

Behavioural Neuroscience (PSY290)

Summer 2022

Syllabus

Instructor

Dr. Suzanne Wood

Email: suzanne.wood@utoronto.ca

Group Office Hours: Please feel free to attend optional drop-in, group office hours online! These will be on Tuesdays, 2:00-3:00pm over Zoom:

<https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/88461757498>

Individual Office Hours: You can also schedule a 15-minute, individual appointment with me online

<https://calendly.com/drswood/officehours/>

Teaching Assistant

Alexander Jacob

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TA Office Hours: *details will be posted on Quercus throughout the semester*

Textbook: *Discovering Behavioral Neuroscience: An Introduction to Biological Psychology*, 4th Edition, Freberg LA (2019) Cengage

The bookstore currently provides a link for the online textbook with access to MindTap. If you are interested, we are working on an option that also includes a printed, loose-leaf version of the textbook (for those of you who like printed books). You will need access to MindTap for this course.

Prerequisites: PSY100H1 / PSY100Y5 / PSYA01H3

Exclusions: HMB200H1 / PSL300H1 / PSY290H5 / PSYB64H3

Course Description

This course will explore the relationship between the brain and behaviour, including sensory processing, emotions, higher cognitive processes, and everything in between.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course you will be able to:

- Locate and explain the importance of different brain regions
- Describe neural communication and the roles of different ions and neurotransmitters
- Interpret research findings regarding the role of different brain regions & neurochemicals in human and animal behaviour

Email

Please reserve the use of email addressed to me for personal matters, only. To ask content-related questions, please post on the Discussion Board. Many students will likely have the same question, so it will benefit the whole class to see the question and answer (whether posted by fellow students or the TA). *I can only check emails sporadically during business hours (9am-5pm) and do NOT check after hours (5pm-9am). Please anticipate up to a 48-hour period before you receive a response to your email. Plan accordingly. I encourage you to attend my group office hours or book an individual appointment with me to help clear up any questions.*

Grading Criteria

Writing Assignment (17%, total)	
– Part 1	2%
– Final Paper (Part 2)	15%
MindTap Homework	10%
Assessment 1	20%
Assessment 2	20%
Final Assessment	33%

Assessments

The Assessments (1, 2 and Final) will be based on lectures and the textbook. They will be open book and open note (but not open to input from other human beings, the internet, your very smart pet hamster who also listened to all your PSY290 lectures, etc.). Further details regarding assessments will be discussed in class.

MindTap

Sign up for MindTap to have access to the textbook and MindTap Homework assignments. See Quercus for enrolment information. Completing the homework will help keep you on track with your reading for this class. A portion of your final grade (10%) is made up of your performance on these activities, working out to be just over a percentage point per chapter of graded homework (*I have kept Chapter 1 as “Practice” to allow you some time to test out the system, so that chapter will remain ungraded*).

Writing Assignment

To give you the opportunity to think more deeply about the material covered in this course, there will be a writing assignment (Final Paper - Part 2) due towards the end of the term. A preliminary assignment (Part 1) will also be due to help you prepare for writing your paper. Please see the “Assignments” section on Quercus for the assignment description and rubric.

Missed Deadline or Assessment

If a student misses a deadline for an assignment or assessment for any reason (illness, family situation, etc.), an online absence declaration must be submitted on ACORN. Please email me within one week if this should happen. For the **Final Paper** (Part 2 of the Writing Assignment), a 5% penalty will be applied for every 24-hour period or portion thereof the work is submitted late. **Part 1 of the Writing Assignment** is scored out of 2 points; 0.5 points will be lost for every 24-hour period or portion thereof that it is late. For the **term tests** (**Assessment 1, Assessment 2**),

the weight of the missed assessment will be transferred to the final exam. **There are no make-ups for term tests.** Weekly **MindTap Homework** has been designed to assist in keeping up with course reading; these are worth very small points. For every 24-hour period or portion thereof that any weekly MindTap Homework is submitted late, 0.5 points will be deducted from the 10-point total allocated for homework. **No submission of any kind (assessment, paper, homework, etc.) will be accepted more than 4 days after the due date.**

Questions About Grading

Any questions regarding a grade received for an item of work in this course should be **brought to the attention of the TA** within **two weeks of receipt** of the graded work. The TA will give the student a form to fill out, detailing where the marking error may have occurred. References to the textbook and/or lecture slides are also required. If the student is not satisfied with the response of the TA, the student can submit **an appeal letter to me**. This letter must detail the item(s) in contention and why it has not been assessed accurately. A legitimate request will result in a re-grade of the entire work, which may result in a higher, lower, or identical grade.

Academic Integrity

The University of Toronto considers cases of academic misconduct to be quite serious. The UofT Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (linked to here: <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/academic-advising-and-support/student-academic-integrity>) is a detailed document describing policies regarding misconduct, which includes:

- quoting another person's ideas in your work without clear acknowledgement
- using or possessing an unauthorized aid or obtaining unauthorized assistance in taking an exam or writing a paper
- submitting forged or altered documentation for excuses for missed exams

Any of these offenses will result in referral to the central academic integrity office and consequences that the University deems appropriate after investigation.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using another writer's words or ideas without the proper acknowledgement. Know what plagiarism is so you can avoid it: <http://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>

If you have any questions about whether what you are doing constitutes plagiarism, contact your TA.

Plagiarism Detection

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University's plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool's reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (<https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>).

If you wish to opt out of submitting work to plagiarism detection, you must do the following:

1. Email the TA no later than two weeks before the due date indicating you wish to opt out
2. Submit a paragraph describing why this topic is of particular interest to you with your final essay
3. Submit handwritten notes used for the design of your essay with your final essay

Writing Help

Book an appointment online with the Writing Centres on St. George Campus:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres/arts-and-science>

Attend a free group workshop with Writing Plus:

<http://writing.utoronto.ca/writing-plus/>

English is not your first language? Take a look at these resources:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/support/english-language-support>

<https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/academic-advising-and-support/english-language-learning>

Accessibility

University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability or have an accessibility concern about this course, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: <http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as>

That Other Kind of Psychology

These years can be challenging, both in and out of the classroom. University of Toronto offers services to assist students facing a wide range of emotional and psychological challenges:

<http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/hwc>

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES

(topics subject to change, due dates are fixed)

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading	MindTap Homework (10%)
1	July 4 - 8	[Lecture 1] Introduction	Chp. 1	Practice, only!
		[Lecture 2] Neuroanatomy & Evolution of the Brain	Chp. 2	Chapter 2
	July 5 (Tues, 2-3pm)	Group Drop-In Office Hours on Zoom		
2	July 11 - 15	[Lecture 3] Neurophysiology	Chp. 3	Chapter 3
		[Lecture 4] Psychopharmacology	Chp. 4	Chapter 4
	July 12 (Tues, 2-3pm)	Group Drop-In Office Hours on Zoom		
3	July 18 - 22	[Lecture 5] Nonvisual Sensation & Perception	Chp. 7	Chapter 7
		[Lecture 6] Sensation & Perception		
	July 19 (Tues, 2-3pm)	Group Drop-In Office Hours on Zoom		
	July 20 (Wed)	Assessment 1 (20%) – Lectures 1-4 – Due by 11:59 pm		
4	July 25 - 29	[Lecture 6] Sexual Behaviour	Chp. 10	Chapter 10
		[Lecture 7] Genetics and Development	Chp. 5	Chapter 5
	July 26 (Tues, 2-3pm)	Group Drop-In Office Hours on Zoom		
	July 27 (Wed)	Writing Assignment Part 1 (2%) – Due by 11:59 pm		
5	Aug. 1 – 5 <i>1st is a holiday</i>	[Lecture 8] Movement	Chp. 8	Chapter 8
		[Lecture 9] Movement		
	Aug. 2 (Tues, 2-3pm)	Group Drop-In Office Hours on Zoom		
	Aug. 5 (Fri)	Assessment 2 (20%) – Lectures 5-8 – Due by 11:59 pm		
6	Aug. 8 - 12	[Lecture 9] Emotion, Aggression, and Stress	Chp. 14	Chapter 14
		[Lecture 10] Psychopathology	Chp. 16	Chapter 16
	Aug. 9 (Tues, 2-3pm)	Group Drop-In Office Hours on Zoom		
7	Aug. 15 (Mon)	Final Paper (15%) – Due by 11:59 pm		
Final Assessment Period		Final Assessment (33%) – Cumulative		