



## Psychobiology - 41005 - PSY 2600 - 901

The University of Toledo  
Department of Psychology

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**Instructor:** Suzanne Helfer, PhD  
**Email:** sghelfer@gmail.com  
**Office Hours:** By Appointment  
**Office Location:** none

**Offered:** Fall 2021  
**Course Website:** [Blackboard Learn](#)  
**Class Location:** [Blackboard Learn](#)  
**Credit Hours:** 3

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### CATALOG/COURSE DESCRIPTION

**The neural bases of behavior; topics include organization of the nervous system, perception and movement, learning and memory, emotion and motivation, drugs, language, and mental disorders.**

### COURSE OVERVIEW

This class will help you understand the relationship between brain and behavior. You will learn about these topics by reading the online textbook and completing online homework (Mindtap). You will also watch documentaries related to the course topics and answer questions, and read journal articles and answer questions.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will be able to describe the organization of the nervous system and how a neuron works. They will be able to explain the brain's role in perception and movement, learning and memory, emotion and motivation, drugs, language, and mental disorders.

### TEACHING METHODOLOGY

This class is asynchronous. There will be no regular class meetings, but assignments will be due on a regular basis: Mindtap homework will be due on Wednesdays, and other assignments on Mondays.

### WORKWEEK

The workweek is Monday through Friday, with the exception of school holidays.

### PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES

The prerequisite for this course is PSY 1010.

### TEXTS AND ANCILLARY MATERIALS

Required: Mindtap for Biological Psychology 12<sup>th</sup> edition by James W. Kalat. Information on how to purchase this resource is available on Blackboard.

### TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, SKILLS, AND PRIVACY POLICIES

Please view the [technology considerations](#) for this course, including technical skills needed, general technology requirements, and technology privacy policies.

### ACCESSIBILITY OF COURSE TECHNOLOGIES

Please view [Accessibility of Course Technologies](#) for information regarding the accessibility of Blackboard and other technologies used in this course.



## ACADEMIC POLICIES

[Undergraduate Academic Policies](#)

### COURSE EXPECTATIONS

**Mindtap:** You must go to the Cengage website to purchase and complete the Mindtap assignments.

There will be a Mindtap chapter due each week. Complete all sections marked “Counts toward Grade.” Activities marked “Practice” are optional. Required activities will consist of comprehension checks, lab quizzes, and tests. If you are not satisfied with your score the first time you complete an activity, you may take it again and the higher grade will count. Mindtap assignments are due by 11:59 PM on the due date and will not be accepted late.

**Blackboard:** There will be two types of quizzes on Blackboard, article quizzes and documentary quizzes. Quizzes will be due on Mondays. You may only take each quiz once, but you can leave the quiz and go back before submitting your answers. Quizzes are due by 11:59 PM on the due date. Late quizzes will be docked 2 points per day late.

Article quizzes: Read the article and answer the quiz. There will be 3 article quizzes worth 20 points each. Article quizzes will be multiple choice.

Documentary quizzes: Watch the documentary and answer the quiz. There will be three documentary quizzes worth a total of 77 points. Documentary quizzes will be short answer.

**Exams:** There will be 3 exams. Exams will be multiple choice and are worth 50 points each. Exams will be taken on Blackboard. If you would like to request a make-up exam, you must contact me before the exam opens. Looking up answers online or in the textbook during an exam constitutes cheating.

### COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

Please email me at [sghelfer@gmail.com](mailto:sghelfer@gmail.com) for the quickest response. During the workweek you will normally hear back within 48 hours. Exams and Mindtap assignments will be graded immediately. Other assignments will be graded within 72 hours, with the exception of assignments that are submitted late.

### OVERVIEW OF COURSE GRADE ASSIGNMENT

Mindtap: Mindtap activities will be worth 606 total points.

Documentaries: Documentary quizzes will be worth 64 total points.

Articles: Article Quizzes will be worth 60 total points.

Exams: Exams will be worth 150 total points.

Optional Final Exam: There will be an optional cumulative final exam. If you choose to take the optional final, the grade will replace your lowest exam score (if your grade on the optional final is higher than your lowest exam score).

**Midterm Grading** Midterm grade will include Exam 1, Mindtap Chapters 1-7, and the first two article quizzes. Your midterm grade will be determined by the percentage of 443 points earned according to the grading scale below.

**Final Grading:** Your final grade will be determined by the percentage of 880 points earned, according to the grading scale below.



## Grading Scale

Percent	Grade
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
59 and below	F

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES

### Institutional Classroom Attendance Policy

Please be aware that the university has implemented an attendance policy, which requires faculty to verify student participation in every class a student is registered at the start of each new semester/course. For this course, if you have not attended/participated in class (completed any course activities or assignments) within the first 14 days, I am required by federal law to report you as not attended. Unfortunately, not attending/participating in class impacts your eligibility to receive financial aid, so it is VERY important that you attend class and complete course work in these first two weeks. Please contact me as soon as possible to discuss options and/or possible accommodations if you have any difficulty completing assignments within the first two weeks.

**Policy Statement on Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability (ADA)** The University is an equal opportunity educational institution. Please read [The University's Policy Statement on Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability – Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance](#).

### Academic Accommodations

The University of Toledo embraces the inclusion of students with disabilities. We are committed to ensuring equal opportunity and seamless access for full participation in all courses. For students who have an Accommodations Memo from the Office of Accessibility and Disability Resources, I invite you to correspond with me as soon as possible so that we can communicate confidentially about implementing accommodations in this course.

For students who have not established accommodations with the Office of Accessibility and Disability Resources and are experiencing disability access barriers or are interested in a referral to health care resources for a potential disability, please connect with the office by calling 419.530.4981 or sending an email to [StudentDisability@utoledo.edu](mailto:StudentDisability@utoledo.edu).

## ACADEMIC AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Please view the [Learner Support](#) page for links and descriptions of the technical, academic, and student support services available to UT students.

## SAFETY AND HEALTH SERVICES FOR UT STUDENTS

Please use the following link to view a comprehensive list of [Campus Health and Safety Services](#) available to you as a student and click here for information on the [Office of Public Safety](#).



### INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM STATEMENT

In this class, we will work together to develop a learning community that is inclusive and respectful. Our diversity may be reflected by differences in race, culture, age, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, socioeconomic background, and a myriad of other social identities and life experiences. We will encourage and appreciate expressions of different ideas, opinions, and beliefs so that conversations and interactions that could potentially be divisive turn, instead, into opportunities for intellectual and personal development.

### COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK	DUE DATES	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
1	9/3	Nerve cells and Nerve Impulses	Chapter 1 Mindtap
2	9/8	Synapses	Chapter 2 Mindtap
3	9/15	Anatomy and Research Methods	Chapter 3 Mindtap
4	9/20		Article Quiz
	9/22	Genetics, Evolution, Development, Plasticity	Chapter 4 Mindtap
5	9/27 – 9/28		Exam 1
6	10/6	Vision	Chapter 5 Mindtap
7	10/13	Other sensory systems	Chapter 6 Mindtap
	10/18		Article Quiz
8	10/20	Movement	Chapter 7 Mindtap
9	10/25	Wakefulness and Sleep	Documentary Quiz
	10/27		Chapter 8 Mindtap
10	11/1 – 11/2		Exam 2
11	11/8	Emotional Behaviors	Documentary Quiz
	11/10		Chapter 11 Mindtap
12	11/17	The Biology of Learning and Memory	Chapter 12 Mindtap
13	11/22	Cognitive Functions	Article Quiz
	11/23		Chapter 13 Mindtap
14	11/29	Psychological Disorders	Documentary Quiz
	12/1		Chapter 14 Mindtap
15	12/6 – 12/7		Exam 3
Finals Week	12/13 – 12/14		Optional Cumulative Final Exam