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Office Hours: Tues and Thurs 2:30-3:20pm and by appointment

**Final Exam: Monday April 25 12pm**

**Required Reading:**
2. Neuroscience Online  [http://neuroscience.uth.tmc.edu/toc.htm](http://neuroscience.uth.tmc.edu/toc.htm)
4. Other readings posted to BB

**Course Description (GVSU catalog):** This course emphasizes the study of bodily structures, processes, and mechanisms related to various aspects of the organism’s interactions with the environment. Topics covered include neurophysiological correlates of cognition, memory, motivation, emotion, attention, and sensory processes. * This neuroscience course examines the biological underpinnings (aka “neurophysiological correlates”) of psychological processes including perception, emotion, and behavior.

**Course Objectives (Dr. Flandreau’s):** My goal is for each student to learn the structures and functions of neurons and neural systems, as well as skills, strategies, and ways of thinking about neuroscience, and perhaps most important of all, to enjoy learning neuroscience.
1. Critically evaluate scientific claims, identify limitations to current knowledge, integrate information from varying sources into a cohesive whole
2. Communicate complex topics effectively and efficiently.
3. Describe the structure and function of the nervous system at a cellular and systems (functional neuroanatomy) level; predict the effect of damage to these cells, pathways, or structures.
4. Explain the general process of synaptic transmission and compare and contrast the specific process of synaptic transmission for diverse neurotransmitters and receptors.
5. Identify and explain the cellular, systems, and neurochemical substrates of sensory perception; predict the effect of damage to the cells, pathways, or structures involved.
6. Describe the general principles of psychopharmacology and predict the effect of specific drugs on synaptic transmission, perception, emotion, and behavior.

**Academic Integrity:** It is your responsibility to maintain academic integrity and avoid appearance of a violation. Students will not take or receive the efforts of another person, use unauthorized resources, plagiarize, or give or sell other students papers or assignments not authorized by the instructor. Students are responsible for making themselves aware of and for understanding the policies and procedures that pertain to academic integrity in the GVSU Student Code [Section 223.01]. If you are uncertain prior to submission of an assignment, project, or test, please see the instructor as soon as possible to eliminate any uncertainty. Please hold your peers accountable to these same standards. Reminder: taking another’s words and swapping out synonyms or word order even with citation is still plagiarism and violates academic integrity. Use “safe assign” to ensure that individual and group assignments do not violate this policy. At instructors’ discretion, a violation of this code of conduct may result in a reduced grade for the assignment or course or failing the assignment or the course.
Grading:

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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Grade = Earned Points / Total Points x 100

A     93-100%  B  83-86.99%  C  73-76.99%  D  60-66.99%
A-    90-92.99% B-  80-82.99% C-  70-72.99% F  0-59.99%
B+    87-89.99% C+  77-79.99% D+  67-69.99%

C: You did all the necessary work, you learned all the basic material – you know the correct answers.
B: The above, plus you could teach the material to a friend. You understand the correct answers.
A: The above, plus you can use the material flexibly and adaptively. You understand WHY the answers are what they are, and how this relates to material from other classes.

**IMPORTANT NOTES:**

Email Policy: Please remain professional in email communication; include the class and section # in all emails, use full sentences with punctuation, and sign your full name. I will try my best to answer emails in a timely manner (typically within one business day). I may address inquiries in class rather than responding to individual emails. If the answer to your inquiry can be found in the syllabus, schedule, or BB announcements, it is unlikely that you will receive an email response. Content-based questions must be posted to the discussion board so everyone can benefit from the answers; please do let me know if your discussion board question has not been answered to your satisfaction.

Office Hours: I would love to see as many of you as possible as often as possible! Please utilize office hours for questions about grades or grading that cannot be found on the syllabus. If you are unavailable during office hours, email to schedule an appointment.

Blackboard: Course syllabus, schedule, and tips for success are available on BB. PPT slide outlines will be posted to BB in advance of class whenever possible. Class announcements will also be communicated via Blackboard; it is your responsibility to monitor the site and ensure that you are aware of all announcements and material.

Quizzes on BB: Online quizzes are open note; the goal is to help you to study the material as presented in the Carlson textbook. Quizzes come from a pool of questions; approximately 20 questions are randomly selected each time you take the quiz. You will have 2hrs per attempt and up to 3 attempts. Your grade will be an average of each attempt (see due dates on schedule). These online quizzes provide instant feedback with low stakes and tend to have a positive impact on students’ overall grade.
Discussions on BB: Studies have consistently shown that peer-instruction helps to make complex material more accessible. Use the discussion board for all content questions. Many of your peers will share your questions, and other classmates may be better able to explain the answer. I monitor the discussion board to address misunderstandings, guide you to the best resource, and identify topics that require more class time. At a minimum, you must post one question and answer one question by the due date (see schedule). Grading is based on completion, not content. Failing to contribute will be detrimental to the overall grade. Furthermore, students who make full use of the discussion board tend to perform better on exams than students who do not use the discussion board.

Attendance: Please arrive on time and prepared to participate. I will often make announcements in class rather than respond to individual emails. You are responsible for all announcements and information presented in class; if you are absent, please make sure to get notes from a classmate. With a few exceptions (see due dates on schedule) attendance is not mandatory.

Assignments: Assignments are designed to prepare you for in class discussions. Participation during in class discussions will be a portion of the grade and attendance is required (see dates on schedule). See BB for specific instructions and in-class and online due dates. Please note that in class due dates differ by group! Pay close attention to announcements for additional instructions. Remember that each group member is ultimately responsible for understanding the entirety of the assignment and ensuring that the group has maintained academic integrity.

Assignments must meet the following criteria to be considered for credit

- Assignments must be in MS office
- Assignments must have your name / group name as part of the filename. Unfortunately its insufficient to just name the file within BB it must be the name of the file on your computer.
- Late assignments cannot be accepted.
- Emailed assignments cannot be accepted.
- Clearly indicate the specific contribution of each group member.
- All assignments must be in your own words with no hint of plagiarism. Use Safe Assign to ensure that your submissions meet this standard.
- Where applicable, resources must be cited in APA style

Exams: Exam questions come from material in PPTs; the more time we devote to a topic in class, the more the topic will be represented on the exam. Topic-specific learning objectives are your study guides. Where there is choice on exams, clearly X out the question you do not want graded; I will grade the first questions with something written on the page. Your lowest midterm exam score will be worth only 5% of your final grade.

Final Exam: The final exam is cumulative. In this course we will first present some general information and build on that information in subsequent chapters. These themes that have been covered multiple times in the semester will be particularly represented on the final exam. A “cumulative learning objectives” file will be posted under “course documents” after midterm #3.

Missed Exams: There are no make up exams. If you have an excused absence for a midterm examination, it will count as your lowest exam score and will be dropped; your final exam will then be worth 30% of your total grade. You can only miss one midterm exam.
Extra Credit: You can receive one EC point for completing the “pre-test” at the beginning of the semester and “post test” at the end of the semester (see schedule for due dates). You can also earn 1pt EC for completing a mid-semester feedback survey (if available). At instructor’s discretion, there may be some extra credit points awarded to individuals with particularly meaningful contribution to in class and/or online discussions.

Students with Disabilities: If you have special needs because of learning, physical or other disability, please contact me, or Disability Support Resources (DSR) at 616.331.2490. Furthermore, if you have a disability and think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency situation, please make me aware so I can develop a plan to assist you.

- Please note that students taking exams with DSR must make arrangements approximately two weeks prior to each exam! Please be sure to complete all required paperwork well in advance of the deadline.

Canceled Classes: Unless the instructor emails you otherwise, if classes are canceled at the university, any exam will take place at the next class meeting.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTRE: Students interested in additional support for time management, writing, study or examination skills should contact the Advising Resource Centre (200 STU). You are also encouraged to contact Psi Chi to ask for a tutor who has experience with this course!

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (see separate document) Details are subject to change but I will do everything within my power to maintain dates for exams. It is your responsibility to adhere to due dates on this schedule. Please pay close attention to announcements and the calendar available on BB.