

## Psychology 270 – Introduction to Behavioural Neuroscience 2019/2020 Winter Term 1

**When:** TTh, 9:30 – 10:30 am  
**Where:** MATX 1100

**Instructor:** Kiran K. Soma, Ph.D.  
Professor, Department of Psychology  
Office: Koerner Pavilion F154  
Office hour: by appointment + after lecture  
Email: [ksoma@psych.ubc.ca](mailto:ksoma@psych.ubc.ca)

**If you have questions, I would like to help you in person. I will only use email to schedule in-person meetings.**

**TAs:** Nicole Jenni: [nicolejenni@psych.ubc.ca](mailto:nicolejenni@psych.ubc.ca)  
Debra Bercovici: [debrabercovici@psych.ubc.ca](mailto:debrabercovici@psych.ubc.ca)  
Melody Salehzadeh: [msalehzadeh@zoology.ubc.ca](mailto:msalehzadeh@zoology.ubc.ca)  
Susan Heritage: TBA  
Office hours: by appointment

**If you have questions, please see the TAs in person. The TAs will only use email to schedule in-person meetings.**

### **Course description:**

This course will introduce you to the scientific study of behavioral neuroscience. Topics will include: neuroanatomy, neurochemistry, neuroendocrinology, and neural circuits for behaviors. This course is also designed to encourage critical and creative thinking, as well as improve written and oral communication. Questions and discussion are \*strongly\* encouraged.

**Required Textbook:** *Biological Psychology*, 12th Edition, J.W. Kalat. The 13<sup>th</sup> edition is OK but might cost more. Can buy the book at the UBC Bookstore or Amazon etc.

**Labs:** Lab sessions will be on Tuesdays, 2-4 pm (SWING 305) or 4-6 pm (SWING 207), starting Sept 10. **Do not be late!** The lab schedule is in the lab manual. For all up-to-date information on the lab schedule and lab materials, **please see Canvas.**

**Webpage:** Lecture notes will be available online before the lecture. Print out the slides (double-sided, 4 or 6 slides per page), so you can take notes on them during lecture (get a large 3-ring binder to store the notes). The slides will be missing critical information that will be on the exams. Missing information will be provided during lectures, please see Canvas.

**Please arrive to lecture and lab on time. Late arrivals are disruptive.**

**All student laptops and tablets must be turned off and put away during lectures. No exceptions. Please take notes on printouts of the slides.**

**Turn off and put away your phone during lecture. Come to lectures to listen, think, and actively participate.**

\*\*\* Do the readings before the lectures. This will help you follow the lectures. \*\*\*

|        | Topic                                   | 12 <sup>th</sup> ed readings (13 <sup>th</sup> ed in parentheses) |
|--------|---|---|
| Sep 3  | Imagine UBC (no lecture or labs)        |   |
| Sep 5  | What is behavioural neuroscience?       | 3-13, 110-111, 509-511 (3-14,110-112, 502-504)                    |
| Sep 10 | Neuroanatomy 1                          | 65-79 (67-81)   |
| Sep 12 | Neuroanatomy 2                          | 80-101 (82-100)   |
| Sep 17 | Neurochemistry 1                        | 15-37, 503-507 (18-39, 496-500)                                   |
| Sep 19 | Neurochemistry 2                        | 39-57, 465-474 (41-59, 460-467)                                   |
| Sep 24 | Neuroendocrinology 1                    | 57-62, 325-329 (59-64, 321-325)                                   |
| Sep 26 | Neuroendocrinology 2                    | 383-384 (376-377)   |
| Oct 1  | Midterm 1 info and review               | review  |
| Oct 3  | <b>Midterm 1</b>                        | none  |
| Oct 8  | Neural development 1                    | 103-110, 117-27, 499-502 (103-10, 117-27, 492-5)                  |
| Oct 10 | Neural development 2                    | 127-135, 404-406 (127-135, 390-392)                               |
| Oct 15 | Neurobiology of sleep and rhythms 1     | 261-271 (257-267)   |
| Oct 17 | Neurobiology of sleep and rhythms 2     | 91, 272-290 (93, 268-287)   |
| Oct 22 | Neurobiology of feeding behavior 1      | 307-313 (303-309)   |
| Oct 24 | Neurobiology of feeding behavior 2      | 313-323 (309-319)   |
| Oct 29 | Midterm 2 info and review               | review  |
| Oct 31 | <b>Midterm 2</b>                        | none  |
| Nov 5  | Neurobiology of reproductive behavior 1 | 325-340, 459-462 (322-336, 454-456)                               |
| Nov 7  | Neurobiology of reproductive behavior 2 | 341-353 (337-348)   |
| Nov 12 | Neurobiology of emotional behaviors 1   | 355-370 (351-365)   |
| Nov 14 | Neurobiology of emotional behaviors 2   | 371-382, 475-486 (365-375, 468-479)                               |
| Nov 19 | Neurobiology of cognitive functions 1   | 423-447 (424-440)   |
| Nov 21 | Neurobiology of cognitive functions 2   | 448-458 (441-451)   |
| Nov 26 | Final info and review                   | review  |
| Nov 28 | Conclusions                             | review  |

## Evaluation:

- Midterm 1 15%
- Midterm 2 20%
- Final exam 35%
- Laboratory 30%
- Dept of Psychology policy for 200-level courses: **averages will be 63-67% with a standard deviation of 14%**. Grades are not official until they appear on your academic record.

## Exams:

- Material from both the lectures and readings will be on the exams.
- **Midterm 2 is not cumulative.**
- **The final exam is cumulative,** but with strong emphasis on the last third of the course.
- Exams will consist of multiple choice and short-answer questions.
- Emphasis on critical thinking, analysis of experimental design, interpretation of data, and proposing new experiments
- Students can view their marked exams with their TA or professor. The exam remains the property of the university.
- **Regrade requests must be made in writing to the professor. The professor reserves the right to regrade the entire exam (not just a particular question), which means that your grade could go down upon regrading.**

## Policy on missed tests and extensions:

- **Make-up tests will only be given for validated medical reasons, without exception.**
- **If you miss an exam, you must email the professor within 24 hours of the exam.**
- If you submit medical documentation make sure it contains the statement, "This student was unable to write the test on (date) for medical reasons."
- You are advised to see your physician within one day of the missed test. Many physicians will not provide documentation retroactively.
- All medical excuses must be personally presented to the professor as soon as you are able to return to class for a make-up exam to be scheduled.
- **NOTE: make-up exams will consist of an oral exam in front of the professor and a TA.**

## Psychology Department's position on academic misconduct:

Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct are very serious concerns, and the Dept of Psychology has taken steps to alleviate them. The Department has implemented **software that can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams** by analyzing the patterns of students' responses. In cases of suspected misconduct, the parties involved will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by UBC guidelines. Strong evidence of cheating or plagiarism may result in a zero credit for the work in question. The President of UBC has the right to impose harsher penalties including (but not limited to) a failing grade for the course, suspension from the University, cancellation of scholarships, or a notation added to a student's transcript.

**Special accommodations:**

The University accommodates students with medical conditions via the Centre for Accessibility.

Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments usually cannot be accommodated. In these cases, you must ask your instructor during the first week of class – not later than that.

**Course restrictions:**

Enrollment in this course is required of and restricted to B.Sc. Behavioural Neuroscience students.

**Laboratory policies:**

See the lab manual and the TAs for specific rules and policies. Also check Canvas.

**A final note:**

Information about academic regulations, course withdrawal dates and credits can be found in the University Calendar. If you need information about studying, note taking or time management, then free workshops and advice are available from the Student Resources Centre and other student advising centres on campus. Or talk to me or the TAs during office hours!