



Bridgewater State University
PSYC 342 Biopsychology



I. Fundamentals of the Course

Instructor: Dr. Sharon Ramos Goyette

Email: slgoyette@bridgew.edu; **Please see email policy below.**

Credits: 3

Duration: December 21, 2021- January 17, 2022

Course site: Blackboard

Readings: Biopsychology, Fundamentals and Contemporary Issues, Martin S. Shapiro

THE COURSE

This course is an introduction to biopsychology. Literally translated “biopsychology” is the biological study of the mind. The information presented in this course is foundational and is meant to introduce the psychology student to the basic biological functioning of the mind. As such primary topics include the cells of the nervous system, neurotransmitters and neuroanatomy. The prerequisite for this course is PSYC 100 or consent of the instructor.

LETTER GRADE ASSIGNMENTS:

A	93-100	C	73-77.4
A-	90-92.4	C-	70-72.4
B+	88-89.4	D+	68-69.4
B	83-87.4	D	63-67.4
B-	80-82.4	D-	60-62.4
C+	78-79.4	F	0-59

II. COURSE POLICIES

1. **EXTRA CREDIT:** There is NO extra credit in this course.
2. **EMAIL COMMUNICATION:** From time to time, you may need to email me. When you do so, 1.)

please put the course NAME and NUMBER in the SUBJECT line. I typically have over one hundred students. For me to get back to you as quickly as possible, that's helpful information. 2.) Please have a reasonable expectation for a response. For example, I may not get back to you over a weekend or other type of break. I may take a day or two to respond. On the other hand, if I can, I will respond as soon as I receive your request. Just as I understand that this is not your only course, please understand that you are not my only student or that I may need to access my computer to give you the information you need.

3. **MAKE-UP POLICY:** There are no make-ups in this online course. You have two days to access exams and quizzes that unlock content are generally available much longer.

4. **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** Any breach of academic integrity is unacceptable. Academic misconduct as defined by the BSU student handbook will automatically result in: 1) a report of the offense to Academic Affairs, 2) a zero score on the relevant evaluation tool (assignment, exam, quiz, paper, etc.) for first offense, and 3) course failure for second and subsequent offenses. Misconduct involving multicomponent evaluation tools (e.g., assignments with multiple drafts) will result in, at minimum, a zero score for the relevant component. Please review BSU's Academic Integrity Policy at <http://catalog.bridgew.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=632>

IV. COURSE ASSESSMENT

1. Exams: (total 70%)

Exams will consist of multiple-choice questions. Exams are based on course material. There will be four exams. (Your final exam will not be cumulative. It will be the 4th exam.) Your score on these exams will contribute a total of 70% to your overall grade.

2. Quizzes: (total of 30%)

You will have to take quizzes from time to time before moving onto additional content. The quiz provides a quick check on your understanding and passing the quiz ensures you have enough information to continue with the next topic.

V. COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Please note, the assigned chapters and page numbers below are a working model of where I expect to be during each time interval. However, every semester, students vary and we may end up going faster in one section and slower in another. The rate at which we go through the material will vary depending on student understanding. The material is dense and will require extra effort.

Topics and Test Content

(Quizzes are embedded within Topics and you are required to take the quizzes to "level-up" or unlock access to subsequent material within each section.)

Topic 1: Introduction to Course and Biopsychology

Review Folder Topic 1, *take Quiz*

From Chapter 1, Read Age of Enlightenment and Subdisciplines

From Chapter 2, Read 2.1 Cells of the Nervous System

From *Chapter 5.1 DNA and Genes*

Begin Chapter 3: *Neuron Communication*

Test 1

Topic 2: Action Potential and Drugs

Chapter 3, Action Potential

From Chapter 14, *14.1 Routes of Drug Administration, stop at Nicotine*

Test 2

Topic 3: Illicit and Prescribed Drugs: Mechanisms of Action

Chapter 14, but skip section on Psychedelic Hallucinogens

Test 3

Topic 4: Learning and Memory and Neuroanatomy

Chapter 13, Section on Long-term potentiation (subject to change)

Chapter 2

Final