

Introduction to Physiological Psychology

Distance Learning PSB3002

UF Flexible Learning
3 Credit Hours

This course expires 16 weeks from the date of your enrollment

ABOUT THE COURSE

Instructor: Professor David W. Smith

Program in Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience,
Dept. of Psychology
UF Center for Smell and Taste

Email: dwsmith@ufl.edu

Office: 337 Psychology

Virtual Office Hours: By appointment

* To speed up communications, it is recommended that you contact Dr. Smith via this Gatorlink email, dwsmith@ufl.edu, rather than through Canvas.

Course Website: elearning.ufl.edu

Online Course Structure

- With the exception of the textbook, this course will be taught entirely online; all material will be presented through the course website on Canvas. Online materials include the required Unit 4 reading material (PDF provided), links to brief videos chosen to help teach and/or reinforce critical material and concepts, brief online “lecturettes” to help present difficult concepts/material, online self-assessments, and on-line exams.

Presentation of Course Material

- The course material is divided into 12 Units, each presenting a different topical area. Your mastery of the material, and your course grade, will be determined in 12 online Unit exams and a cumulative, proctored final exam. The exams questions are multiple choice and true/false.
- This course is designed to be fundamentally self-paced. Using this approach, you will be able to proceed through the material *as rapidly as you wish*. You must, however, complete the course within the enrollment period given to you by UF Distance Learning when you enrolled.
- Once you have read and studied the Unit material, you may take the Unit self-assessment; these are optional and are provided to help you determine your level of proficiency.

- Extra credit is given for taking the self-assessments (see “Grading,” below).
- Each course *Unit* is defined by a list of *learning objectives (LOs)*, which specify the material and concepts we want you to learn. The Unit self-assessments and exams focus primarily on this points.

For example

Unit 10 is “Schizophrenia and Affective Disorders”

Unit 10 Learning Objectives (a partial list).

- 10.1 Describe the symptoms of schizophrenia and discuss the evidence that some forms of schizophrenia are heritable.
- 10.2 Discuss drugs that alleviate or produce the positive symptoms of schizophrenia
- 10.3 Discuss research into the nature of a possible dopamine abnormality in the brains of schizophrenics.
- 10.4 Discuss evidence based on population studies that the negative symptoms of schizophrenia may result from brain damage.

Course Material

- The primary material for each LO is presented in the text or, for Unit 4, a PDF article (provided).
- The text, Neil Carlson’s “*Physiology of Behavior*,” is currently in the 12th edition. There are very few differences between the 10th, 11th and 12th editions and you may choose either for use in this course. 10th editions copies can be purchased online for a few dollars. The material used in this course is derived from the 11th edition, and I encourage those of you purchasing the 10th edition, to compare those chapters we will be using to the 11th edition to note any differences (again, there are very, very few).
- Optional online presentations/PPTs will serve to extend and reinforce the text/PDF material.

Self-Assessments and Unit Exams

- Each LO has a corresponding online self-assessment; these are for your benefit, but extra credit can be earned (see grading) for each assessment completed.
- You are strongly encouraged to take the self-assessments, not only will it help with learning the material, the extra credit to raise your final grade.
- Self-assessments and Unit exams must be taken alone - taking Unit exams with assistance constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty.
- Once you have completed study of the materials for a Unit, you may take the Unit Exam – there is one exam for each Unit.
- The Final exam is **Proctored** online via your webcam. You must register with the proctor website prior to taking the exam. Information on how to register can be found on the course home page.

- If you feel as though an error was made in the automatic grading of your exam (e.g., you believe your answer was the correct answer, though Canvas tells you it was incorrect), you may contact the instructor directly to seek a correction. I do not have access to your exam, so you should submit a screen capture of the question and your response. To seek a correction, you should submit a short explanation of your reasoning (a screen capture of the text supporting your answer is best) as to why your answer is correct. Again, this must be submitted within 48 hours of taking that Unit exam.
- Any extra credit points apply **ONLY** to that unit's exam. They do **NOT** apply to another Unit, or your overall grade if that Unit exam is dropped (see grading). Extra credit points are **NOT** reflected in the Gradebook score for that Unit exam, but will be added when your term grade is calculated.
- As outlined below (see "Grading"), only 10 Unit exam grades (AND your Final exam) count towards your final course grade; if you have taken all 12 Unit exams, we will automatically drop your two lowest grades, and your semester grade will be the average of the 10 exams AND your Final exam.

Proctored Final Exam

- The final exam requires online proctoring by [ProctorU](#). Details on signing up for the ProctorU service are available on the Canvas page.
- You must make a reservation with ProctorU for your exam. The fee is covered by your tuition -- unless you sign up late. If you sign up less than 72 hours before the test, ProctorU may assess you a late fee of \$5 to \$20.

Grading

- There are 12 Unit exams and one cumulative Final exam; your two lowest **Unit** exam grades will be dropped.

Additionally, 5% extra-credit will be added to EACH Unit's exam score if you complete that Unit's self-assessment. For example, if you earned an 87% on the Unit exam AND did the self-assessment (+5%), your earned grade for that Unit would be recorded as a 92%. The extra credit earned for a Unit cannot be carried over to another Unit if, for example, it is dropped as one of your lowest scores. Canvas, unfortunately, does not allow automatic updating of the Unit grades for earned extra credit (we can see it, but you cannot), but it will be added when we calculate your term grade.

Your course grade will be composed of your average on the counted (10) Unit exams (64% of overall grade) and your Final exam score (36%).

Grading Scale

94-100%	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
84-86	B
80-83	B-

77-79	C+
74-76	C
70-73	C-
67-69	D+
64-66	D
60-63	D-
<59	F

Academic Dishonesty

- As stated above, self-assessments and Unit exams must be taken individually - taking Unit exams with assistance constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty
- We fully endorse the [UF Honor Code](#)
- All cases will be reported to the Office of Student Affairs

FAQs and Course Suggestions

“I am really struggling and my test scores are low. How do you suggest I study the material and prepare for the Unit exam?”

When students come to me with this concern, my very best advice is that when you do start reading, make certain to keep detailed notes on the important points (more on that in a second) and especially those points that are unclear to you or that don't make sense. If you were to come by my office, I will show you how virtually every paragraph in my copy of the text (and I always work from a paper copy of the text for precisely this reason) is highlighted with different colors and commented in the margin.

After you finish reading the material, use the chapter summary we have prepared to make certain that you understand the points highlighted/emphasized in the summary (and that you recognized their importance). Again, make note of the points/concepts that aren't clear to you – they study those points in the text and online materials and on the www.

Once you feel as though you have a pretty solid grasp of the material, then take the “self-assessment.” These questions are similar to those on the exam, but are phrased in a manner that makes it relatively easy for you to search in the e-text (if you have it) for the relevant passages explaining the point. Look up each point in the text that confuses you. The next step, obviously, is the exam - so make absolutely certain you understand each and every point before you take the exam.

“When will my extra credit be added to my score?”

Unfortunately, Canvas does not allow automated addition of extra credit to your exam scores in Gradebook. We will add the self-assessment extra credits to your exam grades at the end of the term

when your grade is calculated. You can, of course, simply add 5-points to your Unit exam score to keep track of your own grade.

“I am only 1% from an “A” in the course. Looking back, I believe that one of my answers on the first Unit exam was graded incorrectly. Will you please double check my answer?”

No. This question comes up many times each term. For this reason, we have implemented a policy limiting grading challenges to 48 hours after an exam. If you feel one of your answers was unfairly marked, you must submit a brief, 1 paragraph explanation of your answer and why you were correct (the most effective approach is to send us the page and paragraph number for the correct answer in the text, or another source).

“If I purchase an e-copy of the text, is using “control-F” during an exam cheating?”

I believe that it is. Much more importantly, using control-f means you are getting precious little out of the course. This course, your education, is as valuable as the effort you put into it – nothing more. The self-assessment questions are written in a manner to allow you to control-F to find material in the book; this will allow you to more easily access material in the text you are finding confusing or don't know. The exam questions, and time limits, are designed to make this much more difficult and to reduce the use of control-f.

Flexible Learning Course Policies and Procedures

Academic Integrity

Students enrolled at the University of Florida are expected to perform with the highest level of academic honesty and integrity. You are responsible for providing proper acknowledgement for any work that is not the product of your own thought (this includes published and unpublished texts and information taken from Internet sources). Failure to properly cite such material will be regarded as plagiarism.

Course Deadline and Extension Policy:

Students are allowed *16-weeks, from their date of enrollment*, to complete and submit their coursework. If the student has not submitted at least 50% of their coursework and have an extenuating circumstance preventing them from submitting the coursework, a failing grade of “E”, “E0” or “E1” will be issued and recorded to the UF Registrar.

If the student has made sufficient academic progress, which is defined as completing and submitting at least 50% of the coursework and have an extenuating circumstance, the student may petition the instructor for a course extension before the course expires. Each course extension request will be administratively evaluated. Instructors are not required to allow extensions. If a student does receive an extension, an incomplete grade of an “I” will be assigned as an interim grade. When the course is completed, the instructor will initiate the change of grade. After that, the “I” grade will be changed to the student’s final course grade on their transcript.

Course Cancel or Drop:

Course Cancel:

- A tuition refund may be granted after a student submits a written request for withdrawal from a course within 30 days of enrollment. This request must be in writing and may be sent by email to learn@dce.ufl.edu. All requests will receive written responses. Refunds will be the amount of tuition, less \$25.00 per course.
- A refund can be issued on course materials at the time of withdrawal if they are returned within 30 days of sale and are in their original condition. Please call our office (352) 392-1711 for up to date refund policies. No refunds are granted after 30 days. Students with disabilities who need to drop a course due to disability-related reasons are allowed to petition for additional drops. For more information, contact the [Disability Resource Center](#).

Course Drop:

- To drop/ withdrawal from a course, email learn@dce.ufl.edu. Be sure to include in the body of your email that you wish to drop/ withdrawal. There is a 14-week period to drop from the date of your enrollment. Please use this link for more information: [UF Drop Policies](#)

UF Students Course Drop/ Withdrawal:

- In order to drop a UF Flexible Learning course, UF students must have an Academic Advisor or Department Chair email the UF Flexible Learning office at learn@dce.ufl.edu stating that the student is approved to drop the course.
- UF Students wishing to drop a UF Flexible Learning course after drop/add should contact their college advising office to see if they have a free drop remaining. If they have a free drop remaining, they have 14 weeks from the date of enrollment to drop the course, subject to applicable rules of their college and the university. This action is subject to verification that a grade has not yet been assigned.
- All full-term withdrawals must follow University of Florida policies/procedures. An approved withdrawal form must be submitted to the Dean of Student's Office for review and final approval. Students must also notify the UF Flexible Learning office of this request.
- Please use this link for more information: [UF Drop Policies](#)

Medical Withdrawals:

Start the Medical Withdrawal Process: [Dean of Students Office Medical Withdrawal Process](#)

Retroactive Withdrawals:

For retroactive withdrawal information: [Petition Information](#)

Course Transfers:

You may transfer from one course to another within 30 days of enrollment. This request must be in writing and sent by fax or e-mail. You will receive a receipt by mail. Any difference in tuition will be collected or refunded. There is a \$50.00 transfer fee. After the transfer has taken place, the original enrollment and expiration dates still apply.

The approval and signature of a dean or academic advisor is required for *UF students*.

Length of time to complete a Flexible Learning course:

- Students are allotted 16 weeks to complete a course from the date of their enrollment. For course(s) not completed within the 16-week time limit, a failing grade of "E" will be reported to the registrar.
- Students who have academic goals such as graduation or applying to graduate school, are strongly advised to complete their course(s) 14 days prior to their personal deadline. This is to ensure the grades will be posted in plenty of time for transcripts.
- The policy is to submit up to two assignments per week, with as the maximum. To submit more than two to three assignments per week, the student must seek approval from the instructor.

Most courses cannot be completed in less than 8 weeks because it is necessary for the student to receive feedback.

Plagiarism:

“A student shall not represent as the student’s own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

1. Quoting oral or written materials including but not limited to those found on the internet, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.
2. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student.” Source: Regulations of the University of Florida, UF-4.041. For more information, please go to this link: [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code: Scope and Violations](#)

“For a violation or violations of the Honor Code, a student may receive any of the sanctions that can be imposed for Student Conduct Code violations, including but not limited to conduct probation, suspension and expulsion as well as any educational sanctions. In addition, students may receive the following:

- (a) Assignment grade penalty. The student is assigned a grade penalty on an assignment including but not limited to a zero.
- (b) Course grade penalty. The student is assigned a grade penalty in the entire course including but not limited to an ‘E’.” Source: Regulations of the University of Florida, UF-4.047.

Course Schedule and Changes

While this is certainly not expected, the instructor reserves the right to make changes at any time to the course schedule, syllabus, quiz or assignment formats. Any changes will be documented in writing with as much advanced notice as possible. Students are solely responsible for keeping their email addresses up to date and on file, keeping up with the course schedule and any announced revisions that may occur on their own.

Disability Accommodations:

The [Disability Resource Center](#) in the [Dean of Students Office](#) provides students and faculty with information and support regarding accommodations for students with disabilities. Staff at the Disability Resource Center will assist any student who registers as having a disability. Official documentation of a disability is required to determine eligibility for appropriate accommodations. The professional employees at the Disability Resource Program serve as full-time advocates for students with disabilities ensuring students have physical and programmatic access to all college programs. One of the services provided by the Disability Resource Center includes:

- For testing Accommodations contact the [DRC-Testing Accommodations](#) office for more information.

The Flexible Learning office needs to be notified of any special accommodations required by the student when they begin their course.

How to Request a UF Transcript:

There are two ways to order a transcript:

- [Order your UF Transcript.](#)
- If you cannot use the online system, please contact the UF Office of the University Registrar for instructions to mail in a request with a check or money order. They can be contacted by phone Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at 352-392-1374. Persons with hearing impairments can call FRS # 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

Please check your “unofficial transcript” first, before ordering your “official transcript”, to make certain that your grade has been posted.

The University of Florida assures the confidentiality of all your educational records in accordance with State University System Rules, State Statutes, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Grades are not given out over the phone.

UF Flexible Learning Contact Information:

Email: learn@dce.ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 392-1711

Toll free: (800) 327-4218

Fax: (352) 392-6950

Website: [Flexible Learning](#)

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, except Holidays

8:00am-5:00pm EST