

**Biological Psychology**  
**Psych 20 – E1975**  
**Spring 2013**

**Instructor:** L. Mark Winter, PhD

**Email:** [mark-winter@redwoods.edu](mailto:mark-winter@redwoods.edu)

**Office:** Creative Arts 132, Eureka Campus

**Class Website:** <http://mycr.redwoods.edu>

**Phone:** 707-476-4310

**Office Hours:** MW 1-2:30, TTh 1-2, and by appointment.

**Course Description:** Introduction to the study of the biological bases of behavior. Topics include: biological theories and scientific principles related to the understanding of brain-behavior relationships; general neuroanatomy, neurophysiology; neurotransmission and brain function; invasive and non-invasive research techniques and ethical standards for human and animal research; research studies that have advanced the understanding of physiological, hormonal, neurochemical mechanisms; and brain-behavior relationships underlying the psychological phenomena of sensation, perception, regulatory processes, emotion, motivation, learning and memory, consciousness, and psychological disorders.

**Course Learning Outcomes:**

1. Analyze how biological processes affect the human mind and behavior.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding representing appropriate breadth and depth in selected content areas of biological psychology.
3. Analyze and/or apply biopsychological research in writing.

**Text:** Wickens, A. (2009) Introduction to Biopsychology (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.). Pearson Publishing.

You can purchase the text directly from the publisher (\$83)

<http://www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/introduction-to-biopsychology-9780132052962>

You can purchase the text from the CR Bookstore at

<http://bookstore.redwoods.edu/> or you can purchase the text from any online vendor.

**Student Commitment:** This three credit-hour class will require about nine hours per week of your time. You will have to regularly attend class – four or more absences are considered excessive, carefully read textbook chapters, submit thoughtful daily writing assignments, complete a research paper, and successfully demonstrate your learning in exams. Conscientiousness, attention to details, reading, writing, and study skills are critical.

**Exams (160 points):** Each exam will consist essay questions worth 20 points per chapter. You must take the exam at or before its scheduled date for full credit. Late exams are allowed up to one week with a penalty.

**Lecture Points (84 points):** Near the end of each class you will identify a topic from the lecture to respond and relate to your personal experience. Specifically, you will be asked to: Thoughtfully respond/react to the topic (1 point), relate/apply the topic to your own personal experience (1 point), and write a question you have based on the day's topic (1 point). You must attend the full lecture to receive credit.

**Research Paper and Presentation (75 points):** This will be a short paper on any biopsychology topic of your choice including an outline (10 pts.), paper (40 pts.) and class presentation (25 pts.).

**Final Exam (120 points):** The final exam will consist of essay questions based on the lectures and chapters 9-14 (20 pts/chapter). You must take the exam at or before its scheduled date. Late exams are not allowed.

*Please Note:* There are no extra credit assignments.

**Grade Distribution:** **A** = 93% and above, **A-** = 90-92%, **B+** = 88-89%, **B** = 83-87, **B-** = 80-82%, **C+** = 78-79%, **C** = 65-77%, **D** = 60-64%, **F** = 59% and below

**Course Schedule:**

Dates	Topic	Readings	Assessment
<b>Week 1: Jan 15 – Jan 17</b>	Introduction to Biopsych	Chapter 1: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts
<b>Week 2: Jan 22 – Jan 24</b>	Visual System	Chapter 2: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts
<b>Week 3: Jan 29 – Jan 31</b>	Other Sensory Systems	Chapter 3: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts
<b>Week 4: Feb 5 – Feb 7</b>	Movement	Chapter 4: Text	Tu Lecture Pts <b>Exam 1</b>
<b>Week 5: Feb 12 - Feb 14</b>	Hunger	Chapter 5: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts
<b>Week 6: Feb 19 – Feb 21</b>	Emotions	Chapter 6: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts

<b>Week 7: Feb 26 – Feb 28</b>	Sleep	Chapter 7: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts
<b>Week 8: March 5 – March 7</b>	Sexuality	Chapter 8: Text	Tu Lecture Pts <b>Exam 2</b>
<b>March 12 – 14</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
<b>Week 9: March 19- March 21</b>	Learning and Memory	Chapter 9: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts
<b>Week 10: Mar 26 – March 28</b>	Language and Cognition	Chapter 10: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts <b>Res Paper Outline</b>
<b>Week 11: April 2 – April 4</b>	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 11: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts
<b>Week 12: April 9 – April 11</b>	Drugs and Addiction	Chapter 12: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts
<b>Week 13: April 16 – April 18</b>	Brain Diseases	Chapter 13: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts <b>Research Paper</b>
<b>Week 14: April 23 – April 25</b>	Genes and Behavior	Chapter 14: Text	Tu/Th Lecture Pts
<b>Week 15: April 30 – May 2</b>	Paper Presentations		Tu/Th Lecture Pts <b>Paper Presentations</b>
<b>Tue, May 8 10:45-12:45</b>			<b>Final Exam</b>

**Note:** While I make every effort to follow the standards and schedule of this syllabus there may be times when changes are necessary. I will inform the class through the announcement board and/or class email of any changes.

**Code of Conduct:** I would encourage you to familiarize yourself with the Student Code of Conduct Standards in the college catalogue under campus policies and regulations.

**Students with Disabilities:** This class is designed to accommodate students with disabilities. Please contact me directly with specific concerns. For more information regarding the College's services for students with disabilities go to the DSPS website at <http://redwoods.edu/district/dsps/>