

EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE: Southgate Educational Center

PSYCHOLOGY 2: PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY- Fall 2008

Hours: 6:50-10:00 pm, Th - Ticket #: 6117 - Room: SG-106

Instructor: Dr. David K. Faux ("Fox")

Class Website: www.elacpsychology.org/DKFF2007Physio6117.html

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Office Hours: Tu 5:40 – 6:40 pm, or after class

Location: TBA

OBJECTIVES OF THIS COURSE: To give the student a solid foundation in the science of the biological basis of behavior, by exploring some core areas of physiological psychology (Chapters 1 - 3); and supplementing this with selected topics of interest and practical significance.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

**Basics of Biopsychology, by John P.J. Pinel, Allyn and Bacon, 2007
(ISBN 0-205-46108-5).**

PROCEDURES / SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESS: Students will need to bring their text to every class. The following chapters will be covered in class (with lectures, discussions, video tapes). The most important material from each chapter will be presented via overhead projection using the class webnotes . The student should read each chapter in its entirety, however some sections in each chapter will be omitted and the student will not be tested on this material. Please take good notes during class (supplementing the webnotes with what is discussed in class). They will be your guide to help zero in on the material that needs to be studied for test purposes. The instructor will add material not found described in detail in the text (e.g., Genetic Genealogy: Tracing Ancestry using DNA), from both his research and clinical background, which you will need to know for the test. You may find that the CD that accompanies the book will help meet your learning needs with supplementary materials including practice tests.

CHAPTERS TO BE STUDIED:

- 1. Introduction to Biopsychology.**
- 2. The Anatomy of the Brain.**
- 3. Neural Activity and how to Study it.**
- 7. Development of the Nervous System.**
- 8. Brain Damage and Neuroplasticity.**
- 9. Learning, Memory, and Amnesia.**
- 10. Hunger, Eating, and Health.**
- 11. Hormones and Sex.**
- 13. Health Psychology.**
- 14. Lateralization, Language, and the Split Brain.**
- 15. Behavioral Neuroscience of Psychiatric Disorders.**

SCHEDULE (Subject to change if necessary):

<u>Class Dates</u>	<u>Chapters Covered</u>	<u>Tests</u>
1) Sep 04	Intro. & Ch.1	
2) 11	Ch.1	
3) 18	Ch.2	
4) 25	Ch.2	
5) Oct 02	Ch.3	Test 1: Chs. 1-2
6) 09	Ch.3	
7) 16	Ch.7	
8) 23	Ch.8	
9) 30	Ch.9	Test 2: Chs. 3,7&8
10) Nov 06	Ch.10	
11) 13	Ch.11	Test 3: Chs. 9-10
12) 20	Thanksgiving	
13) 27	Ch.13	
14) Dec 04	Ch.14	Test 4: Chs. 11&13
15) 11	Ch.15	
16) 18	Final and Make Up Tests *** <u>5:00 to 7:00 pm</u>	Test 5: Chs. 14-15

TESTS: There will be 6 in - class tests. Only your **best 3 of the first 4 tests** will be counted (in other words the instructor will drop your lowest test score from the grade calculations). **Test number 5**, however, will be among those tests counted toward your final score. Each test will be composed of multiple choice questions and is worth 25 points. **All 5 tests must be written**. If you miss a test due to a valid reason (as assessed by the instructor) you may be given the opportunity to make up this test on the evening of the final exam. Students are **not permitted to miss more than one test for any reason**. A student who misses two tests will have to drop the class. If you are going to miss a test, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor (in person or by voice mail or by e-mail) as soon as possible - otherwise a failing grade may be registered for that test. All tests will be given at the beginning of class, you will have only 30 minutes to finish, so you need to be on time. Please bring a Scantron (50 questions on each side), a soft pencil, and a good eraser.

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend every class. The instructor will take attendance at the beginning of class. If the number of absences by mid term is half or more of the number of classes to that point, the student may be excluded from the class. If the student stops attending class altogether, it is the student's responsibility to officially drop the class.

EXTRA CREDIT: You can obtain extra credit or bonus marks by researching up to two **journal articles** in the **area of physiological psychology**. This may help compensate for low scores on some of the tests and bring your grade up to the next level. If you chose this option, select **up to two** articles and summarize them (3 or more pages, typed, in your own words, a page with title and identifying information, and the original article clipped to your essay), and give your critique (impressions and reactions to the article). You can use articles from the scholarly research literature (for example, **Journal of Orthopsychiatry** or other journal listed in the "References" section at the back of your textbook). These journal articles may be located via the **Internet** with the object being to explore in greater depth an issue or question that was raised in class. A good website to begin your search is **www.apa.org** (here they have complete downloadable journal articles – instructions as to how to use this site are on the website for this class). Before attempting the above option, please see the instructor first to discuss your selection. A total of **up to 10** percentage points will be added to your final score (a maximum of 5 for each article submitted), so if your score on the tests was 74 out of 100, your final score could increase to a maximum of 84. You can hand in these essays at any time up to the final exam.

GRADING:

Tests: 25 marks for each of the 4 tests.

Grade Computation: If a test has 45 questions (for example), the instructor will divide 20 by 45, and multiply the result (.44 in this case) by the student's mark on that test giving a number (score) out of 25. The final test score will be the sum of the marks out of 25 on the 4 tests used in the calculations (one is dropped). The instructor uses a computer program which will generate random numbers which will be the code used to post your grades; and also has the ability to calculate interim grades for the student so they will be aware of "how they are doing" at various points during the semester and so can decide if they for example want to drop the class, if they need to study harder, and if they should consider doing extra credit in order to better their grade.

Bonus Essays: A maximum of 10 marks will be added to the final score for the bonus essays.

Return of Final Grade: Ultimately the College will inform the student of their final grade in the class. The instructor **will not give out final grades by e-mail**; they will be posted on the class website using the 4 digit code number (within a week of the Final). A few days later the marks should be in the College system and available via the telephone network, or on-line. The student may also provide the instructor with a self – addressed stamped envelope, which includes a place to write the final grade. These envelopes are available for purchase at the bookstore.

<u>Grading Scale:</u>	90 - 100	=	A
	75 - 89	=	B
	64 - 74	=	C
	51 - 63	=	D
	Below 51	=	F

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY: The College has requested that the instructor remind students that academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating) is a very serious matter, and that serious consequences will result if a student is caught engaging in this practice. The consequences are outlined in the College Catalog.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

Please see the **Schedule of Classes and Student Services Handbook** for information on "Drop" dates and related matters. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that, if they decide to drop the class, they are aware of all the required procedures.