

PSY 233 Introduction to Brain and Behavior

Winter 2024

Course Credits: 4 Contact Hours: 56 hours Instructor: TBA Email:TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course explores the intricate relationship between the brain and human behavior. Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of the structure and function of the brain, as well as the neural mechanisms underlying various behaviors and psychological processes. The course will cover topics such as neuroanatomy, sensory and motor systems, learning and memory, emotion, and mental disorders. Students will engage with current research findings and theories in the field of neuroscience to develop a deeper understanding of the complexities of brain-behavior relationships.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the fundamental concepts and terminology in neuroscience, including neural communication, brain structure, and function

2. Explore the neural bases of emotion and their impact on behavior and psychological processes

3. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the basic principles of neuroscience and how they relate to human behavior

4. Apply knowledge of brain-behavior relationships to real-world situations and contemporary issues

5. Develop effective scientific communication skills by presenting research findings and arguments related to brain and behavior

PREREQUISITES

N/A



GRADING

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
Quizzes	20 Points
Midterm 1	15 Points
Midterm 2	15 Points
Homework	20 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

 $A \ge 90 > B \ge 80 > C \ge 70 > D \ge 60 > F.$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Bryan Kolb; Ian Q. Whishaw; G. Campbell Teskey, *An Introduction to Brain and Behavior*, 7th Edition, Worth Publishers, 2023.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	Topics:
	Topic 1: The Origins of Brain and Behavior
	Topic 2: The Nervous System's Functional Anatomy
	Topic 3: Cells of the Nervous System
	Topic 4: Electrical Activity in the Nervous System
	Assessments:
	Quiz#1





Module 2	Topics:
	Topic 5: How Do Neurons Communicate and Adapt
	Topic 6: How Do Drugs Influence Brain and Behavior
	Topic 7: How Do We Study the Brain's Structures and Functions
	Topic 8: How Does the Nervous System Develop and Adapt
	Assessments:
	Quiz#2
Module 3	Topics:
	Topic 9: How Do We Sense, Perceive, and See the World
	Topic 10: How Do We Hear, Speak, and Make Music
	Topic 11: How Does the Nervous System Respond to Stimulation and Produce
	Movement
	Topic 12: Identifying the Causes of Emotional and Motivated Behavior
	Assessments:
	Midterm#1
	Homework#1
Module 4	Topics:
	Topic 13: Sleep and Dream
	Topic 14: Rhythms of Cognitive and Emotional Behavior
	Topic 15: Learn and Remember
	Topic 16: Neural Circuit for Implicit Memories
	Assessments:
	Midterm#2
	Homework#2
Module 5	Topics:
	Topic 17: How Does the Brain Think
	Topic 18: Functional Asymmetry in the Healthy Brain
	Topic 19: Brain Misbehaves
	Topic 20: Treatments for Neurocognitive Disorders
	Assessments:
	Final Exam

ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning



and might be prohibited from attending final exam.

2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.

2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.

3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.

4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.

5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

ACEDEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.



DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.