

**Psychology 221  
Physiology of CNS  
Spring, 2011  
(Course was designed by Dr. Gwen Murdock, PHD)**

**PROFESSOR:** Dr. Elena Molchanova  
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**PHONE:** 663309 ext. 238  
**Course status:** required  
**Credits:** 3  
**Prerequisite:** PSY 109  
**Language of teaching:** English  
**Consultation:** 2:00-3:00 p.m. M, T and W or by appointment

**OFFICIAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:** The present program includes modern scientific achievements of the analysis of activity, including the physiological and functional systems of an organism, unites analytical and synthetic physiology. It consists of three basic parts: the general, individual physiology and physiological bases for the behavior of a person.

**CONTENT OBJECTIVES** of this course are to use the information about the structure and function of the nervous system from the individual neuron to the whole organism to understand behavior. The course will examine empirical research based on animals, including humans

**PROCESS OBJECTIVES** of this course are to refine communication skills, in order to summarize, synthesize and report physiological psychology material.

**TEXTS:**

Carlson, N. (2007) *Physiology of Behavior* (9th edition). Boston: Allyn-Bacon.

**REQUIRED READINGS**

All readings will be available in AUCA library and designated for this class. You are expected to read the assignments before the next class period.

**GRADING:**

Participation - 10 points  
Exams = 80 points  
Presentations - 10 points

**GRADING SCALE:**

90-100% = A; 89.5-89.9% = A-  
89.1-89.4% = B+; 75.5-89% = B; 74.5-74.9% = B-;  
74.0-74.4% = C+; 60-74% = C; 60.0-60.4% = C-;  
59.5-59.9% = D+; 51-59.0% = D; 50.0-50.4% = D-  
0-49.9% = F.

**CONDITIONS FOR "X" GRADE:**

A grade of X is *not* a reward for being uninvolved in the course. If a student must miss more than one class in a row, he or she is in danger of falling behind and losing out. **It is the responsibility of each student to check with classmates about any missed lecture material or notices given in class.** The professor will *not* repeat lectures for students who miss class. An X grade will **only** be given if the student unavoidably misses 4 classes **before** the first exam.

**Missed exams** will be recorded as zero and the students option for cumulative practice will be canceled. A missed exam can *only* be made up on the final exam at 8 a.m. May 11th. The makeup exam will be the same format as regularly scheduled exams.

### **LECTURE SCHEDULE:**

Lectures will be presented in the following order:

1. Brain development
2. Vision: connection between eye and brain
3. Audition and vestibular system
4. Gustation and olfaction
5. Control of movement by the brain
6. Sleep and biological rhythms
7. Reproductive behavior: sexual development
8. Reproductive behavior: parental behavior
9. Emotions: neural basis
10. Physiological regulatory mechanisms (drinking and eating)
11. Eating disorders: neurological basis
12. Neurological basis of memory
13. The nature of learning
14. Disorders: neurological basis of anxiety and depression
15. Drug abuse
16. Connected with stress disorders

### **ATTENDANCE:**

Lecture attendance is not required but one could not perform satisfactorily on any exam without studying lecture material. Please try to enter the classroom on time, but if you must be late, **please enter quietly and do not interrupt the class.**

### **CLASS BEHAVIOR:**

Please feel free to ask the professor to slow down, repeat or rephrase any information. Please feel free to ask questions about the material or offer insights from your reading. Please do not interrupt the professor or other students in class with personal matters. If you have a cell phone, please set it on vibrate and leave the class if you *MUST* answer an emergency call. Do not speak into the phone, while still in the classroom. Texting behavior is very strongly discouraged.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

Plagiarism includes citing sources without proper documentation and copying the text of another person's writing without acknowledging it as a direct quote. Cheating includes submitting a paper for one class that you already received credit for in another class and sharing computer files of writing with another person.

**Cheating on exams will result in a zero score for that exam and no opportunity to retake the exam. Cheating behaviors include copying from another student, talking during the exam (except for talking in English to the professor), using notes during an exam, using your cell phone during an exam, leaving the classroom for any reason during an exam.** Plagiarism and cheating are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. People who exhibit such behaviors will receive appropriate punishment, possibly failing the class or being reported to the Dean of Students.

*If you have any questions about whether a particular behavior is appropriate for this class, please ask the professor.*