

Psychology 106: Behavioral Neuroscience

Winter 2021

Class Meetings: T/Th: 9:30 – 10:50 am, <https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/99966729741>

Professor: Karen Dobkins, Ph.D. e-mail: kdobkins@ucsd.edu

Professor Office Hours: W: 11 am – 12 pm, <https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/94958418812>

<u>TA</u>	<u>e-mail</u>	<u>Office Hours</u>	<u>Where</u>
Debra Lindsay	dlindsay@ucsd.edu	Wednesday, 3- 4 pm,	https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/98755411480
Jarrett Lovelett	jlovelet@ucsd.edu	Tuesday, 11 am- 12,	https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/2257960521
Monica O'Neal	m1oneal@ucsd.edu	Thursday, 1 - 2 pm,	https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/6263753732

Textbook (Optional): “Biological Psychology”, 13th edition (earlier editions are fine too)
James W. Kalat. Cengage
- Hardcopy (UCSD Bookstore)
- Ebook (Redshelf, see below)

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

Purpose: The goal of this course is to understand *mental processes* and *behaviors* 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 to provide students a well-rounded introduction to Behavioral Neuroscience.

Format: Lectures will be in 15 – 20 minutes *blocks* with 5 – 10 minute breaks in-between. Because I also teach “Learning Sustainable Well-being ([Psych 88](#))” at UCSD, I plan to incorporate some Mindfulness and well-being practices/wisdoms into these lectures. I hope you will enjoy that, especially in these stressful times.

Exams and Grading: Grades will be based on 3 multiple-choice exams (90% of your grade), and 10 weekly writing assignments (10% of your grade). YOU ARE ALLOWED TO MISS ONE ESSAY ONLY.

1) Exams: Exams will be TAKE-HOME and OPEN-BOOK. The exams will **not** be cumulative. Instead, each will cover one-third of the course materials. Exams 1 and 2 will be open for 90 minutes during a 12 hour time window. Exam 3 will be given during *finals* week (and will be open for 3 hours at the listed time). *There are no make-up exams!!*

2) Weekly writing assignment: By the end of Friday each week (11:59 pm), write a 1 – 2 paragraph (no more than 1 page) summary of what aspect of Neuroscience you enjoyed learning about the most from that week and why. (You can choose from either of the two lectures)

Grading will be as per university standards:

≥ 96.67 = A+	86.67 – 89.99 = B+	76.67 – 79.99 = C+	
93.33 – 96.66 = A	83.33 – 86.66 = B	73.33 – 76.66 = C	60 – 69.99 = D
90.0 – 93.32 = A-	80.0 – 83.32 = B-	70.0 – 73.32 = C-	< 59.99 = F

Extra Credit for Participation in Psychology Experiments:

You can *increase your final grade* by 1 (percentage) point by participating in *1 hour* of experiments for the Psychology Department. After you participate, you need to assign the credits to this class! If you sign up and fail to show up without cancelling, however, there are negative repercussions. Although you are *not required to take part in these experiments*, your participation can increase your grade from, say, an A- (92.4) to

an A (93.4). There is no partial credit (e.g., if you do 0.5 hours)! Sign up through *SONA* at <https://ucsd.sona-systems.com/>. **NOTE:** Alternatively, you can write a research paper to earn extra credit.

Course Schedule

Note: Lecture Notes Available on Canvas (posted before each class)

- 1) Jan 5: **Introduction to Class (Intro)**
- 2) Jan 7: **Major Issues of Biological Psychology (Intro)**
- 3) Jan 12: **Nerve Cells & Nerve Impulses (Chapter 1)**
- 4) Jan 14: **Synapses & Drugs (Chapter 2). Save “Hormones” section for later in the course**
- 5) Jan 19: **Anatomy of the Nervous System (Chapter 3)**
- 6) Jan 21: **Investigating how the Brain Works (Chapter 3 and throughout the book)**
- 7) Jan 26: **Development & Evolution of the Brain, Intelligence (Chapter 4, and a bit from 3)**

- 8) Jan 28: *EXAM #1 (Material from Lectures 1 - 7)
You will have 90 minutes to finish the exam once you begin. The open-book exam will be available from 9:30 am – 9:30 pm.*

- 9) Feb 2: **Vision (Chapter 5)**
- 10) Feb 4: **Vision, continued, (Chapter 5)**
- 11) Feb 9: **Audition (Chapter 6)**
- 12) Feb 11: **The Mechanical Senses: Vestibular and Somatosensation (Chapter 6)**
- 13) Feb 16: **Circadian Rhythms & Sleep (Chapter 8), Lecturer: Liz Harrison, PhD**

- 14) Feb 18: *EXAM #2 (Material from Lectures 9 - 13)
You will have 90 minutes to finish the exam once you begin. The open-book exam will be available from 9:30 am – 9:30 pm.*

- 15) Feb 23: **Hormones & Sexual Behavior (Chapter 10, and parts of Chapter 2 and 3)**
- 16) Feb 25: **Emotional Behaviors: Fear, Anxiety, Aggression (Chapter 11):**
- 17) Mar 2: **Autonomic Nervous System, Stress and Health (Chapter 11, and part of Chapter 2)**
- 18) Mar 4: **Learning & Memory (Chapter 12)**
- 19) Mar 9: **Learning & Memory: Neural Mechanisms (Chapter 12)**
- 20) Mar 11: **Hemispheric Lateralization & Language (parts of Chapter 13)**

FINAL: Tuesday, March 16th (Exam #3): (Material from Lectures 15 - 20)
You will have 3 hours to finish the exam once you begin. The open-book exam will be available from 8 – 10:59 am.

Extra Notes:

1) EBOOK: Access to this eBook via Canvas will be delivered by the first day of class. Once logged in your students can choose to opt-in by clicking the **Opt-in Now button**. You will only be charged if you opt-in and stay opted-in past the add/drop deadline (you can opt-out after you opt-in, as long as the opt-out before the add/drop deadline). Students will also receive an email detailing the pricing of this option and additional purchasing options will still be available via the bookstore.

An eBook is available as one of the most cost effective purchasing option for this course. You can access this eBook by clicking the RedShelf tool within Canvas. If you opt-in to this eBook by clicking the Opt-in Now button your student account will be charged directly. You will also receive an email with the exact amount of this charge. Within the add/drop period you may also opt-out of this option if you decide you'd rather use an alternate format.

2) 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.*

3) 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.