

Psychology 460 – Behavioural Neuroendocrinology

When: Tuesdays/ Thursdays 11-12:30

Where: Buchanan B315

Instructor: Paula Duarte-Guterman, Ph.D.
 Department of Psychology
 Phone: 604-364-1908
 Email: paula.duarte@psych.ubc.ca
 Office hours: **by appt.**

Teaching Assistant: Paul Cocker
 Email: pcocker@psych.ubc.ca
 Office hours: By appointment

Course description and objectives:

Hormones play a large role in affecting both brain and body. This course is designed to introduce students to the field of behavioral neuroendocrinology, which is the study of how hormones affect behaviour and brain. We will begin with an overview of the anatomy and physiology of endocrine systems, the hormones, and the cellular and molecular features of hormone action. We will then examine a number of behaviors and their regulation by hormones. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have met all prerequisites listed in the UBC Calendar for this course. If you lack any prerequisites for this course, the Department may cancel your registration at any time.

Textbook: An Introduction of Behavioral Endocrinology by Randy Nelson, Fourth Edition. It is recommended that you read Chapters 1-7. **Required readings** (journal articles) are available on Connect and are listed below.

Course outline, lectures available on Connect: <http://elearning.ubc.ca/connect/> - but be aware these lectures are always changing and thus at times some slides may be posted after class. More resources are available for you at: <http://guides.library.ubc.ca/psyc460>
 This website was created to help you find research on your topic for your presentation and research paper (essay).

Evaluation:

Midterm	25%	October 15, 2015
Participation	10%	
Talk	25%	Talks will be scheduled from Oct- Nov
Research paper	25%	Nov 19, 2014 @ 12 pm
Quizzes	15%	

Material from both the lectures and the textbook will be on the exam. You will be responsible for reading the materials in the articles in the order shown on the schedule that follows. This class is in a discussion seminar format particularly for the second half of the term. You must

Chapter 1 An Introduction of Behavioral Endocrinology by Randy Nelson, Fourth Edition

1/2 The Endocrine System

Readings:

Chapter 2 An Introduction of Behavioral Endocrinology by Randy Nelson, Fourth Edition

2/3 Sex Determination and Differentiation
Sex Differences in Brain/Behaviour

Readings:

Chapter 3 and 4 An Introduction of Behavioral Endocrinology by Randy Nelson, Fourth Edition

McCarthy MM, Arnold AP, Ball GF, Blaustein JD, De Vries GJ. Sex differences in the brain: the not so inconvenient truth. *J Neurosci.* 2012 Feb 15;32(7):2241-7.

3/4 Male and Female Reproductive Behaviour

Readings:

Chapter 5 and 6 An Introduction of Behavioral Endocrinology by Randy Nelson, Fourth Edition

TBA

5 Parental Behaviour

Chapter 7

Readings:

Chapter 7 An Introduction of Behavioral Endocrinology by Randy Nelson, Fourth Edition

TBA

6 TBA

Readings:

TBA

Oct 15 Midterm**Oct 20-Nov 26 – Student talks**

Psychology Department’s Position on Academic Misconduct

Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct are very serious concerns of the University, and the Department of Psychology has taken steps to alleviate them. In the first place, the Department has implemented software that, can reliably detect cheating on multiple-choice exams by analyzing the patterns of students’ responses. In addition, the Department subscribes to *TurnItIn*--a service designed to detect and deter plagiarism. All materials (term papers, lab reports, etc.) that students submit for grading will be scanned and compared to over 5 billion pages of content located on the Internet or in TurnItIn’s own proprietary databases. The results of these comparisons are compiled into customized “Originality Reports” containing several, sensitive measures of plagiarism; instructors receive copies of these reports for every student in their class.

In all cases of suspected academic misconduct, the parties involved will be pursued to the fullest extent dictated by the guidelines of the University. Strong evidence of cheating or plagiarism may result in a zero credit for the work in question. According to the University Act (section 61), the President of UBC has the right to impose harsher penalties including (but not limited to) a failing grade for the course, suspension from the University, cancellation of scholarships, or a notation added to a student’s transcript.

All graded work in this course, unless otherwise specified, is to be original work done independently by individuals. **Do** use **PubMed** (first choice) to research your topic.

Furthermore we created more resources via the library that are available for you at:

<http://guides.library.ubc.ca/psyc460>

If you have any questions as to whether or not what you are doing is even a borderline case of academic misconduct, please consult your instructor. For details on pertinent University policies and procedures, please see Chapter 5 in the UBC Calendar

(<http://students.ubc.ca/calendar>).

The University accommodates students with disabilities who have registered with the **Disability Resource Centre**. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let your instructor know in advance, preferably in the first week of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or other similar commitments, cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss their commitments with the instructor before the drop date.

Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their TA, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. This review is for pedagogic purposes. The examination remains the property of the university.

Faculties, departments and schools reserve the right to scale grades in order to maintain equity among sections and conformity to university, faculty, department or school norms. Students should therefore note that an unofficial grade given by an instructor might be changed by the faculty, department or school. Grades are not official until they appear on a student's academic record.

Departmental Policy on Missed Tests and Extensions:

Course policies: Classes of this size add certain constraints on the way in which I must teach the course. One such constraint is that there will be no (for emphasis let us repeat the word NO) make up exams in this course. This means that if you miss an exam you will simply lose the number of points associated with it. Your grade will therefore be computed as if that particular entry was a zero. The only exceptions to this are validated medical excuses. Such excuses must be in the form of a written note from your doctor or from student health, attesting to the fact that on the day of the exam you were too ill to be expected to function reasonably. Please note, that although the Student Health Service will provide such validations for December and Final exams, they will not provide these for midterms, hence in the event of a missed midterm your medical excuse must be obtained from a private physician. If you should have a personal or psychological trauma and miss an examination, a written letter of explanation from your psychiatrist, psychologist, or student counsellor must accompany such an excuse. A letter from the attending physician or clergyman must validate exams missed due to a death in the family. In the absence of such written verification you will not be excused. All medical excuses must be personally presented to the professor as soon as you are able to return to class for a make up to be scheduled. Make-up exams will consist of an oral exam to be conducted in the presence of the professor and the teaching assistant.

If you submit medical documentation make sure it contains the statement "*This student was unable to write the test (or submit term work by the deadline, if applicable) on (date) for medical reasons*". If not then marks will be deducted or you will have an assigned mark of zero. You are advised to see your physician within one day of the missed test. Many physicians will not provide documentation retroactively.

Psychology Department's Policy on Grade Distributions and Scaling

In order to reduce grade inflation and maintain equity across multiple course sections, all psychology courses are required to comply with departmental norms regarding grade distributions. According to departmental norms, the mean grade in a 300-level class is 70 for a good class, 68 for an average class, and 66 for a weak class, with a standard deviation of 13). The corresponding figures for 100- and 200-level Psychology courses are 67, 65, and 63, with a standard deviation of 14. **Scaling** is likely to be used in order to comply with these norms; grades may be scaled up or down as necessary by the professor or department.

Further information about academic regulations, course withdrawal dates and credits can be found in the University Calendar. You are encouraged to read this material. If you run into

trouble and need information about studying, preparing for exams, note taking or time management, free workshops and advice are available from the Student Resources Centre, which can be reached through the School and College Liaison Office at 822-4319 and from Student Success, <http://www.students.ubc.ca/success/>.
