33 - 96.66 &= \text{A} \\
90.00 - 93.32 &= \text{A-} \\
86.67 - 89.99 &= \text{B+} \\
83.33 - 86.66 &= \text{B} \\
80.00 - 83.32 &= \text{B-} \\
76.67 - 79.99 &= \text{C+} \\
73.33 - 76.66 &= \text{C} \\
70.00 - 73.32 &= \text{C-} \\
60.00 - 69.99 &= \text{D} \\
< 59.99 &= \text{F}
\end{align*}
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Extra Credit for Participation in Psychology Experiments:
You can increase your final grade by 1 (percentage) point by participating in 3 hours of experiments for the Psychology Department (it is all or none). After you participate, you need to assign the credits to this class! If you sign up and fail to show without cancelling, however, there are negative repercussions. While you are not required to take part in these experiments, your participation can advance your grade from an A- (92.4) to an A (93.4), for example. There is no partial credit! Sign up through SONA at https://ucsd.sona-systems.com/. NOTE: You may instead write a research paper if you do not want to do a SONA study.
Syllabus
Psychology 106, Fall 2017
Instructor: Dr. Karen Dobkins, Ph.D.

1) Sept 28: Introduction to Class (Intro)
2) Oct 3: Major Issues of Biological Psychology (Intro)
3) Oct 5: Nerve Cells & Nerve Impulses (Chapter 1)
4) Oct 10: Synapses & Drugs (Chapter 2). Save “Hormones” section for later in the course
5) Oct 12: Anatomy of the Nervous System (Chapter 3)
6) Oct 17: Investigating how the Brain Works (Chapter 4 and throughout the book)
7) Oct 19: Development & Evolution of the Brain, Intelligence (Chapter 4, and a bit from 3)
8) Oct 24: EXAM #1 (Material from Lectures 1 - 7)
9) Oct 26: Vision (Chapter 5)
10) Oct 31: Vision, continued, (Chapter 5)
11) Nov 2: Audition (Chapter 6)
12) Nov 7: The Mechanical Senses: Vestibular and Somatosensation (Chapter 6)
13) Nov 9: Circadian Rhythms & Sleep (Chapter 8), Lecturer: Liz Harrison, PhD
14) Nov 14: EXAM #2 (Material from Lectures 9 - 13)
15) Nov 16: Hormones & Sexual Behavior (Chapter 10, and parts of Chapter 2 and 3)
16) Nov 21: Emotional Behaviors: Fear, Anxiety, Aggression (Chapter 11)
17) Nov 28: Autonomic Nervous System, Stress and Health (Chapter 11, and parts of Chapter 2)
18) Nov 30: Learning & Memory (Chapter 12)
19) Dec 5: Learning & Memory: Neural Mechanisms (Chapter 12)
20) Dec 7: Hemispheric Lateralization & Language (Chapter 13)

FINAL (Exam #3): Dec 14th, 3 – 6 pm: Location: TBD
(Material from Lectures 15 - 20)
Extra Notes:

1) DISABILITIES: Any student with a documented disability will be accommodated according to University policy. For details, please consult the Office of Students with Disabilities (OSD): http://disabilities.ucsd.edu. If you require accommodation for any component of the course, please provide the instructor with documentation from OSD as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations cannot be made retroactively under any circumstances.

2) ACADEMIC HONESTY: I have zero tolerance for academic dishonesty. This includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, copying, collaborating with others on solo assignments (papers), using unauthorized aids during test-taking, falsifying doctor’s notes, reusing part or all of an assignment from another class without permission, or any other practice which gives you or any other student an unfair advantage in the course. I am here to help you with any questions you may have. If you feel that the course is moving too quickly or you have additional questions, please come to my office hours or email me and I will do my best to help you. Let’s all respect each other and UCSD enough to take this class seriously and honestly.