



蘇州大學
Soochow University

PSY 255 Biological Foundations of Behaviour

Summer 2023

Course Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 55 hours

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course provides an introduction to the fundamental principles of genetics and cytology, neurophysiology and physiological methods, and the evolutionary development and organization of the mammalian nervous system. Students will also gain an understanding of basic neuroanatomy, the neurochemical aspects of behavior, and the methods and techniques used in physiological psychology. Through the exploration of sensory and motor systems and associated pathways, students will develop an understanding of the biological foundations of behavior, including the current research in this field.

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

1. Develop an understanding of the fundamental principles of genetics and cytology.
2. Gain knowledge of neurophysiology and physiological methods.
3. Develop an understanding of the evolutionary development and organization of the mammalian nervous system.
4. Explore basic neuroanatomy and the neurochemical aspects of behavior.
5. Learn about the methods and techniques used in physiological psychology.
6. Understand the biological foundations of behavior, including the current research in this field.

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
Project 2	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:

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

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

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

Biological Psychology, 13th Edition, by James W. Kalat.

Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	Topics: Topic 1: Introduction to the biological basis of behavior Topic 2: Genetics and Cytology Topic 3: Introduction to genetics and inheritance Topic 4: The structure and function of cells Assessments: Quiz#1



Module 2	<p>Topics: Topic 5: Neurophysiology and Physiological Methods Topic 6: The structure and function of neurons Topic 7: Electrophysiological techniques Topic 8: The organization of the mammalian nervous system</p> <p>Assessments: Quiz#2 Project</p>
Module 3	<p>Topics: Topic 9: Basic Neuroanatomy Topic 10: The structure and function of the brain Topic 11: The central nervous system and the peripheral nervous system Topic 12: Neurochemical Aspects of Behavior</p> <p>Assessments: Midterm#1 Project</p>
Module 4	<p>Topics: Topic 13: The role of neurotransmitters Topic 14: Preparing Financial Statements Topic 15: Neuroendocrine control of behavior Topic 16: Behavioral observation techniques</p> <p>Assessments: Midterm#2</p>
Module 5	<p>Topics: Topic 17: Sensory Systems and Associated Pathways Topic 18: Biological Foundations of Behavior: Current Research Topic 19: Topics in current research, such as addiction, learning and memory, or sleep Topic 20: Implications of research for future directions in the field</p> <p>Assessments: Final Exam</p>

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).

ACADEMIC 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.



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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.