

CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Lora A. Becker, Ph.D.

E-mail:LB47@evansville.edu

Office: 208 Hyde Hall

Office phone: 488-2532

Office hours: 2 – 5 M, W; 2 – 4 Tu; 3 – 5 Th

COURSE DESCRIPTION: PSYC 125 covers organization and function of the human brain and nervous system – how we sense, move, feel and think. PSYC 125 details the operation of neurons, nervous system organization, sensation, movement and human behavior, including mood, emotion, sleep, learning, memory, language and attention. The instructor assumes that students will have minimal prior knowledge of biology, physics and chemistry.

COGNITIVE SCIENCE MAJOR REQUIREMENT: This course is one of the core requirements for the bachelors of science degree in Cognitive Science.

NEUROSCIENCE MAJOR REQUIREMENT: This course is one of the core requirements for the bachelors of science degree in Neuroscience.

PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR REQUIREMENT: This course is one of the core requirements for the bachelors of science degree in Psychology.

GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Courses in this category address the unique features of science and technology. In the sciences, there is study of the natural world, including observation, quantification, organization and validation of hypotheses. Technology offerings focus on the application of scientific principles to production of devices, structures, processes and systems to meet society's wants and needs. As a component of the General Education Program, courses in Science and Technology include technique, a scientific writing component and consideration of the roots and applications of the discipline.

Outcomes

- Experience in the practice of science (empirical and/or computational)
- Understanding of and enthusiasm about the natural world
- Ability to evaluate data and claims based on data
- Ability to evaluate the implications of scientific and technological advances on society
- Understanding of how common devices and processes work

UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE LEARNING OBJECTIVES FOR PSYC 125:

- You will have the opportunity to gain in depth factual knowledge about the history, various theories and applications of Behavioral Neuroscience through lecture, reading, and demonstrations. (Objective 1)
- You will have the opportunity to master communication, organizational and critical thinking skills when preparing two papers. (Objective 3)
- You will have the opportunity to understand the ethical significance of their personal and professional decisions especially concerning the use of animals in research. (Objective 8)

REQUIRED TEXT: Kalat, J. W. (2009). *Biological Psychology* (10th ed.). United States: Wadsworth Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-0-495-60300-9

CLASS REQUIREMENT ASSOCIATED THOUGHTS:

- As your instructor, it is my responsibility to present learning opportunities through the course syllabus, lectures, class discussions, assignments, etc.
 - It is **your** responsibility to do the learning by completing the readings, by attending class, and by participating in class discussions and exercises.
 - I cannot do the learning for you – all I can do is to try to guide you toward that information.
- As your instructor, it is my responsibility to respect your abilities to learn.
 - All of you are capable of reading, and of taking in information from the textbook. Therefore, merely rehashing the text would be an insult to your abilities.
 - My job, therefore, is to explore the topics that the text mentions in other ways. To extend what you learned from the book to other related ideas.
 - *To do this, you must read the text BEFORE class and then attend class, so that you can understand the relationships between what we are discussing and what you have read and participate in the interaction.*
 - Furthermore, class attendance is monitored daily and is worth 10% of your class grade. An 'F' will be given if more than 30% of the class days are missed (8).
 - Whenever possible, excuses should be presented BEFORE class is missed. University of Evansville excused absences will be honored, however, excessive absences from the class, more than 30%, will still result in failing the course. Students are responsible for obtaining material that they miss.
- The reason for the exams is not to give you a grade, but to give you a means of measuring how well you are achieving the primary goal of any course – *mastery of the course content and skills*.
 - There is not enough time to test you on all of the material that I want you to master. The exam will always ask a sampling of questions from the tested material. You are expected to learn MORE than what is on the test.
 - If you find you are not mastering the material and skills, you are encouraged to reflect on how you study and prepare for each class. I welcome a dialogue on what you discover and may be able to assist you in finding resources on campus that will improve your performance.

SEMESTER EXAMS: Seven semester exams will cover topics discussed during lecture and the corresponding book sections in order to test your ability to gain factual knowledge and learn fundamental principles. Question format will be multiple-choice. Each exam will be worth 50 points. Textbook page numbers are to be used as a study guide. Arrangements can be made to take the exam in advance of the exam date. **NO makeup exams will be granted.** The lowest exam will be dropped from final grade calculation, which can be a missed exam or the last (final) exam. The last exam will be held during finals week on Wednesday, December 16. Exams are worth 70% of your total class grade.

CRICK LECTURE ATTENDANCE: You are required to attend **ONE** of the Crick Lectures. Please be sure to sign in at the lecture. These lectures are directly related to course material. If you have difficulty attending the lecture due to work or another class, please be sure to talk to be before the Crick Lecture. Failure to attend one of the lectures will result in an 'F' for 5% of the class grade.

NOTICE: Material and dates listed in this syllabus may be changed if the instructor and students agree that the change is in the best interest of the students.

Animal Research Reaction Paper Guidelines: The ethics of experimental research is part of a large and ongoing discussion within behavioral neuroscience. Explain your personal ideas about the use of animals in neuroscience research. The best argument addresses the opposition's argument; don't forget to argue against the points argued by those opposed to your position. This paper will not be judged for your opinion. Please use pages 21 – 24 of your text as background information to build your paper. This paper is due on **Friday 10/8/10 by the start of class**. Papers returned on 10/15/10. This paper is worth 5 % of your class grade.

Animal Research Reaction Paper

- ✓ At least 2 full pages in length (not including reference page), one-inch margins, double spaced, Times New Roman 12 pt font.
- ✓ No title page, put name and paper title **single spaced in upper right corner**.
- ✓ Paper is judged for clarity of writing, presence of personal ideas, critique of the topic area, and correct, factual information

INVESTIGATION PAPER: This paper assignment is to assess your ability to evaluate specific aspects of behavioral neuroscience and to apply course material to your life or career. These goals directly relate to the general education goals for a science and technology course. Your papers should be submitted to www.turnitin.com by midnight on the scheduled due date. Papers are graded on a 5-point scale. Each late day, including weekends, will be penalized by a ½-point grade reduction. The turnitin.com course number is **3278112** and password is **Kalat**. The paper is worth 10% of your total class grade. You will have the opportunity to re-write this paper for a better score. Revised papers are due at the final exam with the original marked copy. If both copies are not resubmitted, no revision will be considered.

Current Events in Neuroscience Paper Guideline: Choose a topic from your textbook and write an updated review of the topic using recent research findings. The paper should provide a neuroscience-based explanation of the topic, discuss the strength of the finding and give example of how the finding will help individuals or humanity. This paper is due on **Monday 11/20/10 by midnight**. Papers returned on 11/29/10.

Current Events in Neuroscience Paper Requirements

- ✓ 5 full pages in length (not including reference page), one-inch margins, double spaced, Times New Roman 12 pt font.
- ✓ No title page, put name and paper title **single spaced in upper right corner**.
- ✓ APA format, 6th edition for in text citations and reference page (formatting reference in Library)
- ✓ Paper is judged for clarity of writing, presence of personal ideas, critique of the topic area, and correct, factual information
- ✓ Five sources not including your textbook.
- ✓ **Internet ONLY based material is NOT allowed for the second paper.** You are encouraged to use internet based journal *databases* to find your material (MEDline, J-Store, PsycInfo)

GRADE CALCULATION

$((\text{Exams} / 300) * 0.70) + ((\text{Reaction Paper} / 5) * 0.05) + ((\text{Investigation Paper} / 5) * 0.10) + (\text{Crick Lectures} * 0.50) + ((\text{Attendance} / 28) * 0.10)) * 100$

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GRADE DISTRIBUTION

95 – 100	A	83 – 86	B	73 – 76	C	60 – 66	D
90 – 94	A-	80 – 82	B-	70 – 72	C-	0 – 59	F
87 – 89	B+	77 – 79	C+	67 – 69	D+		

COURSE CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic (Kalat chapter) pages</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic (Kalat chapter) pages</u>
8/25	Introduction to PSYC 125	10/18	Audition (7)196-204
8/27	Mind & Brain Relationship (1)2-11	10/20	Mechanical & Chemical (7)205-229
8/30	The Genetics of Behavior (1)12-21	10/22	Movement (8)232-239
8/31	Last Day to Register/Add Courses	10/25	Movement (8)240-263
	Last Day to Drop w/o 'W'	10/27	Rhythms and Sleep (9)266-280
9/1	Structure of the Nervous System and Cerebral Cortex (4)81-104	10/29	Sleep & Disorders (9)281-293
9/3	Research Methods (4)105-116	11/1	EXAM 4 Chapters 7, 8, 9
9/6	EXAM 1 Chapters 1, 4	11/3	Temperature and Thirst (10)295-306
9/8	Nerve Cells (2)29-38	11/5	Hunger (10) 307-323
	Crick Lecture KC 100 4:00	11/8	Sex Hormones (11) 326-338
9/10	Nerve Impulses (2)39-50	11/10	Sexual Behavior (11)339-351
9/13	Synapses (3)51-69		Crick Lecture KC 100 4:00
9/15	Drugs and Synapses (3)70-79	11/12	What is Emotion? (12)353-375
9/17	Research Paper Library Session		Last Day to Withdraw With a 'W'
9/20	EXAM 2 Chapters 2, 3	11/15	Stress and Health (12)376-381
9/22	Development of the Brain (5)121-136	11/17	EXAM 5 Chapters 10, 11, 12
9/24	Development Video	11/19	Learning/Memory/Amnesia (13)384-403
9/27	Plasticity of the Brain (5)137-147	11/22	Storing Information (13)404-413
9/29	Repair Video	11/24-28	Thanksgiving Break
10/1	Visual Coding (6)152-165	11/29	Cognitive (14)415-428
10/4	Visual Perception (6)166-179	12/1	Attention (14) 429-449
10/6	Visual Development (6) 180-187	12/3	Addictions/ Disorders (15)451-464
10/8	Animal Research Discussion	12/6	Disorders/ SZ (15)465-483
10/9-12	Fall Break	12/8	Wednesday Reading/Study Day
10/13	Review Session	12/14	Tuesday 10:15 p.m.
10/15	EXAM 3 Chapters 5, 6		EXAM 6 Chapter 13, 14, 15

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EXTRA CREDIT:

Opportunities for extra credit points include:

- volunteer participation in PSYC 256 experiments (points vary due to length of experiment)
- equal time participating in the following activities;
 - attendance extra Crick Lectures in Cognitive and Neural Sciences (1pt)
 - attendance at other local lectures that are directly related to Neuroscience (1pt)
 - view an approved film and comment on relevance to Neuroscience (1pt).

If extra credit is granted, you must complete 3 extra credit points, which will raise your final grade by 2.5 percentage points. All three extra credit points must be obtained before any benefit to your grade will be realized. These points cannot be applied to any other class.

WITHDRAWAL POLICIES: A course may be dropped without a designated grade during the first two weeks of a term of the regular academic year. From the third to the eleventh weeks, a grade of 'W' is assigned. After the eleventh week, a grade of 'F' is assigned. Discontinuance of attendance does not automatically constitute a withdrawal. Students failing to file a proper drop/add form by the appropriate deadline must complete classes for which they are registered or received a grade of 'F'. Withdrawal from a course after the deadline requires petition to and approval of the Admissions and Standards Committee and/or the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Last day to drop without a grade for Fall 2010 is Tuesday, August 31.

Last day to drop and receive a 'W' for Fall 2010 is Friday, November 12.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY: All coursework is to be completed within the semester it is attempted. If an emergency prevents a student from completing some portion of the required assignments, as instructor may give an 'I' or incomplete grade only if the following circumstances are met:

1. The student's other work in the course could earn a passing grade.
2. The outstanding task can be completed without further class attendance.

Outstanding course work normally should be completed within six weeks of the class ending, but the instructor may allow up to one year from the end of the term for which the 'I' grade is granted. It is the student's responsibility to have this deficiency removed within the agreed upon time period or within one year, whichever is less. If no grade change has been submitted by the instructor after the maximum one year grace period, the registrar is authorized to change all grades of 'I' to 'F'.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE: University of Evansville Academic Honor Code. "I understand that any work which I submit for course credit will imply that I have adhered to the Academic Honor Code: I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid nor will I tolerate an environment which condones the use of unauthorized aid." Failure to adhere to this code will result in receiving an 'F' for the course.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: It is the policy of the University of Evansville to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Written notification to faculty from the Office of Counseling and Health Education is required for any academic accommodations. If you are eligible to receive and accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss it with me and allow two-week notice. Otherwise, it is not guaranteed that the accommodation can be received on a timely basis. If you have questions about services for students with disabilities or procedures for requesting services, you may contact the Office of Counseling and Health Education at 488-2663.

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