

**Course Code & No. - Section:** PSYC 325 – Section 1  
**Course Title (Credits):** Neuroscience  
**Term & Year:** Fall / 2017  
**Course Ref. No. (CRN):** 80084

**Instructor:** Robert Drury King, Ph.D.  
**Phone(s):** X tbd, or, 775-685-0120  
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**Office:** PL 205  
**Office Hours:** T/R 4:00 – 5:00 p.m., by appointment

**Class Meeting Time:** T/R 2:30 pm – 3:45 pm  
**Location:** PL 214

**Prerequisites (from Catalog):** PSYC 101  
**Corequisites (from Catalog):** -

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The physical basis of psychological states is found in the brain; therefore, brain structure and function relating to psychology and behavior are the basis for this course. Topics covered include the “senses,” consciousness, learning and memory, emotion, psychological disorders and language. Both experimental and clinical information are covered to illustrate the current state of knowledge in the field.

## STUDENT OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Deeply appreciate the relation between brain and behavior, the physiological and psychological.
2. Identify the importance of the nervous system’s physical anatomy, its structural units, and the ways in which the brain’s structural units interact to produce the brain’s holistic functions, from sensation to thinking.
3. Gain a comprehensive view of the field of neuroscience, theoretically, and learn about a number of neuroscience’s clinical aspects.

## METHODS OF ASSESSING STUDENT OUTCOMES

Student outcomes will be assessed using the following:

1. Class attendance and participation
2. Quizzes and other in-class writing and viewing activities
3. Midterm and final exam
4. Final paper

## INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

This class will utilize lectures, in-class discussions, videos, homework assignments, quizzes, and exams.

## REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

1. *An Introduction to Brain and Behavior*. 5<sup>th</sup> Ed. Kolb, Wishaw, and Teskey. Macmillan: New York, 2016.

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance and participation are essential to the learning process. Students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings ON TIME and provide NO interruptions (e.g., cell phones, facebook, etc.). If you choose not to attend class, arrive tardy, or depart early, you will be at an academic disadvantage.

Your course grade is partially determined based on your attendance and participation. You will lose points for any missed classes (or portion thereof). Excused and unexcused absences are BOTH considered an absence from class and are counted toward the total number of absences in the course. Excessive tardiness and/or repeated disrespect of classroom rules (e.g., use of cell phones) will be penalized by a reduction of your final attendance/participation score. If/when you miss class, you remain responsible for notes and handouts (see a classmate for notes; see me for handouts). If you must miss a class, please do try to let me know in advance.

I adhere strictly to Sierra Nevada College policy regarding excessive missed classes.

### INFORMATION LITERACY STATEMENT

Using the library's resources (not just the Internet) effectively (Psych INFO, EBSCO) contributes to developing each of SNC's core themes by exposing students to high quality academic resources, diverse opinions, new ideas, and a future that includes building on a liberal arts education. In this course, you will be expected to utilize the library's resources (either on-site or remotely) as you complete your assignments.

### CLASS REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance: See Attendance section (*above*) and specific reference to attendance in the grading policy (*below*).
2. Reading: Students are expected to do the assigned reading *before* class meets to ensure preparation for discussions and learning activities.
3. Participation: Thought questions, discussions, and in-class activities may provide opportunities for students to earn participation points throughout the semester. Participation is an extremely important part of my evaluation of your performance in the course.
4. Students are required to take all exams and turn in all assignments on the scheduled dates. NO makeup exams will be allowed and no late assignments will be accepted.
5. ALL cell phones are to be turned off or silenced prior to entering the classroom. Cell phones are *not* to be used for any purpose (e.g., talking or texting). If I see a cell phone I will ask you to put it away; if I see the phone a second time, you can pick it up from me at the end of class and you forfeit your participation credit for the day. If there is a major emergency requiring cell phone use, please exit our classroom immediately and do not return during the class period. In this case, even if this occurs in the last 5 minutes of class, you will forfeit your attendance and participation credit for the day. This absence will be treated like any other; the student will not be excused from any work due to the missed class.
6. Computer use restricted to that pertinent to class *only* (i.e., no facebook, no twitter, YouTube, etc.). Take this very seriously.

### SANCTIONS FOR CHEATING AND/OR PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is defined as, "passing off a source's information, ideas, or words as one's own by omitting to acknowledge the sources" (Teuber & Andreas, 1999). This refers to all sources of information, including the Internet.

To avoid plagiarizing, a good rule is to use quotation marks whenever a string of three or more words is copied from another source (e.g., when taking notes from a journal article). Simply paraphrasing and citing a source may not be enough to avoid plagiarizing, however. For example, one of the paragraphs in a paper might be a close paraphrase of a paragraph from another source. Even if the source is cited, the structure of the original source has been plagiarized! Starting with an outline of arguments to be included in a paper and then using information from other sources to back up these arguments should help one avoid plagiarizing in this manner.

Any form of cheating, plagiarism and/or unauthorized use of anything other than the student's own resources *will not be tolerated*. To be clear, unless explicit written or verbal instructions indicate otherwise, exams and assignments are to be completed individually (i.e., without any collaboration). The instructor will pursue the maximum disciplinary action against the student violating this protocol. I have a strict no tolerance policy. Additionally, if you are caught cheating, you will earn an automatic 0 on that exam/assignment/etc.

Some examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, copying from a classmate's work during an exam, turning in work that is not your own, and using any unapproved aid during an exam.

Both intentional and unintentional plagiarism, as well as any suspicion of cheating, will be reported to the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Provost. I strongly encourage all students to meet with me to discuss this issue before turning in written work.

*No ball caps, cellular telephones, pagers, earbuds, headphones, extraneous paper, notes, etc. are permitted during any and all periods of assessment (e.g., exams, quizzes, in class assignments, etc.). If I spot one of these present (even if you are not using it) during an unapproved period, you will take an automatic 10% reduction on the assessment in question. In the case I witness the use of such unapproved apparatus, you will receive a 0. Yes, this means you will need to use a watch rather than your cell phone for the time.*

## **THE HONOR CODE**

Our faculty believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore, faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATING THE STUDENT HONOR CODE**

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Student is expelled.

## **GRADING POLICY**

1. Attendance & Participation:  
Attendance and participation are factored into your grade for the course. Refer to the Attendance section above for details regarding my expectations. You will lose credit for any missed classes (or any portions thereof) and any days for which you are viewed to not be participating in group or class discussions (e.g., on your cell phone).
2. Assignments and Quizzes:  
This class incorporates assignments and quizzes. Several are briefly covered on the course calendar provided (end of this document) and will be detailed in class. *No make-ups or late assignments will be accepted without prior instructor approval.* Budget your time to complete written assignments by their due date and attend class at all times, particularly on activity days. *Do not submit assignments via email unless you have received prior approval or the request has been made of you to do so.* In the case you will be absent when an assignment is due, have a classmate turn in for you.
3. Examinations:

There are two non-cumulative exams. You should be particularly familiar with all terminology discussed in class, but anything in the text is fair game (unless otherwise indicated). You will be required to use your understanding of psychological concepts to identify examples, distinguish between related concepts.

All students are required to take exams on the scheduled days/times (see course timeline for dates). Students *must* take *all* exams. *In the unlikely event of a missed exam, and only with instructor approval based on verifiable documents, the make-up exam will occur after the final exam.* Only one exam can be made up. If you miss more than one, see me about the status or your grade and/or your plans for re-taking the course at a later date. The date and time of the final exam should be scheduled and prioritized. *There will be no final exam make-up.*

Please note that in the event of possible Academic Honor Code violations, I reserve the right to administer individual oral exams.

4. Final Grades: Based on the number of points earned from quizzes, assignments, exams, class participation, and attendance.
5. Grading scale: Grades will be assigned on a strict percentage scale and are *non-negotiable*.

A+ : ≥ 99%	B : 82.1 – 87.9%	C- : 70.0 – 72.0%
A : 92.1 – 98.9%	B- : 80.0 – 82.0%	D+ : 68.0 – 69.9%
A- : 90.0 – 92.0%	C+ : 78.0 – 79.9%	D : 62.1 – 67.9%
B+ : 88.0 – 89.9%	C : 72.1 – 77.9%	D- : 60.0 – 62.0%
		F : < 60.0%

**GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

Exams:	60% of final grade
Quizzes:	15%
Final Paper:	15%
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Attendance/Participation:	10%
	100%

**ADA ACCOMMODATIONS**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 (x7534), hconover@sierranevada.edu, or go to the OASIS offices on the third floor of Prim Library during the first week of the semester.

Please inform me as soon as possible if you have a professionally diagnosed and certified disability. Be sure to obtain the proper paperwork and inform me of any required accommodations at least 72 hours *before* scheduled exams, quizzes, papers, assignments, etc. Depending on the type of accommodation, time may be required for me to meet your needs (e.g., private room for exams).

**THE SNC EMAIL SYSTEM**

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff. It is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

**THE MISSION STATEMENT**

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

**THE CORE THEMES**

Liberal Arts

Professional Preparedness

Entrepreneurial Thinking

Sustainability

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

<b>WEEK/ DAY</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS/ACTIVITIES</b>
8/22 TUES	Introduction	Review Syllabus Homework, Read: 1-32
8/24 THUR	Evolution of Brain and Behavior	Homework, Read: 33-49
8/29 TUES	Functional Anatomy I: Key Brain Structures, CNS	Homework Due: Chapter 1 Review Quizzes, Typed-out Responses (All Chapter Review Quizzes Require Typed-out Responses) Homework: Read, 50-72
8/31 THURS	Functional Anatomy II: Key Brain Structures, SNS	In-Class Quiz on CNS
9/5 TUES	Autonomic and Enteric Nervous Systems, in brief; Clinical Aspects of Functional Anatomy	Homework, Read: 73-95 Homework Due: Chapter 2 Review Questions
9/7 THUR	Functional Anatomy, cont'd if necessary; Functional Units: The Neuron, an Introduction	Homework, Read: 96-106 In-Class Quiz on KEY TERMS

9/12 TUES	Neuronal Activity	Homework, Read: 107-136 Homework Due: Chapter 3 Review Questions
9/14 THUR	Electrical Activity of A Membrane and Information Processing	In-Class Video on Neural Activity and Networks Homework, Read: 137-169
9/19 TUES	Neuro – Transmission and Reception: The Synapse	Homework Due: Chapter 4 Review Questions
9/21 THUR	Synapses and Adaptation	In-Class Quiz on Neuronal Activity Homework, Read: 171-208
9/26 TUES	Hormones	Homework Due: Chapter 5 Review Questions In-Class Quiz on KEY TERMS
9/28 THUR	Psychopharmacology	In-Class Video on Psychoactive Drugs
10/3 TUES	Clinical Focus: Parkinson, Dopamine, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome	Homework, Read: 209-244 In-Class Quiz on Pharmacology and Hormones
10/5 THURS	Technique and Measure: CT, MRI, etc.	
10/10 TUES	Midterm Review	Midterm Review
10/12 THUR	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b> Homework, Read: 245-281
10/17 TUES	Development	
10/19 THUR	Environment	In-Class Video on Autism and Schizophrenia Homework, Read: 283-319

10/24 TUES	Vision and Perception	Homework, Read: 321-353 Homework Due: Chapter 8 Review Questions
10/26 THUR	Hearing: Evolution of Language and Music	In-Class Video on Vision and Illusion Homework, Read: 355-372 Discussion of Final Paper
10/31 TUES	Movement and the Motor System	Homework Due: Chapter 10 Review Questions (We Will Not Be Doing Chapter 9 Review Questions) Homework, Read: 397-440
11/2 THUR	Clinical Focus: Tourette's and Phantom Limbs	In-Class Quiz on KEY TERMS
11/7 TUES	The Brain's Role in Emotional and Motivated Behavior; Anxiety	Homework, Read: 441-478 Homework Due: Chapter 12 Review Questions (We Will Not Be Doing Chapter 11 Review Questions)
11/9 THUR	Sleeping and Dreaming	Homework, Read: 479-518
11/14 TUES	Memory	Homework Due: Chapter 13 Review Questions
11/16 THUR	Plasticity	Homework, Read: 519-560 In-Class Quiz on KEY TERMS FINAL PAPER FINAL DRAFT DUE
11/20-11/24	Thanksgiving Break!	Thanksgiving Break!

<p>11/28 TUES</p>	<p>Thinking, Intelligence, and Identity-Formation</p>	<p>In-Class Video on Intelligence Homework Due: Chapter 14 Review Questions</p>
<p>11/30 THUR</p>	<p>Cognition and Behavioral Disorders</p>	<p>Homework, Read: 561-599</p>
<p>12/5 TUES</p>	<p>PTSD</p>	
<p>12/7 THUR</p>	<p><b>Final Review</b></p>	<p><b>Final Review</b> <b>FINAL PAPER DUE</b></p>
<p>TBA</p>	<p><b>FINAL EXAM</b></p>	<p><b>FINAL EXAM</b></p>

\* Assignments, quizzes, exams, and activities are listed on the date they will occur and/or are **due**.

\* *Italicized/darkened dates reflect days for which there are special reminders.*

NOTE: SYLLABUS IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS.