Course Information

Course Description: The field of psychology evolved from the combination of philosophy and physiology. The first textbook in psychology, written by Wundt in the late 19th c. was entitled "Principles of Physiological Psychology". Physiological psychology involves studying the relationship between physiological mechanisms and behavior. The primary physiological mechanism is the nervous system. Anyone who has kept current with psychological research realizes that the future of psychology will revolve around neural substrates of behavior and how they are influenced by our genetic makeup and modified by the environment. The purpose of this course is to give the student an in-depth look at the principles of neuroscience and how they relate to cognition and behavior. Emphasis will be placed on the organization of the nervous system and the cellular/chemical bases of neural activity and their relationship to normal and abnormal behavior.

Course Credits

3 credits

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

none

Prerequisite Skills

Accessing Internet websites (including Blackboard), use of ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint are expectations for Psychopharmacology.
**Student Learning Outcomes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By completing all course requirements, students should be able to:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Describe the basic structure and function of the nervous system.</td>
<td>Quizzes and exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understand and describe the essential features of neuronal communication.</td>
<td>Quizzes and exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understand the basic biological processes underlying higher level functions such as cognition, learning and memory, and mental disorders.</td>
<td>Quizzes and exams</td>
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</table>

**Course Delivery**

This is a face to face course offering. Supplemental material will be delivered via the Blackboard Learning Management System. The course site can be accessed at [ASU's Blackboard Learning Management System](#).

**Required Texts and Materials**


**Recommended Texts and Materials**

**To participate in one of ASU’s distance education programs, you need this technology:**

- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OS X 10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these web browsers: internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam

Refer to Angelo State University’s Distance Education website for further technology requirements: [Angelo State University's Distance Education Website](#)
Required Facial Coverings by Students in Class at Angelo State University

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

(syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of instructor)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Chapter Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MODULE 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1: 8-19</strong></td>
<td>Syllabus/Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2: 8-26</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 1, 2 &amp; 3 Neuroscience: Past, Present, &amp; Future; Neurons and Glia; The Neuronal Membrane at Rest</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3: 9-2</strong></td>
<td>Chapters 4 &amp; 5 The Action Potential; Synaptic Transmission</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4: 9-9</strong></td>
<td>Chapters 4 &amp; 5 The Action Potential; Synaptic Transmission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5: 9-16</strong></td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MODULE 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 6: 9-23</strong></td>
<td>Chapters 6 &amp; 7 Neurotransmitter Systems; The Structure of the Nervous System</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7: 9-30</strong></td>
<td>Chapters 6 &amp; 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week/Date</td>
<td>Chapter Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8: 10-7</td>
<td>Neurotransmitter Systems; The Structure of the Nervous System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9: 10-14</td>
<td>Chapters 12 &amp; 14 The Somatic Sensory System; Brain Control of Movement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10: 10-21</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11: 10-28</td>
<td>Chemical Control of the Brain and Behavior; Motivation; Sex and the Brain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 12: 11-2</td>
<td>Brain Mechanisms of Emotion; The Resting Brain, Attention, &amp; Consciousness; Mental Illness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13: 11-11</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 14: 11-18</td>
<td>MODULE 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-23</td>
<td>MODULE 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-23</td>
<td>Chapters 23 &amp; 24 Wiring the Brain; Memory Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-23</td>
<td>Chapters 24 &amp; 25 Memory Systems; Molecular Mechanisms of Learning and Memory</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-23</td>
<td>Final Due by 3 p.m.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Exams**

**Exams:** Principles of learning and cognition have indicated that the acquisition and use of knowledge is facilitated to the degree that material is presented in a "distributed" rather than "massed" manner. Thus, you will be evaluated (tested) four times this semester after each of four units according to the schedule detailed below. Exams will generally consist of a combination of multiple choice and short answer/essay type questions. Exam material will come from class material as well as the book. Note that the 4th or final exam will not be comprehensive. Each exam will be worth 100 points for a total of 400 points.
**Participation**: This is a graduate class that is heavily discussion based. Your attendance and participation is EXPECTED. That said, there are 100 pts available for discussion/attendance. Each day you do not attend or participate will affect these points.

**Communication**
Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

**Written communication via email**: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and number (Psychopharmacology, 6336) in the subject line.

**Virtual communication**: Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Collaborate, Skype, etc. Additionally, there may be virtual “lecture” sessions through Collaborate. This would be exploratory for feasibility. You will receive additional information regarding virtual lecture possibilities.

**“Netiquette”**: Forum posts should be professional in nature. You will be expected to engage in forum activities with your classmates. The topic of this course can be very polarizing and impassioned, which can result in vigorous conversation which is perfectly acceptable in the context of this class. However, there is no tolerance for hate speech, name calling or ad-hominin attacks. We will engage in respectful conversation at all times.

**Evaluation and Grades**
Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percent/Points of Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation and engagement</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>500 points (100%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading System**
Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.
The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- A = 90.00-100
- B = 80.00-89.99
Teaching Strategies
Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers. This is especially true of a graduate class.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

Assignment Submission
All assignments MUST be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at steven.brewer@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue. This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy

Late Work Policy
The course is set up on weekly modules. The week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. Assignment due dates are shown on the calendar/schedule or posted within Blackboard. Late assignments are not accepted without prior approval of faculty. Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the original due date.

General Policies Related to This Course
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](1)
- [Angelo State University Catalog](2)
Student Responsibility and Attendance

Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week on average. Graduate classes should be engaging and thought provoking. I hope that each of you engage the material and my lectures with earnest curiosity.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU. The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.

Accommodations for Students with 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 Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from
completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

Copyright Policy
Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Syllabus Changes
The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student’s responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

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
Email: 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.

**Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course**

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences. Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

**End of Syllabus**

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1. [https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/)
2. [https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/](https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/)
3 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
4 https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/
5 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures
6 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
7 https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php
8 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of