

PSY 4313 D10 – Behavioral Neuroscience



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Office Hours: MW, 11AM-4PM (*No in-person office hours will be held due to COVID precautions, but I'm happy to meet with you through office phone, email, zoom, etc. anytime).

Course Information

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.

Course Credits

3

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

None

Prerequisite Skills

Accessing internet web sites (including MindTap websites through Blackboard), use of ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. Tutorials for ASU Library and for Blackboard are available through RamPort. The ASU Undergraduate/Graduate student handbook should be reviewed before taking this class.

Student Learning Outcomes

By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:
Gain a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)	Exams (completed throughout the semester) MindTap Mastery Trainings & Chapter Tests (due throughout the semester) Discussion board “How are we doing?” posts
Learn to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)	Laboratory assignments/quizzes due throughout the semester

Course Delivery

This is an online course offering. The course 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

Text: Discovering Behavioral Neuroscience: An Introduction to Biological Psychology. Laura Freberg (4th edition). Cengage Learning

- *For this course - students must have MindTap software*
- ISBN (looseleaf-text with MindTap access): 9781337752022
- ISBN (Cengage unlimited, 1 term): 9781337570978
 - MindTap access code comes with an online E-book

Please consult [the bookstore](#) where you can find these options as well.

Technology Requirements

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 OSX 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

Communication

Email: I will respond to email messages within 24 hours (usually quicker) during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday. **All private communication will be done *exclusively* through your ASU email address.** Check frequently for announcements and policy

changes. **Any adjustments to the course schedule/assignments and any announcements will be made via Blackboard announcements.**

Grading

Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

Assessment	Percent/Points of Total Grade
Exams (1-3, 100 pt each)	300 points
MindTap Mastery Trainings (12)	240 points
MindTap End of Chapter Tests/Quizzes (12)	300 points
MindTap Biopsychology Labs (4)	100 points
"How are we doing?" Discussion Board Posts (12)	60 points
Total	1000 points

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:

Letter	Percentage (Points)
A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89.9%
C	70 – 79.9%
D	60 – 69.9%
F	0 – 59.9%

Your final percentage will be calculated as your final course total divided by 1000.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

Course material is organized into modules. All course material for each module will be available at the start of that module (example: Ch. 1-4 material will be available at the first week, under module 1). Students will have access to all online assignments at the beginning of each module and have until

specified due dates to complete all MindTap assignments. Some assignments will have due dates that are farther away than others, so please be mindful of when assignments are due.

Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (**beyond the textbook and videos presented in the course**) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using Youtube videos, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and applied experiences with peers. I will also recommend and post Youtube videos and online material that I feel compliments the course material. For each unit, material on MindTap for that unit will be available starting at the beginning of the unit (Unit 1: January 17, Unit 2: February 21, Unit 3: March 28).

*Self-introduction video through **Flipgrid***

Since we will not meet in person this semester, please upload a self-introduction video to our [FlipGrid](https://flipgrid.com/504eaaa6) course (<https://flipgrid.com/504eaaa6>). Please sign into/register in Flipgrid using your @angelo.edu email address. These videos are meant to be an introduction to yourself and I can get to know you all since I won't be physically seeing many of you this semester. In your video, please say your name, where you currently are at/where you're from, why you're taking this course, and tell me a little bit about yourself. This assignment is worth 10 points of extra credit and will be added to your final grade total. **This self-introduction video is due by 11:59PM Sunday, January 23, 2022..**

Exams

There will be **3 exams** throughout the semester. These exams will open on Friday and will be closed on Sunday at 11:59PM. (For instance, Exam 1 is due Sunday, February 20 by 11:59PM; the link to Exam 1 will be available on Friday, February 18). Each exam will be made up of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and/or short answer questions. Students will download the exam and will complete it at home/online. Once 11:59PM occurs, the link will disappear and students will be unable to submit their completed exam. Each exam will count as 100 points. A total of **300** points will be earned from exams.

- Students will have access to download the exam on Friday at 12:00AM. These will be in the form of a Microsoft word document. Completed exams can either be printed and written on, or filled in on Microsoft word
 - ***Do not upload a pages document (Mac users) or a Google docs (Drive users) to Blackboard. These types of files cannot be read in Blackboard and thus, cannot and will not be graded. If you're using Google Drive (Docs), please convert it to a Microsoft Word Document prior to submitting.***
- Students need to submit their completed exams either in the form of a Microsoft Word (.doc, .docx) or a PDF document. If you complete the exam in Microsoft word, just save the completed exam and submit that file. If you do not have a scanner, please use the app, Adobe Scan, which allows you to take a picture of each page of the exam and it converts it to a single PDF.
- Please be sure that exams are uploaded by the due date. If you miss the due date due to errors with PDF conversions, that tells me you waited until the last minute to submit it. Each student has 72 hours to complete each exam - so please plan accordingly.
 - Late exams (any assignment received after the due date) will have 10% deducted **for each day that it is turned in late.**

MindTap Review “Mastery” Trainings

At the end of each chapter covered, students will be responsible for the completion of Mastery training. 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. **MindTap Mastery Trainings for each module are due by the end of the module/when the module exam is due.** For example, MindTap mastery trainings for Chs. 1-4 (module 1) are all due by Sunday, February 20, 11:59PM. (see dates 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 chapter’s mastery training. You need to get the **progress circle** to 100% for that chapter. Once you do, you will get 20 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 20 points and you can drop the lowest one (or choose not to do one). ***So, that is 12 trainings at 20 points each for a total grade contribution of 240 points.***

MindTap End-of-Chapter Tests

At the end of each chapter covered, students will be responsible for completing a chapter test. For these tests, you will get **2 attempts, each lasting 60 minutes.** **MindTap Chapter tests are due by the end of the module/when the module exam is due.** For example, MindTap chapter quizzes for Chs. 1-4 (module 1) are all due by February 20, 11:59PM. (see dates below). 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”. *Your best out of the 2 attempts will be used for scoring.* These tests are open note and open book. Each chapter test is worth 25 points and you can drop the lowest one (or choose not to do one). ***So, that is 12 chapter quizzes at 25 points each for a total grade contribution of 300 points.***

MindTap Biopsychology Labs

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 concludes 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 - unlike the due dates for the Mastery Trainings and Chapter Tests that are all due at around the time of the exam, the Labs are due around when we cover the material. 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). ***Therefore, 4 of these labs will count for your grade; a total grade contribution of 100 points will come from these labs.***

“How are we doing?” assignments

Each Friday (by midnight/end of day) you will submit a discussion board post answering the following questions: “What do you feel comfortable with in this chapter?” and “What topics in this chapter do you need more help with?” This serves as an indicator of what I should make a review video on! There are 13 of these and you can drop the lowest one (or choose not to do one). ***12 discussion board posts at 5 points each gives a grade contribution of 60 points.***

Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy

Due dates and times for assignment submissions are posted in the schedule below. At the beginning of each unit, all assignments *for that unit* will be available for students to complete. However, deadlines for all MindTap assignments are strict and once they are passed, they cannot be made up. Missed exams cannot be made up and neither can missed MindTap Biopsychology labs, MindTap quizzes, or Mastery Trainings. Students may drop one of their lowest quiz and Mastery training grades (or optionally not complete one) and can drop 1 of the Biopsychology Lab experiments (these dropped assignments can either be those that the student hasn't completed or grades that are lower than the other scores).

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

On-line: This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a *certain* time. There are readings which you will have to complete and MindTap assignments that need to be completed by particular due dates. In order to complete this course **successfully**, you do have to participate in all course activities (i.e. MindTap assignments, and exams). Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by the assigned **due dates and times**. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions and optimal effort on all assigned materials. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 hours of studying per week *on average*.

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](#).³

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](#).⁴ 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](#)⁵ for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)⁶ 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](#).⁷

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](#)⁸ 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.

Course Schedule

Tentative Course Schedule

*Unit 1 (Ch. 1-4) opens up January 17

*Unit 2 (Ch. 5-8) opens up February 21

*Unit 3 (Ch. 9, 11-12, 14-15) opens up March 28

	Week of	Topic	Reading	MindTap Mastery Trainings	MindTap Chapter Tests	MindTap Bio-Psychology Labs	Discussion Board "How are we doing?"	Exams
Week 1	January 17	Course Introduction Getting settled with MindTap Due: Get and setup MindTap, complete course Flipgrid introduction video (due: Jan 23, 11:59PM)						
Week 2	January 24	Introduction to Behavioral Neuroscience	Ch. 1	Ch. 1	Ch. 1		Friday, Jan 27 11:59PM	
Week 3	January 31	Neuroanatomy	Ch. 2	Ch. 2	Ch. 2		Friday, Feb 4 11:59PM	
Week 4	February 7	Neurophysiology	Ch. 3	Ch. 3	Ch. 3	Ch. 3 Lab Due: Sun, Feb 13, 11:59PM	Friday, Feb 11 11:59PM	
Week 5	February 14	Psychopharmacology	Ch. 4	Ch. 4 Review Assignment s Ch. 1-4 Due: Sun, Feb 20, 11:59PM	Ch. 4 Chapter Tests Ch. 1-4 due: Sun, Feb 20, 11:59PM		Friday, Feb 18 11:59PM	Exam 1 Available: Feb 18 Due: Feb 20, 11:59PM
Week 6	February 21	Development of the Brain; Genomics & Proteins	Ch. 5	Ch. 5	Ch. 5		Friday, Feb 25 11:59PM	

Week 7	February 28	Vision	Ch. 6	Ch. 6	Ch. 6	Ch. 6 Lab Due: Sun, March 6, 11:59PM	Friday, March 4 11:59PM	
Week 8	March 7	Non-visual Sensory Systems	Ch. 7	Ch. 7	Ch. 7		Friday, March 11 11:59PM	
Week 9	March 14	No class - Spring Break! Enjoy the time off!						
Week 10	March 21	Movement	Ch. 8	Ch. 8 Review Assignments Ch. 5-8 Due: March 27, 11:59PM	Ch. 8 Chapter Tests Ch. 5-8 due: March 27, 11:59PM		Friday, March 25 11:59PM	Exam 2 Available: March 25 Due: March 27, 11:59PM
Week 11	March 28	Homeostasis, Motivation, and Reward	Ch. 9	Ch. 9	Ch. 9	Ch. 9 Lab Due: Sun, April 3, 11:59PM	Friday, April 1 11:59PM	
Week 12	April 4	Sleep & Waking	Ch. 11	Ch. 11	Ch. 11		Friday, April 8 11:59PM	
Week 13	April 11	Learning & Memory	Ch. 12	Ch. 12	Ch. 12	Ch. 12 Lab Due: Sun, April 17, 11:59PM	Friday, April 15 11:59PM	
Week 14	April 18	Emotion, Aggression, and Stress	Ch. 14	Ch. 14	Ch. 14	Ch. 14 Lab Due: Sun, April 24, 11:59PM	Friday, April 22 11:59PM	
Week 15	April 25	Neuropsychology	Ch. 15	Ch. 15 Review Assignments (Ch. 9, 11-12, 14-15) Due: May 1, 11:59PM	Ch. 15 Chapter Tests (Ch. 9, 11-12, 14-15) Due: May 1, 11:59PM		Friday, April 29 11:59PM	Exam 3 ("Final") Available May 6 Due: May 8, 11:59PM

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.

¹ <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/>

² <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>