Faculty of Health
Department of Psychology
PSYC 2240 3.0 Section N
BIOLOGICAL BASIS OF BEHAVIOUR
Thursday 11h30 in *CLH C*
Fall/Winter 2023-24

Course Director and T.A. Information

Joseph F.X. DeSouza, PhD Neuroscience2001
My office is LAS0009c (office hrs 10-15h00 weekdays)
416.736.2100 x22946
Website: http://www.joeLAB.com
neural@yorku.ca

E-mail etiquette: I will respond within 99-hrs on Monday to Friday (10h00-15h00)

T.A.	J. Royze Simon
Email	royze25@my.yorku.ca
Office	BSB306n
Office Hours	By email

Course Prerequisite(s): Course prerequisites are strictly enforced.

- *HH/PSYC 1010 6.00 (Introduction to Psychology).*

Course website: eClass

All course materials will be available on the course eClass site. The site will be your central access point for course materials.

Course Credit Exclusions

Please refer to York Courses Website for a listing of any course credit exclusions.

Course Description

This course presents an introduction to the biological basis of behaviour. We will introduce topics relevant to behaviour in the normal and abnormal states beginning with sensory perception, attention, movement, emotion and language with experimental examples from our lab (http://www.joeLAB.com) and clinical studies/research illustrating the effects of impaired brain function. We will begin an introduction of topics such as: How do neurons change? How does plasticity occur in the brain? Can music/dance help brain function? What is neurorehabilitation?

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate broad knowledge of biological determinants of behaviour.
2. Describe and evaluate current theory and research in biological psychology.
3. Understand and interpret principles of biological psychology in everyday life.

4. Define biological causes of human behaviour from different perspectives.

Specific Learning Objectives

1. This course presents an introduction to the fundamentals of biological basis of behaviour. At conclusion of the course you will have an introduction to the brain's input and output relationships
2. Understanding of how sensory information is processed in our brain
3. Understanding of how motor functions are accomplished
4. Begin to explore some diseased states of the brain and case studies our lab (www.joeLAB.com) has worked with
5. Exposure to topics within Society for Neuroscience (http://www.sfn.org)

Course Format

Lectures/discussion/movies with textbook reading assignments and use of podcasts and internet resources.

Required Text

The course will use's Kolb, Whishaw & Teskey, Intro to Brain and Behavior (7th Edition). The text will be supplemented with internet resources, movies and lectures. You may use previous versions of the text but please compare your text with the current one.

Course Requirements and Assessment

Assessment	**Date of Evaluation**	**Weighting**
LaunchPad Learning Curves	weekly 1, 2, 3 ,4, 5, 7 due TBD. 9, 10,11,12,13,14 due Last day of classes	10%
LaunchPad Chapter Quizzes (lowest quiz will be dropped) and/or In person surprise Quizzes at start of lecture (lowest quiz will be dropped)	weekly	30%
Midterm (Chap 1-5, 7) Multiple choice and Short Answer questions NO MAKE UP EXAMS – 30% IS SHIFTED TO YOUR FINAL EXAM – THUS THE FINAL EXAM IS WORTH 60%	Week 6 (see below)	30%
Final exam (Chap 1-5,7,9-11 14,12,13, chpt 16 pg577-591 only) Multiple choice and Short Answer questions	Exam period TBD	30%

Assessment	Date of Evaluation	Weighting
Total		**100%**

Description of Assignments

Assignments are all completed in LaunchPad provided by the published of Kolb, Whishaw & Teskey, Intro to Brain and Behavior (6th Edition).

Class Format and Attendance Policy

In-person.

Grading as per Senate Policy

The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests* will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar – Grading Scheme for 2023-24

Missed Tests/Midterm Exams/Late Assignment

For any missed quiz or late assignment, students MUST complete the following online form which will be received and reviewed in the Psychology undergraduate office. At this time, due to COVID-19 an Attending Physician's Statement (APS) is not required, however, a reason for missing an evaluated component in the course must be provided.

HH PSYC: Missed Tests/Exams Form. Failure to complete the form within 48 hours of the original deadline will result in a grade of zero for the missed quiz or late assignment.

Add and Drop Deadline Information

There are deadlines for adding and dropping courses, both academic and financial. Since, for the most part, the dates are **different**, be sure to read the information carefully so that you understand the differences between the sessional dates below and the Refund Tables.

You are strongly advised to pay close attention to the "Last date to enrol without permission of course instructor" deadlines. These deadlines represent the last date students have unrestricted access to the registration and enrolment system.

After that date, you must contact the professor/department offering the course to arrange permission.

You can drop courses using the registration and enrolment system up until the last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (drop deadline).

You may withdraw from a course using the registration and enrolment system after the drop deadline until the last day of class for the term associated with the course. When you withdraw from a course, the course remains on your transcript without a grade and is notated as 'W'. The withdrawal will not affect your grade point average or count towards the credits required for your degree.

Information on Plagiarism Detection

Description of software used to detect plagiarism is in online software.

Electronic Device Policy

This course will be delivered in an online format and therefore electronic devices (e.g., tablets, laptops) are permitted during class time for course-related purposes. It is expected that you would complete tests/exams in a manner that does not require consulting an unauthorised source during an examination unless the tests/exams are open-book.

Academic Integrity for Students

York University takes academic integrity very seriously; please familiarize yourself with Information about the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty.

It is recommended that you review Academic Integrity by completing the Academic Integrity Tutorial and Academic Honesty Quiz

Test Banks

The offering for sale of, buying of, and attempting to sell or buy test banks (banks of test questions and/or answers), or any course specific test questions/answers is not permitted in the Faculty of Health. Any student found to be doing this may be considered to have breached the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. In particular, buying and attempting to sell banks of test questions and/or answers may be considered as “Cheating in an attempt to gain an improper advantage in an academic evaluation” (article 2.1.1 from the Senate Policy) and/or “encouraging, enabling or causing others” (article 2.1.10 from the Senate Policy) to cheat.

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

While all individuals are expected to satisfy the requirements of their program of study and to aspire to do so at a level of excellence, the university recognizes that persons with disabilities may require reasonable accommodation to enable them to do so. The university encourages students with disabilities to register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to discuss their accommodation needs as early as possible in the term to establish the recommended academic accommodations that will be communicated to Course Directors as necessary. Please let me know as early as possible in the term if you anticipate requiring academic accommodation so that we can discuss how to consider your accommodation needs within the context of this course.

https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/

Excerpt from Senate Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

1. Pursuant to its commitment to sustaining an inclusive, equitable community in which all members are treated with respect and dignity, and consistent with applicable accessibility legislation, York University shall make reasonable and appropriate accommodations in order to promote the ability of students with disabilities to fulfill the academic requirements of their programs. This policy aims to eliminate systemic barriers to participation in academic activities by students with disabilities.

All students are expected to satisfy the essential learning outcomes of courses. Accommodations shall be consistent with, support and preserve the academic integrity of the curriculum and the academic standards of courses and programs. For further information please refer to: York University Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy.

Course Materials Copyright Information

These course materials are designed for use as part of the PSYC2240 course at York University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as book chapters, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law.

Copying this material for distribution (e.g. uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law. Intellectual Property Rights Statement.

Course Schedule:

Weeks	**Readings**	**Date**
1	Chapters 1, 2	Jan 11th
2	Chapters 2, 3	Jan 18th
3	Chapters 4, 5	Jan 25th
4	Chapters 7	Feb 1st
5	review	Feb 8th
6	**MIDTERM EXAM** *chapters 1-5, 7*	Feb 15th
Winter Break Week	No class	
7	Chapters 9, 10, 11, *16 pg 577-591 only*	Feb 29rd
8	Continue chapters 9-11, *16 pg 577-591 only*	March 7th
9	Chapters 14,	March 14th
10	Chapters 12, 13	March 21th
11	**Continue** 12, 13	March 28st
12	*Review and consolidate*	April 4th
EXAM PERIOD	**FINAL EXAM** *chapters 1-5, 7, 9-11, 14, 12, 13, 16 pg 577-591 only*	TBD by registrar office

Course website: eClass

All course materials will be available on the course moodle site, unless otherwise indicated by the instructor. The site will be your central access point for course materials such as Lecture Videos, LaunchPad (textbook support) additional web resources.

Technical requirements for taking the course:
Several platforms will be used in this course (e.g., Moodle, LaunchPad, Zoom, etc.) through which students will interact with the course materials, the course director / TA, as well as with one another. Please review the syllabus to determine how the class meets (in whole or in part), and how office hours and presentations will be conducted. Students shall note the following:

- Zoom is hosted on servers in the U.S. This includes recordings done through Zoom.
- If you have privacy concerns about your data, provide only your first name or a nickname when you join a session.
- The system is configured in a way that all participants are automatically notified when a session is being recorded. In other words, a session cannot be recorded without you knowing about it.

I expect students to participate in this course, 1) through Zoom video conferencing and therefore 2) student may also appear on video (e.g., for tutorial/seminar discussion, etc.). In addition to stable, higher-speed Internet connection, students will need a computer with webcam and microphone, and/or a smart device with these features.
Instructions on how to register to borrow a laptop can be found here: **https://computing.yorku.ca/offcampus** under the heading "If you don't have a computer at home."

A way to determine Internet connection and speed: there are online tests, such as Speedtest, that can be run.
Useful links describing computing information, resources and help for students:
Student Guide to Moodle
Zoom@YorkU Best Practices
Zoom@YorkU User Reference Guide
Computing for Students Website
Student Guide to eLearning at York University