

## Psychology 3: 61730. Physiological Psychology (Fall 2009: Yassa)

<b>Instructor:</b>	Michael Yassa Adjunct Professor, Irvine Valley College Research Fellow, University of California, Irvine	<b>Class Location:</b>	Online
<b>Mailbox:</b>	IVC A200 (Pt. time Soc. Sci. Faculty)	<b>Class Time:</b>	Online
<b>Phone:</b>	(415) 497-9789	<b>Office Hour:</b>	By appointment
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:myassa@ivc.edu">myassa@ivc.edu</a>	<b>Textbook:</b>	Klein, S.B. & Thorne, B.M. <i>Biological Psychology</i> . (2007). New York, Worth.
<b>Web:</b>	<a href="http://faculty.ivc.edu/myassa/">http://faculty.ivc.edu/myassa/</a>	<b>Blackboard:</b>	<a href="http://socccd.blackboard.com">socccd.blackboard.com</a>

**Course goals:** The objectives of this course are to (1) provide an introduction to neuroscience and enhance the students' knowledge and understanding of the nervous system and links to behavior, (2) foster and develop an interest in the neurosciences as well as the process of scientific inquiry and (3) improve students' critical thinking abilities.

**Course website:** The blackboard site is very important for this class. You will be able to check your grades online, review course materials, download supplementary materials, watch videos, take quizzes, ask questions, and communicate with your professor.

**Course Requirements:** Every week you are required to (1) read the required chapters in the text, (2) review the lecture notes on the assigned chapters (uploaded to Blackboard), (3) take weekly quizzes each Friday evaluating knowledge from the chapter readings for the week.

The course grade will be determined based on the following requirements:

- \* **Two exams (30% each):** Each examination will assess your knowledge of the section tested. Exams will cover material from the lectures, chapter readings, and any additional materials, such as videos and handouts. Exams will take the form of 100 multiple-choice questions. You will have a superset of all exam questions ahead of time to make studying the material and testing yourself easier. Exams are NOT cumulative.

### EXAMS WILL BE CONDUCTED LIVE ON THE IVC CAMPUS AND NOT ONLINE

- \* **Online Quizzes (20%):** Frequent testing is the best way to stay on top of the material. To this end, you will be required to answer an online quiz after each chapter to make sure you have mastered the knowledge. Quizzes will only be available every Friday from 6AM until Sunday at midnight. You will have only 30 minutes to complete each quiz and you will sometimes have more than one quiz per week. You may not save the quiz and return to it later (i.e. must be completed in one session). You MUST answer the quiz within this time period as the link will disappear after the deadline and you cannot be granted an extension. If you wait until the last minute and your computer crashes, it will be your sole responsibility. If the system locks up and there is still ample time to submit your quiz (not the last minute), email me and I can reset it for you.
- \* **Discussion Forum Participation (20%):** Each chapter of the book will have a discussion board. You will be expected to contribute **THREE RESPONSES** to **each chapter's** online discussion forum. You are NOT to leave this to the last minute as this deprives the other students from looking over your comments. I will start one or more threads for each chapter. You can either participate by responding to my thread, starting your own thread, or commenting on someone else's thread. Responses such as "I agree." Or "I don't get it." Will NOT count. Your responses should be in paragraph form and should be detailed and thoughtful. Once again, discussion forums for each chapter will only be open for the period assigned for reading the chapter and will be closed subsequently. If you repeatedly submit all of your comments the last minute you will lose points. Discussion forums for each chapter will only be open for the period from Monday at 6AM – Sunday at midnight. If you repeatedly submit all of your comments on Saturday you will lose points.

- \* **Grading Policy:** Grades will be based on the total number of points accumulated from the course requirements according to the table below. Grades are rounded to 1 decimal point. Grades will not be curved.

A. 90-100%      B. 80 – 89%      C. 70 - 79%      D. 60 - 69%      F. <60%

- \* **Make-up exams:** There will be NO make-up tests except under truly special circumstances and only with proper documentation and prior arrangements. If the situation arises, you MUST contact me by phone or email and inform me of the situation **BEFORE THE EXAM**. If you are ill and cannot make contact yourself, have a family member or friend contact me.
- \* **Note about online classes:** You MUST stay on schedule and regulate your time effectively. For every chapter, you will be expected to do the required readings, study the appropriate lecture notes and other material, contribute to the discussion board, and do well on the quiz. You can fall behind easily if you do not do the required readings and lecture notes. I am available to meet in person by appointment, but I am also easily reached by email. Questions are best posted on the discussion board, however, so that other students benefit from the answers as well.
- \* **Ethical considerations:** Ethical violations include cheating on exams, plagiarism, reuse of assignments, improper use of the Internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition. All tests and quizzes are closed book. No notes may be used during any testing, nor may you confer with your fellow students or look at their tests for answers. Prior to examinations all students are encouraged to study in small groups. One of the best ways to prepare for the examinations is to work together and ask each other to explain the concepts and facts that will be covered by a given examination. However, once you enter the examination room you are expected to work alone. Report any violations you witness to the instructor.

**Schedule of classes (subject to change):**

Week	Date	Topic	Required Reading or Assignment
1	8/24 - 8/28	History of Neuroscience	Ch 1
2	8/31 - 9/4	The Nervous System	Ch 2
3	9/7 – 9/11	Development and Neural Plasticity	Ch 3
4	9/14 - 9/18	Neural Communication	Ch 4
5	9/21 - 9/25	Psychopharmacology	Ch 5
6	9/28 - 10/2	Sensation and Perception I: Vision	Ch 6
7	10/5 - 10/9	Sensation and Perception II: Other Senses	Ch 7
<b>Exam1</b>	<b>Sunday 10/11</b>	<b>Midterm Examination 1 (Ch 1 – 7)</b>	
8	10/12 - 10/16	Motor Control	Ch 8
9	10/19 - 10/23	Biological Rhythms and Sleep	Ch 9
10	10/26 - 10/30	Regulatory Control (Eating and Drinking)	Ch 10
11	11/2 - 11/6	Sexual Behavior	Ch 11
12	11/9 - 11/13	Emotion and Stress	Ch 12
13	11/16 - 11/20	Language and Lateralization	Ch 13
14	11/23 - 11/27	<b>Thanksgiving week – break (no readings)</b>	
15	11/30 - 12/4	Learning and Memory	Ch 14
16	12/7 - 12/11	Mental Disorders	Ch 15
<b>Exam2</b>	<b>Sunday 12/13</b>	<b>Final Examination 2 (Ch 8 – 15 ; NOT cumulative)</b>	