

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2017	Instructor Name:	Veronica Landeros
Course Title & #:	Psy 200: Biological Psychology	Email:	
CRN #:	11281	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:		Office #:	
Class Dates:	8/14/17-12/8/17	Office Hours:	
Class Days:	Tuesdays	Office Phone #:	
Class Times:	4:30-7:40	Emergency Contact:	
Units:	3		

Course Description

An exploration of the biological basis of human behavior. The development, structure and functions of the nervous system is thoroughly examined to provide insight into its complex relationship with human behavior, thought, and feelings. The history of neuroscience and methods of scientific inquiry are reviewed. (CSU, UC)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

PSY 101 with a minimum of C or better.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

- 1 Describe the action potential and how communication takes place between neurons. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3)
- 2 Critique current research in biopsychology including the ethical methodology and safeguards used in animal and human studies.(ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)
- 3 Demonstrate an understanding of psychological theory regarding the relationship between physiology; cognition and emotion. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3)
- 4 Identify the biological and endocrine based causes of neurological and mental disorders. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)

“Truth is, I’ll never know all there is to know about you just as you will never know all there is to know about me. Humans are by nature too complicated to be understood fully. So, we can choose either to approach our fellow human beings with suspicion or to approach them with an open mind, a dash of optimism and a great deal of candor.”

-Tom Hanks

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. outline major events in the history of neuroscience and describe related advances in experimental methodology.
2. list and describe the functions of the structures and organelles of the neuron and discuss synaptic transmission.
3. identify the functional organization of the human nervous system and the structures which make up the functional subsystems including the role of neuroendocrine systems.
4. summarize the development of the vertebrate nervous system throughout the lifespan and identify problems that may result from delayed or impaired development.
5. identify and describe sensory structures and processes and discuss how the nervous system initiates and controls movement.
6. explain the physical regulation of homeostasis and discuss the effect of homeostatic drives on human behavior.
7. discuss circadian and other cyclical rhythms of the brain and resultant effects on human behavior.
8. describe the biological controls of emotions and explain the significance of emotions in human behavior and cognitive processes.
9. list and describe the major diseases of the nervous system and explain modern views on the bio/psycho/social nature of mental disorders.
10. relate current research findings on the biologic elements of human learning and memory.
11. explain scientific approaches used in methodologies for the study of brain-behavior relationships while being able to provide concrete examples of noninvasive vs. invasive research using current ethical principles and methods for the study of both humans and animals including research safe-guards and the peer review process in science.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Kalat, J.W. (2009). *Biological Psychology* (10th/e). Belmont, CA Wadsworth.
ISBN: 9780495603108

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Students are expected to comply with the following classroom norms:

1. Arrive to class on time, with all electronic equipment turned off and put away.
2. Remain in the classroom during each class session until excused by the instructor.
3. Be respectful of fellow students, the instructor, and any guests.
4. Maintain confidentiality of information shared by fellow students.
5. Actively listen during class, and participate in class activities and/or discussions.
6. Use English for all course-related activities, on and off campus.

This course will consist of a combination of lectures, class discussion/activities, assigned readings, videos, individual projects and performance on quizzes and exams.

Thought Papers. There will be thought papers due at various times during the semester. These are essays 2 pages, which will be based on the readings and class material. **Late papers will not be accepted.** Thought papers should address the following:

- 1) A provocative or interesting idea regarding learned behavior from the text, class discussion, an article from the internet or magazine, and/or a television program, from your point of view.
- 2) Don't provide a review of the reading/program, but your own thoughts regarding the topic. The main focus of thought papers is for you to learn to think critically about psychology. The intention of the assignment is to get some ideas down about the readings, class discussion, or human behavior and then begin exploring your ideas. You do not have to write what you think I would agree with or what is necessarily true, you just need to justify your ideas and statements with explanations.

Assignments. There will be various in class and/or take-home assignments to help you learn the class material. All assignments will be worth 10 to 30 points.

Quizzes. There will be several quizzes. Quizzes will be administered in class or as take-home assignments, will be announced in advance typically, and will occur about once every 2-3 weeks. It is important to come to class to know when a quiz might occur. **HOWEVER BE PREPARED FOR UNANNOUNCED QUIZZES.** These will generally occur if I notice an overall decline in class participation and attendance. Quizzes may include any or all of the following types of questions: multiple choice, true-false, matching, fill-in-the-blank, and short answer/essay.

Exams. The exams are entirely multiple choice, and you must take them all. If you are late to class, you will not be allowed to take the quizzes or exams. Some chapters listed may not be covered in class, but you are still responsible for the material, unless otherwise specified. No make-up exams will be given unless you have called me PRIOR to the exam and let me know you will not be able to take the exam. If you contact me prior to the exam, you will have one week to make-up the exam.

Method of Evaluation: Class Activities, Attendance, Mid –Term, Quizzes, Final, Problem Solving Exercise, Written Assignments.

Instructional Methodology: Audio visual, Demonstration, Discussion, Group Activity, Lecture

Reading and Writing:

Reading assignments include assigned text readings; current articles and/or sources from the internet. Thought Papers throughout the semester.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

How much you learn in the course, as well as your final grade, depends on the effort you put into the readings, assignments, class preparation, and class participation & attendance. Grades will be assigned on the basis of the following weights:

100-90 = A

89-80 = B

79-70 = C

69-60 = D

59 & Below = F

LATE ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED!

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.

- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as ‘excused’ absences.
- Students are expected to attend all class sessions and to arrive to class on time, with all electronic devices turned off and put away. Since participation in classroom work and discussion is an important part of this course, students will have **10 points deducted** from their class points for each unexcused absence. Students having three unexcused absences may be dropped from the class. Students who are tardy three times will be considered as having been absent once. Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved conferences and contests and attendance upon field trips will not be counted as absences. If you are tardy to a test you will NOT be able to take it. If you are more than 20 minutes to a class (start time or from break) you will not be able to sit in on the lecture. **DISRUPTIONS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!**
- **LEAVING CLASS:** Students are expected to remain in the classroom throughout the entire class session. Students leaving the class early, or just briefly, without prior instructor approval, will have **points deducted** from their class points.
- **CELL PHONES and ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class. Cell phones ringing during class and all electronic devices not put away will be held by the instructor until the end of class.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Online Netiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others’ opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **CANVAS LMS.** Canvas is Imperial Valley College's main Learning Management System. To log onto Canvas, use this link: [Canvas Student Login](#). The [Canvas Student Guides Site](#) provides a variety of support available to students 24 hours per day. Additionally, a 24/7 Canvas Support Hotline is available for students to use: 877-893-9853.
- **Learning Services.** There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- **Library Services.** There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the [Disabled Student Programs and Services](#) (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- **Student Health Center.** A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128 in Room 1536 for more information.
- **Mental Health Counseling Services.** Short-term individual, couples, family and group counseling services are available for currently enrolled students. Services are provided in a confidential, supportive, and culturally sensitive environment. Please contact the IVC Mental Health Counseling Services at 760-355-6310 or in the building 1536 for appointments or more information..

Veteran's Center

The mission of the [IVC Military and Veteran Success Center](#) is to provide a holistic approach to serving military/veteran students on three key areas: 1) Academics, 2) Health and Wellness, and 3) Camaraderie; to serve as a central hub that connects military/veteran students, as well as their families, to campus and community resources. Their goal is to ensure a seamless transition from military to civilian life. The Center is located in Building 600 (Office 624), telephone 760-355-6141.

Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS)

The Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS) offers services such as priority registration, personal/academic counseling, tutoring, book vouchers, and community referrals to qualifying low-income students. EOPS is composed of a group of professionals ready to assist you with the resolution of both academic and personal issues. Our staff is set up to understand the problems of our culturally diverse population and strives to meet student needs that are as diverse as our student population.

Also under the umbrella of EOPS our CARE (Cooperative Agency Resources for Education) Program for single parents is specifically designed to provide support services and assist with the resolution of issues that are particular to this population. Students that are single parents receiving TANF/Cash Aid

assistance may qualify for our CARE program, for additional information on CARE please contact Lourdes Mercado, 760-355- 6448, lourdes.mercado@imperial.edu.

EOPS provides additional support and services that may identify with one of the following experiences:

- Current and former foster youth students that were in the foster care system at any point in their lives
- Students experiencing homelessness
- Formerly incarcerated students

To apply for EOPS and for additional information on EOPS services, please contact Alexis Ayala, 760-355-5713, alexis.ayala@imperial.edu.

Student Equity Program

- The Student Equity Program strives to improve Imperial Valley College’s success outcomes, particularly for students who have been historically underrepresented and underserved. The college identifies strategies to monitor and address equity issues, making efforts to mitigate any disproportionate impact on student success and achievement. Our institutional data provides insight surrounding student populations who historically, are not fully represented. Student Equity addresses disparities and/or disproportionate impact in student success across disaggregated student equity groups including gender, ethnicity, disability status, financial need, Veterans, foster youth, homelessness, and formerly incarcerated students. The Student Equity Program provides direct supportive services to empower students experiencing insecurities related to food, housing, transportation, textbooks, and shower access. We recognize that students who struggle meeting their basic needs are also at an academic and economic disadvantage, creating barriers to academic success and wellness. We strive to remove barriers that affect IVC students’ access to education, degree and certificate completion, successful completion of developmental math and English courses, and the ability to transfer to a university. Contact: 760.355.5736 or 760.355.5733 Building 100.
- The Student Equity Program also houses IVC’s Homeless Liaison, who provides direct services, campus, and community referrals to students experiencing homelessness as defined by the McKinney-Vento Act. Contact: 760.355.5736 Building 100.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC [Library Department](#) provides numerous [Information Literacy Tutorials](#) to assist students in this endeavor.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic
Week 1 August 15	Syllabus & Introduction
Week 2 August 22	Chapter 1
Week 3 August 29	Chapter 2
Week 4 September 5	Chapter 3
Week 5 September 12	Chapter 4
Week 6 September 19	Chapter 5
Week 7 September 26	Chapter 6
Week 8 October 3	Chapter 7
Week 9 October 10	Chapter 8 & 9
Week 10 October 17	Chapter 10
Week 11 October 24	Chapter 11
Week 12 October 31	Chapter 12
Week 13 November 7	Chapter 13
Week 14 November 14	Chapter 14
Week 15 November 21	NO CLASS
Week 16 November 28	Final Review
Week 17 December 5	FINAL!!

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****