PSY 4313.010 - Behavioral Neuroscience

Professor: Dr. Stephen Lippi  
Phone: 325-486-6923  
Email: stephen.lippi@angelo.edu  
Class Location: Academic Bldg 213  
Class time: TR 11am - 12:15pm  
Office Location: Academic Bldg 104C  
Office hours: Monday 11am - 2pm/ Tuesday 3 - 4pm/ Wednesday 10:30am - 4:30pm  
Credits: 3


- For this course - students must have MindTap software
- ISBN (looseleaf-text with MindTap access): 9781337752022
- ISBN (Cengage unlimited, 1 term): 9780357700006

Course Description

This course builds upon knowledge students gained through introductory Psychology courses regarding the brain and behavior. In this course, students will begin by learning the cellular bases of the nervous system and the ways that scientists study the nervous system. Then, brain development, sensory system functions and structures will be reviewed, followed by in-depth explorations of particular behaviors, including: hunger, sleep, learning and memory, and emotions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) validating outcome achievement:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| By completing all course requirements, students will be able to: | Exams (completed throughout the semester)  
MindTap Mastery Trainings & Chapter Tests (due throughout the semester) |
| Gain a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories) | Laboratory assignments/quizzes due throughout the semester |
| Learn to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions) | |

Methods of Assessing Learning Outcomes

Exams

There will be 3 non-cumulative exams throughout the course of the semester and a cumulative final exam. These exams may consist of multiple choice, true/false, short answer, fill-in-the-blank or other types of questions. Students are given the entire class period to complete the exam. Students are expected to show
up on time for each exam. Should a student miss an exam, appropriate documentation must be provided to
the professor before a make-up exam will be given. Any make-up exam may be structured differently than
the original exam. **The first 3 exams count for 100 points each with the final exam counting for 150
points of the course grade.** So, that is 4 exams (3 counting for 100 points each and the cumulative final
counting for 150 points) for a total grade contribution of 450 points.

**MindTap Review “Mastery” Trainings**

Throughout each unit, students will be responsible for the completion of Mastery trainings. These
trainings are meant to allow students to remain engaged in course material and to help them learn/review
vocabulary and terms useful for those respective chapters. In order to gain full credit, students will have to
complete the mastery trainings **several times.** These are not assignments that you can do once and then
call it a day. All due dates for MindTap review trainings can be found in the schedule below.

**So how do they work?** These assignments allow students to select a varied amount of “memories” that
they wish to learn. (e.g. 10 or 20) This will be the amount of terms students will be reviewing in that
“session”. At the conclusion of that session, students will earn progress towards that chapters’ mastery
training. You need to get the **progress circle** to 100% for that chapter. Once you do, you will get 10
points (this is synced with Blackboard). Once you complete the progress bar for that chapter, you do not
have to keep doing them. **Please allow 24 hours for grades to sync from MindTap to Blackboard.**

Each Review assignment (Mastery Training) is worth 10 points and you can drop the lowest two (or
choose not to do two). **So, that is 10 trainings at 10 points each for a total grade contribution of 100
points.**

**MindTap Chapter Tests**

Throughout each unit, students will be responsible for completing chapter tests. These tests consist of 20
questions and you will get **2 attempts, each lasting 60 minutes.** When completing each test, once you
select an answer for a question, you can save your responses and then manually click another question on
the left hand side. Once completed, select “Submit Assignment for Grading”. All due dates for MindTap
chapter tests can be found in the schedule below. Your best out of the 2 attempts will be used for scoring.
Each chapter quiz is worth 20 points and you can drop the lowest two (or choose not to do two). **So, that
is 10 chapter quizzes at 20 points each for a total grade contribution of 200 points.**

**MindTap Laboratory Experiments**

Throughout each unit, students will be responsible for completing certain Virtual Biological Psychology
Labs. Each lab involves an instructional set of slides/point-and-click experiences and conclude with a quiz
covering that lab. These experiments are meant to engage students with the course material they are
learning. All due dates for MindTap Virtual biological psychology labs can be found in the schedule
below. You have 2 attempts at each lab with an unlimited amount of time devoted to them; each lab is
worth 25 points. You can drop the lowest one (or choose not to do one). **So, that is 4 virtual biological
psychology labs at 25 points each for a total grade contribution of 100 points.**
“How are we doing?” assignments

Each Tuesday you will submit a written statement including 1) something you feel confident about and 2) something you would like more information about. This serves as an indicator of what I should review in the following class. Also, this is an indicator of who is showing up to class throughout the semester. There will be ~11 of these assignments throughout the semester, each worth 5 points; the lowest will be dropped. So, that is 10 “How are we doing?” assignments at 5 points each for a total grade contribution of 50 points.

Grades

Students’ grades will be calculated out of a total of 900 points.

- 100 points from 10 Mastery Review Trainings
- 200 points from 10 MindTap Chapter Tests
- 100 points from 4 MindTap Virtual BioPsychology Lab quizzes
- 300 points from Exams 1,2,3
- 150 points from the Final Exam
- 50 points from 10 “How are we doing?” activities

In Blackboard, there will be a column of total points. Please keep in mind this may not necessarily accurately reflect your grade at any certain point. I will try my best to make sure that scores are adjusted to reflect the above point totals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Grade (900 total points)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100% <em>(810 - 900 points)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89.99% <em>(720 - 809 points)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-79.99% <em>(630 - 719 points)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69.99% <em>(540 - 629 points)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59.99% <em>(0 - 539 points)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

***Important: At the end of the semester, you may be tempted to email me a variant of *any* of the following:

- “Dr. Lippi, I’m SO CLOSE to a passing grade!”
- “Dr. Lippi, What extra credit is there that I can do to boost my grade?”
- “Dr. Lippi, I have to graduate!”
- “Dr. Lippi, can you please curve my grade?”

Please do not email me at the end of the semester asking to boost your grade, change your grade, or curve your grade. This is not ethical to do. Grades are *earned* by each and every student and it is not fair to adjust your grade or assign you extra credit without doing the same for everyone. Also, there is no extra credit. So we’ll get that out of the way now.

**Attendance policy**
Each student is expected to arrive on time for each class and attend class regularly. Although attendance is not officially a part of the grade, exam scores may reflect a subpar attendance record. Attendance will loosely be assessed through “How are we doing?” activities given each week. You are responsible for obtaining notes from others if you are absent from a particular class and/or checking with me to verify what we went over in class.

Honor Code

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/code-of-student-conduct/misconduct.php](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/code-of-student-conduct/misconduct.php)

Please do not cheat in this class. If you are found to have cheated, you and the individual from whom assistance was given will receive a 0% on the assignment – that goes for article analysis and exams.

Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation. Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the students’ responsibility to initiate such a request by emailing ADA@angelo.edu, or by contacting:

Mrs. Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Development
Office of Student Affairs University Center, Suite 112
325-942-2047 Office 325-942-2211 Fax
Dallas.Swafford@angelo.edu

Title IX at Angelo State University:

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D.

You may submit reports in the following manner:

**Online:** www.angelo.edu/incident-form
**Face to Face:** Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
**Phone:** 325-942-2022
**E-Mail:** michelle.boone@angelo.edu
Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

**Tentative Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Class Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>MindTap Assignments</th>
<th>MindTap Lab Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 26</td>
<td>What is Behavioral Neuroscience?</td>
<td>Ch. 1</td>
<td>August 27, August 29</td>
<td>Intro What is Behav. Neuro? - 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2</td>
<td>Neuroanatomy &amp; Nervous System Evo</td>
<td>Ch. 2</td>
<td>September 3, September 5</td>
<td>Neuroanatomy - 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 9</td>
<td>Neurophysiology</td>
<td>Ch. 3</td>
<td>September 10, September 12</td>
<td>Neurophysiology - 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 16</td>
<td>Psychopharmacology</td>
<td>Ch. 4</td>
<td>September 17, September 19</td>
<td>Psychopharmacology - 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 23</td>
<td>Exam 1 (Sept 24) Genetics</td>
<td>Ch. 5</td>
<td>September 24, September 26</td>
<td>Exam 1 (9/24) Genetics - 5</td>
<td>Ch. 1 - 4: Review/Mastery Ch. 1 - 4: Chapter Test Due: September 23, 11:59PM</td>
<td>Virtual Biological Psychology Lab: Neurons &amp; Synapses (Quiz) Due: Sept 15, 11:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 30</td>
<td>Brain Development Vision</td>
<td>Ch. 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>October 1, October 3</td>
<td>Brain Development - 5 Vision - 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>Vision Nonvisual</td>
<td>Ch. 6 &amp; 7</td>
<td>October 8, October 10</td>
<td>Vision - 6 Nonvisual</td>
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<td>Virtual Biological Psychology Lab:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Start</td>
<td>End</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<td>October 14</td>
<td>Sensation/Perception</td>
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<td>Nonvisual Sensation/Perception Movement Ch. 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<td>October 15</td>
<td>Sensation/Perception</td>
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<td>Nonvisual Sensation/Perception Movement Ch. 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<td>October 17</td>
<td>Sensation/Perception</td>
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<td>Nonvisual Sensation/Perception Movement Ch. 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 14</td>
<td>Nonvisual Sensation/Perception Movement Ch. 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<td>SFN and Wedding</td>
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<td>October 21</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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<td>Ch. 5 - 8: Review/Mastery Ch. 5 - 8: Chapter Test Due: October 30,</td>
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<td>October 28</td>
<td>Movement Exam 2 (Oct 31)</td>
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<td>11:59PM</td>
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<td>November 4</td>
<td>Homeostasis, Motivation, &amp; Reward</td>
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<td>Ch. 5 - 8: Review/Mastery Ch. 5 - 8: Chapter Test Due: October 30,</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 11</td>
<td>Sleep and Waking</td>
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<td>11:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 18</td>
<td>Emotion, Aggression, and Stress</td>
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<td>Virtual Biological Psychology Lab: Hypothalamic Control of Feeding</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 25</td>
<td>Learning and Memory Thanksgiving</td>
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<td>(Quiz) Due: Nov 24, 11:59PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2</td>
<td>Learning &amp; Memory</td>
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<td>Virtual Biological Psychology Lab: Habituation and Sensitization (Quiz)</td>
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Ch. = Chapter
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 10</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 10</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Tuesday (Dec 10) 10:30am - 12:30pm</td>
</tr>
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Chapter Test
Due: December 4, 11:59PM

Due: Dec 4, 11:59PM