

Psychology 364: Laboratory in Physiological Psychology

Fall 2008 (Section: PSYC364-L01)

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Phone: (843) 953-6362	Office Hours: TR 9:30-11:00 AM, W 12:30-1:30 PM and by appointment
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PREREQUISITE FOR THE COURSE: PSYC 103, 211, 220

COURSE OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES:

This course will provide you with research experience in physiological psychology. You will participate in experimental design, data collection, analysis and interpretation as well as writing up research reports in the format developed by the American Psychological Association (APA). By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- explain the ethical issues related to the conduct of science
- discuss the methods physiological psychologists use to study the physiology of behavior
- conceptualize and carry out a research project
- collect, analyze, interpret and report data collected in the study of the physiology of behavior
- convey your experimental results in a written form according to the APA format

REQUIRED READING:

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th Edition), American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.

COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

Attendance: The class will meet for 150 minutes, once per week. **Attendance for all classes and for ALL experiments is mandatory.** It is important that you attend all class sessions and experiments as you will lose points for those you do not attend. **Students who fail to show up for class and/or experiments will be withdrawn from the course (see next page for details).**

Evaluation: Grades will be based on **three lab reports, assignments, an oral/written exam, and attendance/participation.**

Grading: Grades will be assigned on the basis of the number of points that you earn at the completion of the course. The number of points and the approximate percentage of the grade are indicated below.

Source	Approx. % of Grade	Number of Points
Lab Reports	60%	300
Assignments; Rough drafts; Quizzes; Oral/Written Exam	35%	175
Attendance/participation	5%	25
Total	100%	500

Grade Assignment: The combined total for all of the above will be 500 points. Your final grade in the course will be based on a straight percentage of points:

Number of Points	Approx. % of Total Points	Grade Earned
465 and higher	93% and higher	A
450 – 464	90 – 92%	A-
435 – 449	87 – 89%	B+
415 – 434	83 – 86%	B
400 – 414	80 – 82%	B-
385 – 399	77 – 79%	C+
365 – 384	73 – 76%	C
350 – 364	70 – 72%	C-
335 – 349	67 – 69%	D+
315 – 334	63 – 66%	D
300 - 314	60 – 62%	D-
299 and below	< 60%	F

Excessive absences: Excessive absences are operationally defined as **missing 3 classes and/or missing one experiment**. Should this situation occur, you will be required to meet with the Department Chair and/or you will be withdrawn from the course. You will receive a W/A on your transcript – this mark is equivalent to a failing mark for the course. **Reminder:** this course is required for you to graduate.

Other grades such as W, I or XF may be given in specific circumstances -- please consult the undergraduate course catalog or the Office of the Registrar webpage for additional information (<http://www.cofc.edu/~register/index.htm>). See the Course Information link.

MY Expectations: Please arrive on time; I will try to begin the course promptly at 9:25 AM.

Academic Honesty: It is important that you understand the importance of ethical conduct in this course. While I encourage you to work together while collecting and analyzing data, the experimental write-ups / lab reports **must** be your own work. The guidelines established in the *Student Handbook: Guide to Civil and Honorable Conduct* will be used as a guide for dealing with any issues related to dishonesty. Also, you should review the Honor Code and pay very close attention to the sections on plagiarism. Any incidences of plagiarism will be dealt with by Student Affairs and the Honor Board.

Rough drafts: A rough draft of each paper **must** be turned in the week before the final draft of the paper is due. **This paper may be graded for feedback if you specifically ask me to do so.** **If you fail to turn in a rough draft, you will receive a 0 and you will be penalized 15 points on the final draft of that particular paper.** If you fail to turn in a final version of a particular paper, the rough draft will be graded as your final paper.

Late Paper/Assignment Policy: Late papers and assignments will not be accepted after 4:00 PM on the due date under any circumstances. Anything that is turned in late (i.e. after class) will be marked one letter grade lower for every hour that it is late.

YOU MAY NOT E-MAIL ME THE FINAL DRAFT OF YOUR PAPER.

Tentative Schedule: (Please note: I reserve the right to make any changes necessary during the semester to respond to the special needs of the class. The following schedule indicates approximate dates when assignments will be due and when specific experiments will be conducted – these dates may change.)

Date	Reading	Notes
26 August	APA Manual	Course Introduction; Ethics; APA Writing Style
02 September	Handout	Review: Statistics; Spreadsheets and Data Analysis; SPSS; Take Home (TH) Assignment #1
09 September		Experiment #1; TH Assignment #1 DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS
16 September		Experiment #1; Analyze data Experiment #1
23 September	Handout	Experiment #1 Rough Draft is DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS; TH Assignment #2; Discuss Experiment #2
30 September		Final Draft, Experiment #1 DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS; TH Assignment #2 DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS; Experiment #2
07 October		Analyze data Experiment #2; Return Experiment #1 final draft
14 October		---- Fall Break Holiday (SD) ----
21 October	Handout	Experiment #2 Rough Draft is DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS; TH Assignment #3
28 October		Neuroanatomy Review; Begin Experiment #3; Experiment #2 Final Draft is DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS
04 November		Experiment #3; TH Assignment #3 DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS;
11 November		Return Experiment #2 final draft; Experiment #3
18 November		Experiment #3; Sheep brain dissection
25 November		Oral/Written Neuroanatomy Exam; Rough Draft, Experiment #3 DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS
02 December		Course Evaluations; Exam results; Experiment #3 Final Draft is DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS

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