

**Syllabus for Section 3**  
**TTh 9:30-10:45 am**  
**(if you are not in Section 3,**  
**then do not use this syllabus)**

**Fall 2004**

**PSYCHOBIOLOGY**  
**(Psy 141)**

**D.W.Lee**

**PSYCHOBIOLOGY, Psy 141, Section 3**  
**Fall 2004, TTh 9:30-10:45 am, Lecture Room PSY-154**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Diane W. Lee  
**OFFICE :** Psy 421  
**OFFICE HRS:** TTh 11:00-12:30pm, or by appt.

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** DLee6@csulb.edu  
**WEBPAGE:** <http://www.csulb.edu/web/labs/lee/>  
**PHONE:** (562) 985-5040

**Text :** Rosenzweig, Breedlove, & Watson (2005). *Biological Psychology: An Introduction to Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience* (4th edition). Sunderland, MA: Sinauer.

This syllabus is provided as an aid to you in completing this course. Its specific purpose is to acquaint you with the policies by which this class will be conducted, what you can expect of it, and, in turn, what is expected of you. Please keep it in a convenient place so you may refer to it whenever the occasion requires.

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

By enrolling in this course, you will be studying about the biological bases of psychological phenomena. After providing an introduction to brain structure (Neuroanatomy) and how the brain functions (Neurophysiology), we will use our newly-obtained knowledge and explore such diverse areas as 1) Psychopharmacology = how drugs interact with behavior; Chronobiology = biological clocks and how they affect our sleep and dreams; Vision Physiology = our visual system and how we come to see and perceive the things we do; Neuroendocrinology = how hormones influence the brain, gender, and behavior; Neuroplasticity = how the brain changes in response to external influences including memory formation and injury; and Neuropathology = mental illness, brain damage, and disease. After reading that very long list of "ologies", some of you may be feeling really interested and excited; some of you won't be sharing those feelings. All of you will be feeling a certain amount of anxiety (ranging from mild to full-blown near-panic). Please don't! The study of Biological Psychology is incredibly fascinating! Please don't let anxiety interfere with your exploration of an immensely useful and inherently interesting topic. Yes....., the course is a difficult one and demands at least 8 hours of work outside of the classroom per week. But balance the difficulty you may experience with the intellectual curiosity you will feel!

There are 2 main goals for this class. The first goal is to provide you with a basic understanding of how the brain works to organize, initiate, and control behavior. In order to prepare you for academic as well as non-academic challenges you will face in the future, the second goal of this course is to provide you with an opportunity to 1) broaden your critical thinking and assessment skills; and 2) sharpen your writing skills.

**EXAMS & GRADING.** Grades will be based on 4 MIDTERMS and 2 WRITTEN REPORTS. Grading will be on an absolute scale (i.e., NOT on the curve). That means everyone in the class may get an A.

2 WRITING ASSIGNMENTS are worth	50 points
MIDTERM 1 is worth	100 points
MIDTERM 2 is worth	100 points
MIDTERM 3 is worth	100 points
COMPREHENSIVE MIDTERM 4 is worth	<u>100 points</u>
	450 points total

Final Grades will be determined according to the following scale:

A = 90-100% ≥ 405 points	D = 60-69% = 270-314 points
B = 80-89% = 360-404 points	F = 50-59% ≤ 269 points
C = 70-79% = 315-359 points	

**WRITTEN REPORTS.** There will be 2 reports required, each with a maximum length of 5 pages (typed, 12 point font, double spaced, 1 inch margins, stapled). Each will be graded "credit" or "no credit". A report graded "no credit" may be rewritten and resubmitted as many times as necessary to earn a "credit" score however no paper will be accepted past the final due date on TUESDAY 11/23. Credit will be equivalent to 25 points per paper. No handwritten papers will be accepted, no late first drafts will be accepted, and papers must be handed in directly to me or handed in to the psychology department office and date stamped on the day they are due -- sorry, they cannot be slipped under my door, left in my mailbox, sent as email, faxed, or transmitted in any way other than handing it to me or date-stamped by the department. Yep....., spelling and grammar will count (always, always, always!!!). Any paper with spelling and/or grammatical errors will be marked "no credit" and returned without being read further. Errors must be corrected before resubmitting!!! The contents of the reports will be based on 2 different, very broad, open-ended questions given in class at least one week before the due dates. Your

task is to answer the questions as clearly, succinctly, and thoroughly as you can in the space allotted. For example, one question could be something like "What is a neuron?"; another example would be "Why get stressed?"; or "Where are memories?" Your answers must be based on a neurobiological level of analysis and be acceptable and informative to a neuroscientist. They will not be necessarily limited to a single chapter in the book and will need to be ORIGINAL! That means that you cannot copy anything directly from the textbook or any other source (including one another) -- that's plagiarism -- and plagiarism is punishable by failure on the assignment. If the plagiarism is quite serious, then it will result in failure of the entire class.

**MIDTERMS.** To complete all MIDTERMS, it will be necessary for you to bring **Scantron Form 882-E** to class. Questions on MIDTERMS will be derived from both lectures and readings and will be multiple choice. However, they will not be simple questions designed merely to assess rote knowledge of facts, but rather your ability to understand and analyze behavior using newly-learned concepts. They will require a good deal of synthesis of the material as well as critical thinking.

**There will be absolutely no opportunity to "make-up" MIDTERMS.** Instead, you have the option of "re-taking" one of the 4 MIDTERMS (either MIDTERM 1, MIDTERM 2, MIDTERM 3, or MIDTERM 4). That is, if you missed either MIDTERM 1 or 2 or 3 or 4, or if you are not satisfied with your grade on MIDTERM 1 or 2 or 3 or 4, you may elect to take a RE-TAKE version of the same midterm on the day of the final. Taking a RE-TAKE is **purely optional**. If you have taken all 4 MIDTERMS and are satisfied with your grades, then you may elect not to take the RE-TAKE FINAL. If you do elect to re-take one of your MIDTERMS, I will use the highest score obtained to determine your grade for the class. MIDTERMS 1, 2, and 3 will not be cumulative; however, each successive test will build on material covered by previous midterms -- especially neuroanatomy. **MIDTERM 4 will be cumulative and cover all the material presented over the semester.**

Strategy #1: come in and take each test (even if you fear you will do badly). This way, you will be able to use the midterm as a study guide if you need to re-take it at semester end. Strategy #2: do not "blow off" the first midterm; it's the single most important one and the information that you learn here will serve as the basis for the future tests. Besides....., you'll never know if an emergency will turn up preventing you from getting to other midterms -- remember, you can re-take only one MIDTERM. During the semester, if your scores are lower than you desire, I strongly urge you to see me as soon as possible so that corrective measures can be taken.

### UNIVERSITY WITHDRAWAL POLICY

It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from classes. Instructors have no obligation to withdraw students who do not attend courses, and may choose not to do so. The deadline to withdraw from a class without a "W" is Monday, September 13, 2004. Withdrawal from a course with a "W" after the first 2 weeks of instruction is permissible only for serious and compelling reasons and requires the signature of the instructor and the department chair. **The university deadline to withdraw from classes in Fall 2004 is Friday, November 19, 2004.**

AFTER NOVEMBER 19TH: DURING THE LAST THREE WEEKS OF INSTRUCTION (Nov. 22nd through Dec. 10th), YOU MAY NOT DROP (WITHDRAW FROM) A CLASS EXCEPT FOR A VERY SERIOUS REASON THAT IS CLEARLY BEYOND YOUR CONTROL, SUCH AS INJURY OR ACCIDENT (WHICH MUST BE DOCUMENTED). USUALLY, SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES MEAN THAT YOU WILL BE WITHDRAWING FROM ALL YOUR CLASSES. YOU WILL NEED THE APPROVAL OF THE COLLEGE DEAN AS WELL AS THAT OF THE CLASS INSTRUCTOR AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON FOR EACH CLASS YOU DROP. The College of Liberal Arts adheres to this policy strictly, and does not sign withdrawal forms in the final three weeks of instruction for other reasons.

### PLAGIARIZING & CHEATING

You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism and cheating for all of your classes. Please see the CSULB Catalog for definitions. Don't do either.

### GENERAL COMMENTS

I really want to make this class enjoyable for all. I believe that you can earn the grade that will satisfy you whether that is an "A" or otherwise. If you assume the responsibility of understanding the material through reading, attending lectures, asking questions, and taking the tests, I will assume the responsibility of helping you get the grade you decide will make you happy and satisfied. I believe that attending lectures is an important aspect of any course. Each meeting, I will choose the most important aspects of the assigned readings to discuss and identify possible problem areas that might need clarification. In class, we as a group will share our viewpoints about the topics and add our valuable experiences to the mix. Much of your grade is determined by scores on your midterms, and please remember that there are no "make-up" exams in this class. If a test is missed, it is indeed missed! I do not need to be informed if you will miss class but please do arrange for someone to share their notes and come talk to me if you need any assistance. Here's to a productive (and even pleasurable!) semester.

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	TOPICS	READING PREP
Tue 8/31 Thu 9/2	Introduction & Overview Functional Neuroanatomy	Chapter 1 Chapter 2
Tue 9/7 Thu 9/9	Functional Neuroanatomy	Chapter 2
Tue 9/14 Thu 9/16	Functional Neuroanatomy Neurophysiology	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
Tue 9/21 Thu 9/23	Neurophysiology <b>Report #1 due</b>	Chapter 3
Tue 9/28 Thu 9/30	Neurophysiology <b>MIDTERM 1</b>	Chapter 3 Chapters 1-3
Tue 10/5 Thu 10/7	Neurotransmitters & Neuropharmacology	Chapter 4
Tue 10/12 Thu 10/14	Neuroendocrinology	Chapter 5
Tue 10/19 Thu 10/21	Sensory Processing <b>Report #2 due</b>	Chapter 8
Tue 10/26 Thu 10/28	<b>MIDTERM 2</b> Vision	Chs 4,5,8 Chapter 10
Tue 11/2 Thu 11/4	Vision Sex	Chapter 10 Chapter 12
Tue 11/9 Thu 11/11	Sex Biological Rhythms	Chapter 12 Chapter 14
Tue 11/16 Thu 11/18	Biological Rhythms <b>MIDTERM 3</b>	Chapter 14 Chs 10,12,14
Tue 11/23 Thu 11/25	Psychopathology ( <b>all final reports due, no exceptions</b> ) THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	Chapter 16 -----
Tue 11/30 Thu 12/2	Learning & Memory: Biological Perspectives	Chapter 17
Tue 12/7 Thu 12/9	Learning & Memory: Neural Mechanisms <b>MIDTERM 4 COMPREHENSIVE</b>	Chapter 18 All
<b>Tue 12/14 10:15-12:15pm</b>	<b>RE-TAKE FINAL</b>	