

**PSY4306 – W01 BIOPSYCHOLOGY****Professor:** Dr. Bibiana M. Gutierrez**Office:** Lawrence Hall 310**Office Phone:** 432.386.3223 (must leave message for me to return your call)**Email:** [bmg15th@sulross.edu](mailto:bmg15th@sulross.edu)**Course Website:** <http://sulross.blackboard>.**Office Hours:** By appointment requested via email**Required Textbook:** Biological Psychology, 12<sup>th</sup> edition. James Kalat. Cengage Publishing. ISBN: 9781305105409**Course Purpose:** By the end of this course Students will be able to demonstrate:

A basic knowledge of the biological basis of psychology including study of neurons, neuroscience, brain and behavior, states of consciousness, sexual and emotional behaviors, learning, memory, and cognition, and the biological basis of psychological disorders.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** The graduating psychology student will attain a level of competency in the areas of . . .

- a. Biological psychology indicating that value has been added over the course of their psychology education.
- b. Clinical-personality psychology indicating that value has been added of the course of their psychology education.
- c. Social psychology indicating that value has been added over the course of their psychology education.
- d. Experimental methods indicating that value has been added over the course of their psychology education.

**Distance Education Statement:** Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

**Course Policies:****1. Participation:**

This is a web-based course during a 5 week summer session, so there are no regular classroom meetings.

**However, your active, daily participation in this course is essential and required in order to be successful.** The speed of a summer course condenses the 15 weeks of a normal semester into 5 very short weeks.

**There is absolutely no time to procrastinate; once you get behind it is extremely difficult to catch up.**

**2. Regular communications with the professor:**

It is essential that you keep me current on your progress and any difficulties you may be having so that I can respond in real time to support your success. The most efficient way of contacting me is the **VIRTUAL OFFICE** on

Black Board which gives you instructions depending on the nature of your question. **If you call my phone you must leave a message for me to call you back; I do not answer unknown numbers.**

**3. Students with Special Needs:**

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the Student's responsibility to initiate a request. **Please contact Ms. Mary Schwartze, Counselor, Accessibility Services Coordinator, Ferguson Hall (Room 112) at 432.837.8363; mailing address is P.O. Box C-171 Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Students should then contact the instructor as soon as possible to initiate the recommended accommodations.**

**4. Religious Observance:**

Any student who is unable to participate in the course for the observance of a religious holy day will be allowed to make-up an exam or complete an assignment scheduled for that day. Arrangements for missing an exam or assignment due to a religious observance must be made with the instructor prior to that absence.

**5. Course Behaviors - Respect and Disruptions:**

Watch the **VIDEO on NETTIQUETTE** on Black Board. You are encouraged and expected to openly engage in discussions, ask questions, share ideas, and express your thoughts in this web-based course in the same manner as in a face-to-face course. Please treat each other with dignity and respect and avoid disruptive behaviors. You are responsible for knowing what behaviors are acceptable versus unacceptable as referred to in the Student Conduct and Discipline section of the SRSU Student Handbook

([http://www.sulross.edu/sites/default/files//sites/default/files/users/docs/stulife/student\\_conduct\\_discipline.pdf](http://www.sulross.edu/sites/default/files//sites/default/files/users/docs/stulife/student_conduct_discipline.pdf)).

**6. Academic Integrity:**

Any instance of academic misconduct such as turning in an identical written assignment for another course without approval, cheating and plagiarizing written assignments, collusion, or misrepresenting facts will be punished to the full extent of the university's disciplinary policy and/or through legal action if indicated. You are responsible for reading the statement on *Academic Honesty* in the SRSU Student Handbook

([http://www.sulross.edu/sites/default/files//sites/default/files/users/docs/stulife/student\\_conduct\\_discipline.pdf](http://www.sulross.edu/sites/default/files//sites/default/files/users/docs/stulife/student_conduct_discipline.pdf)). The faculty considers academic dishonesty to be a serious matter and will act accordingly. Students caught engaging in any form of academic dishonesty will receive no credit for assignments/exams and more severe penalties may be pursued, including but not limited to failing the course.

**7. Communicating with the Professor:**

The best way to contact me is through the **VIRTUAL OFFICE** on Black Board. **GENERAL QUESTIONS** are to be posted to a discussion board for all. For **PERSONAL or PRIVATE ISSUES** email the professor directly at [bmg15th@sulross.edu](mailto:bmg15th@sulross.edu). I strive to respond as soon as possible. If you do not receive a reply within 24 hours during the work week, please resend your email or call me at 432.386.3223 and leave a message so that I will return your call; I do not answer unknown phone numbers. During weekends there may be a longer delay in my responding.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. **Regular and active Black Board Participation (BP = 50 points; 10 points/week).** Your individual activity on black board will be monitored via logs maintained by Black Board. It is your responsibility to check your email daily

and for any announcements relevant to this course. (This is a subjective judgment on my part regarding the quality of your participation, taking exams when scheduled, and posting as required).

2. **Complete ORIENTATION TO BLACK BOARD (OB = 25 points)** which includes the **SYLLABUS QUIZ**.
3. **Five (5) Exams (each EXM = 100 points)**. ***There are ABSOLUTELY NO MAKE-UPS on the Final Exam. It is NOT cumulative.***
4. **Discussion Posts (DP = 20/post)** (paragraph in the range of 3 – 4 sentences or more if you wish) of your thoughts, feelings, ideas, and/or reactions to your chapter readings. ***These summaries will be posted publicly for all students in the course to view*** for the purpose of creating a sense of universality of your experience and enhancing shared learning. It can also be a spring-board to encourage conversations (threads) among students if you wish. ***These posting will be monitored by the professor.***
5. **Mini-Research Paper (MRP = 100 points)**. A research paper of a topic in biopsychology of interest to you NOT COVERED IN THE TEXT. Must be written in APA (American Psychological Association) format. Paper must be at least 6 pages double-spaced, including title page, abstract, and reference page. See resources for writing paper
6. in APA style and grading rubric on Black Board.

#### EXAMPLE:

$(50 \text{ pts} - \text{BP}) + (\text{OB} - 25\text{pts}) + (\text{EXM1} - 82\text{pts}) + (\text{EXM2} - 85\text{pts}) + (\text{EXM3} - 93\text{pts}) + (\text{EXM4} - 85\text{pts}) + (\text{EXM5} - 91\text{pts}) + (\text{DP} - 110\text{pts}) + (\text{MRP} - 95\text{pts}) = 716/795 = 90.06 = \text{"A"}$

#### GRADE SCALE:

90–100 = A; 80–89 = B; 70–79 = C; 60–69 = D; 0–59 = F

\*EXTRA CREDIT: There is NO extra credit offered in this course.

**PLEASE READ:** During the course of this class, Students may have strong emotional/psychological reactions to the course material and/or discussions. If you feel that you are having difficulty with the learning environment, please discuss this with me immediately before continuing the course. Counseling and Accessibility Services (<http://www.sulross.edu/section/2408/counseling-accessibility-services>) can provide brief, short-term individual and group counseling or refer you to off-campus providers. You have already paid for these services through your Student Service Fee, whether you use them or not.

***If you have any issue or concern, I would appreciate you speaking with me first. If you feel we cannot come to a reasonable resolution, know that you can speak with the BASS Department Chair, Dr. Mark Saka (432.837.8157) regarding your concerns.***

***I endeavor to maintain as safe as possible learning environment for all and expect the highest standard of conduct from each one of us and the collective. I welcome constructive feedback in the service of this goal.***

***This syllabus is accurate to the best of my ability, but I reserve the right to modify it at any time and will inform you as soon as possible. If I do make any changes, I aspire to do so for the reasons of student fairness and/or circumstances beyond my control.***

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<b>WEEK</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS &amp; DUE DATES</b>
W – 5/31	First day of class
WEEK 1 (5/31 - 6/2)	<p><b>READ</b> Chapters 1 &amp; 2 (pp. 15-62) (by Friday 6/2)</p> <p><b>SYLLABUS QUIZ</b> and <b>START HERE</b> orientation to BLACK BOARD</p> <p><b>POST1 <i>Introduce yourself</i></b> (by Sunday 6/4 <i>midnight</i>)</p> <p><b>POST2</b> on Chapters 1 &amp; 2 (by Monday 6/5 <i>midnight</i>)</p>
WEEK 2 (6/5 – 6/9)	<p><b>READ</b> Chapters 3 &amp; 4 (pp. 65-144) (by Friday 6/9)</p> <p><b>EXAM1 over Chapters 1 &amp; 2</b> Available on Black Board (90 mins to complete)</p> <p><b>Open from 8am (Monday 6/5) <u>CLOSES midnight (Friday 6/9)</u></b></p> <p><b>POST3</b> on Chapters 3 &amp; 4 (by Monday 6/12 <i>midnight</i>)</p> <p><i>Friday 6/16 - Last day for instructor initiated drop for excessive absences to Provost by 4pm</i></p>
WEEK 3 (6/12 - 6/16)	<p><b>READ</b> Chapters 8 &amp; 10 (pp. 261-290; 325-353) (by Friday 6/16)</p> <p><b>EXAM2 over Chapters 3 &amp; 4</b> Available on Black Board (90 mins to complete)</p> <p><b>Open from 8am (Monday 6/12) <u>CLOSES midnight (Friday 6/16)</u></b></p> <p><b>POST4</b> on Chapters 8 &amp; 10 (by Monday 6/19 <i>midnight</i>)</p>
WEEK 4 (6/19 - 6/23)	<p><b>READ</b> Chapter 11 &amp; 12 (pp. 355 – 421) (by Friday 6/23)</p> <p><b>EXAM3 over Chapter 8 &amp; 10</b> Available on Black Board (90 mins to complete)</p> <p><b>Open from 8am (Monday 6/19) <u>CLOSES midnight (Friday 6/23)</u></b></p> <p><b>POST5</b> on Chapters 11 &amp; 12 (by Monday 6/26 <i>midnight</i>)</p>
WEEK 5 (6/26 - 6/30)	<p><b>READ</b> Chapter 13 &amp; 14 (pp. 423-502) (by Friday 6/30)</p> <p><b>EXAM4 over Chapter 11 &amp; 12</b> Available on Black Board (90 mins to complete)</p> <p><b>Open from 8am (Monday 6/26) <u>CLOSES midnight (Friday 6/30)</u></b></p> <p><b>POST6</b> on Chapters 13 &amp; 14 (by Monday 7/3 <i>midnight</i>)</p>

**COURSE SCHEDULE (cont.)**

<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS &amp; DUE DATES</b>
WEEK 6 (Monday 7/3)	<b>Submit SUMMARY PAPER</b> (upload to Black Board by Monday 7/3 <i>midnight</i> ) <b>FINAL EXAM5 over Chapter 13 &amp; 14</b> Available on Black Board (120 mins to complete) <b>Open from 8am (Friday 6/30) <u>CLOSES NOON (Monday 7/3)</u></b> <b>~ ABSOLUTELY NO MAKE-UP FINALS ~</b>

*Tuesday July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday*

*Wednesday 7/5 - Final grades posted by noon (12pm)*