



ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 1993
 REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2025
 COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval): September 2030
 Course outline form version: 28/10/2022

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: PSYC 280	Number of Credits: 3 Course credit policy (105)												
Course Full Title: Introduction to Biological Psychology Course Short Title: Intro to Biological Psychology													
Faculty: Faculty of Social Sciences	Department (or program if no department): Psychology												
Calendar Description: An introduction to the relationship between brain and behaviour. Students explore an overview of the nervous system, neuroanatomy, neural communication, research methods, neural plasticity, and the neural basis of selected complex behaviours.													
Prerequisites (or NONE):	PSYC 101 and PSYC 102.												
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	None.												
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	None.												
Antirequisite Courses <i>(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)</i> Former course code/number: NONE Cross-listed with: NONE Equivalent course(s): NONE <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>	Course Details Special Topics course: No <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: No <i>(See policy 207 for more information.)</i> Grading System: Letter grades Delivery Mode: May be offered in multiple delivery modes Expected frequency: Every semester Maximum enrolment (for information only): 36												
Typical Structure of Instructional Hours <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Lecture/seminar</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total hours</td> <td style="text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> </table>	Lecture/seminar	45									Total hours	45	Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) PLAR is available for this course.
Lecture/seminar	45												
Total hours	45												
Scheduled Laboratory Hours Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Transfer Credit <i>(See bctransferguide.ca.)</i> Transfer credit already exists: Yes Submit outline for (re)articulation: No <i>(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)</i>												
Department approval	Date of meeting: April 2024												
Faculty Council approval	Date of meeting: May 3, 2024												
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	Date of meeting: September 27, 2024												

Learning Outcomes *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the neural mechanisms and structures underlying the function of the human nervous system.
2. Explain neural communication.
3. Associate nervous system structures to neuroanatomical function.
4. Critically examine the research methods used in biopsychology research.
5. Examine the mechanisms of neural plasticity at an introductory level.
6. Describe the relationship between neural systems and a range of human behaviours, such as sensory and motor function, learning, memory psychopathology.
7. Explore the functional deficits which result from pathology in the nervous system.

Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Final exam:	30%	Assignments:	30%	%
Quizzes/tests:	40%		%	%

Details:

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lecture, demonstration, small group practice, discussion, use of nervous system models, preserved sheep brains, and diagrams.

Texts and Resource Materials *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Textbook	Pinel, J.P.J. & Barnes	Biopsychology/ Allyn & Bacon	2017
2. Textbook	Kolb, B. and Whishaw, I.Q. and Teskey, G.C.	An Introduction to Brain and Behaviour/ Worth 7 th Ed	2023
3.			
4.			
5.			

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)***Course Content and Topics**

- Introduction to biopsychology
- Cells of the nervous system
- Neuroanatomy (human brain models and sheep brains)
- Nervous system "communication": within neurons
- Nervous system "communication": between neurons
- Research methods
- Neural plasticity: learning and memory
- Sensation and perception: vision
- Sensation and perception: non-visual senses
- Motor systems
- Damage and disease
- Psychiatric disorders
- Drugs and the brain
- Sleep and circadian rhythms