
CONTACT INFORMATION

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

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

Pinel, J.J., (2009). *Biopsychology* (7th Ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon. ISBN 0-205-54892-X
Sapolsky, R.M. (1998). *The Trouble with Testosterone*. Touchstone Simon & Schuster ISBN 0-684-83891-5

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.

This course is one of the core requirements for the bachelors of science degree in Cognitive Science, Neuroscience and 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 critique/reflection 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)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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. Your class grade will drop one letter grade if you miss more than 10% of the classes (4) and an 'F' will be granted if more than 30% of the class days are missed (12).
 - 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.

CRITIQUE/REACTION PAPERS:

The eight readings are assigned; six readings from *The Trouble with Testosterone*, and two reading I will provide written by Oliver Sacks. Read and analyze the articles BEFORE coming to class. Prepare a two-page, double-spaced, typed and paragraphed write-up with your questions, critique, reactions and ideas about the article. Your critique will be used to assist conversation about the articles during class and it will be turned in at the end of class. **Do not** turn your critiques into turnitin.com. **No late papers will be accepted.** Critiques will be graded on the following scale; exceptional (3 pts), satisfactory (2 pts), an attempt (1 pt), no paper (0 pts). Papers are worth a total of 24 points and 25% of your semester grade.

SEMESTER EXAMS:

There will be six exams covering lecture, film, readings and textbook reading material. Question format will be multiple-choice, diagram completion, true/false and short answer. Each exam will be worth 50 points. The final exam is not comprehensive. Only a valid University of Evansville sanctioned excuse will be accepted for make-up exams. Whenever possible, excuses should be presented BEFORE the missed exam. The lowest exam will be dropped from calculation of your course grade. Exams are 65% of your semester grade.

CRICK LECTURE ATTENDANCE:

You are required to attend the Crick Lectures scheduled for this semester. 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 me as soon as possible. Write a critical review of each lecture for 10% of your course grade. Critical reviews are due by the final exam.

GRADE CALCULATION:

$$(((8 \text{ Reaction Papers} / 35) * 0.25) + ((2 \text{ Crick Lecture reviews}/6) * 0.10) + ((\text{Exam total} / 250) * 0.65)) * 100$$

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+		

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;
 - o attendance at other local lectures that are directly related to Neuroscience (1pt)
 - o view an approved film and comment on relevance to Neuroscience (1pt).

For **any** extra credit to be realized, 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. There is no benefit from additional extra credit points, except that you are exposed to more information! Extra Credit points earned for this class cannot be applied to any other class.

COURSE CALENDAR

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic (Pinel chapter. section)</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic (Pinel chapter.section)</u>
8/25	Biopsychology as a Neurosci.(1.1-7)	10/18	Hunger, Eating and Health (12.1-4)
8/27	Evolution & Genetics (2.1-3)	10/20	Hunger, Eating and Health (12.5-7)
8/30	Genetics & Experience (2.4-5)	10/22	The Dangers of Fallen Soufflés...
8/31	Last Day to Register/Add Courses	10/25	Hormones and Sex (13.1-3)
	Last Day to Drop w/o 'W'	10/27	Hormones and Sex (13.4-6)
9/1	The Lost Mariner – Oliver Sacks	10/29	The Trouble with Testosterone
9/3	Animal Research	11/1	Sleep, Dreaming (14.1-4, 7)
9/6	EXAM 1 Chapters 1, 2	11/3	Circadian Sleep Cycles, Sleep Disorders (14.5, 6, 8-11)
9/8	Anatomy (3.1-3)	11/5	EXAM 4 Chapters 12, 13, 14
	Crick Lecture KC 100 4:00	11/8	Reward Circuits and Drugs of Abuse (15.1-8)
9/10	Anatomy (3.4-6) Techniques (5.1)	11/10	Lateralization (16.1-3)
9/13	Neural Conduction and Synaptic Transmission (4.1-5)		Crick Lecture KC 100 4:00
9/15	Neurotransmitters (4.6-4.7)	11/12	Language (16.4-7)
9/17	Curious George's Pharmacy		Last Day to Withdraw With a 'W'
9/20	EXAM 2 Chapters 3, 4, part of 5	11/15	Emotion (17.1-3)
9/22	Devel. of Nervous System (9.1-5)	11/17	Stress and Health (17.4,5)
9/24	Neuroplasticity(10.1-5)	11/19	The Young and the Reckless
9/27	Learning (11.1-4)	11/22	EXAM 5 Chapters 15, 16, 17
9/29	Memory & Amnesia (11.6-9)	11/24-28	Thanksgiving Break
10/1	The Man Who Mistook His Wife...	12/29	Schizophrenia (18.1)
10/4	Development video	12/1	Affective Disorders (18.2)
10/6	Repair video	12/3	Anxiety Disorders (18.3 - 5)
10/8	Repair video	12/6	Circling the Blanket for God
10/9–12	Fall Break	12/8	Wednesday Reading/Study Day
10/13	The Last Hippie – Oliver Sacks	12/14	Tuesday 12:30 p.m.
10/15	EXAM 3 Chapters 9, 10, 11		EXAM 6 Chapter 18

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 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.