

## BioPsychology 2730

Fall 2015

MWF 9:30 – 10:20 AM

**Professor's Name:** Dr. Lauren A. Fowler

**Professor's Email:** [lfowler@weber.edu](mailto:lfowler@weber.edu) or email tool on Canvas

\*\* (this is by FAR the best way to get in touch with me!)

**Professor's Office Phone:** 801-626-7620 (answering machine)

**Office Hours:** MW 8:30 - 9:30 AM; TTh 9:30 – 10:30 AM; also by appointment

**Office Location:** SS 379b (located off of the south stairwell)

**Web Site:** <http://canvas.weber.edu> and <http://weber.edu/lfowler>

### I. Required Materials

- A. Textbook: Kalat, J. W. (2009). *Biological Psychology* (10<sup>th</sup> ed.). Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company. NOTE: 11<sup>th</sup> edition will also work!
- B. Internet Access to Canvas is required for this course.

### II. Course Grade

#### A. Examinations

1. Four preliminary examinations will be given during the semester (each will make up 20% of your grade). All exams will be taken in the Social Sciences Testing Center. See end of syllabus for information on testing center hours. You have 3 days to take each exam.
2. A comprehensive final examination (20% of grade) will be given December 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> in the Social Sciences Testing Center.
3. You may NOT make-up any exam that is missed. You have 3 days to take each exam, so please schedule your time wisely. We will not have class on the day of the exam. If you have a scheduling conflict, you may schedule to take an exam a day early at no penalty (you must notify me in writing to do this). NO EXAMINATIONS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER THE EXAMINATION PERIOD IS OVER. Your lowest exam grade will be dropped. So, if after the 4 preliminary exams you have an A average, you do NOT have to take the final exam! So do well during the semester 😊
4. Extra Credit will be offered on each exam. As the name implies, this is credit for work above and beyond what most students normally do. This means that the grading for extra credit is more rigorous, and it is all or none. This is the only scheduled extra credit available during the semester.
5. After the exam period is over, you may review the exam on chi tester to see which questions you missed (it will only tell you what you missed; you may

review the actual test after I hand it back in class). You may see your grade on the multiple choice portion of the test immediately after you complete the exam by going to your student portal or to [chitester.weber.edu](http://chitester.weber.edu). I will attempt to return all exams within 10 days after the end of the exam period.

## **B. Quizzes**

As a part of your college classes, professors have the expectation that you actually read your textbook and prepare before you come to class. To help make sure that you are reading and understanding the material, I will be giving quizzes throughout the semester. I will give at least 10 quizzes during the semester, and I will count the top 8 of those quizzes (so at least 2 will be dropped). This way if for some reason you happen to miss your readings once or twice, you can still be successful. All quizzes will be given on Canvas, and the quizzes will open Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am and run until the start of class time (9:30 am) on the following Wednesdays. There will be no quizzes on weeks where there are exams. These quizzes will count 10% of your final grade, and they can be found using the QUIZZES link on the left side of the Canvas toolbar. These are NOT to be discussed outside of class!

## **C. Biopsychology Project**

A written research project pertaining to a selected topic in biopsychology will count for 10% of your grade. This project will be described in greater detail on a separate handout (on Canvas). The research project is due no later than the due date at the start of classes. Late projects will be deducted 10% points off per day late.

## **D. Course Grading Scale**

The course grade will be assigned according to the scale below:

<u>Numeric Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
90-100	A
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
60-66	D
Below 60	E

### III. Course Outline

<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Date</u>
(1), 2, 3, *	Exam 1	September 24-26 <sup>th</sup>
4, 5, *	Exam 2	**October 21 – 24 <sup>th</sup>
	Project Due	November 2 <sup>nd</sup>
6, 7, *	Exam 3	November 12-14 <sup>th</sup>
14, 15, *	Exam 4	** December 7-9 <sup>th</sup>
Comprehensive	Final Exam	December 12-16 <sup>th</sup>

\*Indicates that there will be additional readings provided on Canvas to accompany the material in the textbook. More information on this will be discussed in class.

\*\*There is no class on the first day of each exam, except for exams 2 and 4. Exam #2 runs over Fall Break (testing centers ARE open). The exam will open after class on the 21<sup>st</sup> and run through Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>. For exam 4, we will have class on the 7<sup>th</sup>, and the exam will start after class and run through Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> (with no class on the 9<sup>th</sup>).

### IV. Additional Information

#### A. Attendance

Attendance is not required for this class. However, anything discussed in class may be included on an exam, even if that information is not found in the textbook or study guide. In addition, I frequently show video clips or longer videos that cannot be viewed at any time other than during class. Also, some of the material on the pop-quizzes may come from information shared during class time. Thus, it is in everyone's best interest to attend, and it is **STRONGLY** suggested!!!

\*\*IF you miss class, there are two things you can do to get the material you missed. You may get the outline from the PowerPoint online, and/or you may get notes from someone in class. PLEASE do not come to my office and ask me IF YOU MISSED anything or if I will re-teach the material that you missed. I will be more than happy to answer your questions, but you have to put in the time to learn the material first!

#### B. Class Contact

Often it is necessary to miss a part or all of class. When that happens, or when you have questions that you cannot answer on your own, it is helpful to have another student in class that you can contact. On Canvas, you

can contact any student in class, or the entire class (if you want). I strongly encourage you to email and/or post discussions with others in class to help you learn the material!

### C. Class Courtesy

This is a large class, so please be courteous to others when coming late to or leaving early from class. Also, please refrain from talking during class lecture, unless you are participating in a class discussion. Eating and drinking in class are allowed, as long as it is not disruptive to the learning environment. **PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES IN CLASS!!** It is inappropriate and rude to text message or use your cell phone during class. Any disruptive behavior will be addressed immediately, and if the behavior does not cease, you will be asked to leave class.

### D. Grade Appeals

If, after receiving an exam back during class, you think a mistake has been made in the grading of **your** exam, please email me with your concern, along with support of your answer based on the textbook and course materials. You will receive a response, and any grade adjustment necessary, within a week. **THIS IS THE ONLY WAY** that your concerns will be addressed. **ONLY** written questions **THAT YOU SUPPORT** will be evaluated for grade changes.

### E. Plagiarism/Cheating

Whenever you try to pass off someone's work that is not your own, that is cheating. If you cheat on **ANY** assignment (even extra credit!), you will receive a grade of **E (Failing) for the course**. Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of infringements that constitute cheating.

<http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

Plagiarism is when you represent someone else's ideas or words as your own. For a **very** detailed description of plagiarism, please go to the web site and review the **PLAGIARISM** description (in the file **HOW TO AVOID PLAGIARISM BY REALLY TRYING**). You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism. **ANY** plagiarism (even unintentional) will result in a failing grade **for the course**.

*WSU subscribes to TurnItIn.com, an electronic service that verifies the originality of student work. Enrollment in this course may require you to submit some or all of your assignments to it this semester, and documents submitted to TurnItIn.com are retained, anonymously, in their databases. Continued enrollment in this course constitutes an understanding of and agreement with this policy.*

<http://wsuonline.weber.edu/plagiarism/Default.asp>

## F. Students with Disabilities

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD).

<http://weber.edu/ssd/>

## G. Students' Rights and Responsibilities

Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of all WSU student rights and responsibilities.

<http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

## H. Canceled Classes

In case of class cancelation for any reason, please check Canvas as soon as possible. Class may be canceled due to weather, force of nature, pandemic, illnesses, or free donuts at Krispy Kreme. In case of closure, check your email through the course website to determine if there are any changes in due dates, class requirements, etc. If you set up your notifications in Canvas so that you receive a text and/or email if I post an announcement, that is the ideal situation. That way you know immediately if I have to cancel class.

## V. Course Objectives

- A. This course will teach students how Biological Psychologists attempt to relate behavior and experience to the activities of the brain and the rest of the body. Specifically, human and non-human behaviors will be studied to determine how they relate to specific brain activities and functions.
- B. Students will learn about the relationship between the nervous system of the human body and how a body reacts to its environment. Students will learn how physiological systems, including parts of the nervous system, sensory systems, perceptual systems, and regulatory systems, interact with the environment to produce behaviors and provide functioning in a variety of situations.

## VI. Grade Record

Please keep a record of the grades you receive on each exam. This will help insure that you are always aware of your academic progress in this class. You may also check your grades on the grades tool on Canvas (note: I will update these approximately 1-2 weeks after exams are returned).

Exam #1                      \_\_\_\_\_ (20%)

Exam #2                      \_\_\_\_\_ (20%)

Exam #3 \_\_\_\_\_ (20%)

Exam #4 \_\_\_\_\_ (20%)

Pop-Quizzes \_\_\_\_\_ (10%)

Project \_\_\_\_\_ (10%)

Final Exam \_\_\_\_\_ (20%)

**Your final grade is determined by dropping the lowest of the 5 exams and then averaging the remaining 4 exams with the project and 8 of the pop-quizzes.**

**\*\*The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary. By continuing in the course after reading the syllabus, you are indicating that you accept the terms of the syllabus.**