

Texas A&M University - Central Texas
PSYC 5315-115
Physiological Psychology

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Walter Murphy **Office:** FH 418b **Phone:** 254-519-5761
Email: murphyw@tamuct.edu (use this email address only; **do NOT email me through Canvas**)
In-office hours: By appointment
Virtual office hours: Sundays and Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 pm (Contact me by email.)

Mode of instruction and course access:

This course is a 100% online course and uses the TAMUCT Canvas Learning Management System (LMS), available at <https://tamuct.instructure.com>. Students will use their university email username and password to logon to this system.

Student-instructor interaction:

I will check on the course's Canvas page on most days and on email daily during the week and periodically on weekends and will reply to email within two business days. We can meet face-to-face at my office or by email. Contact me by sending an email from your TAMUCT student email to my faculty email to set up an appointment. Students are expected to logon to the course in Canvas frequently (at least 3 times during the week, including Sundays nights after 6:00 pm when I update the course for the week) to read announcements, review and post assignments, read discussion forums, or for other course information.

Grades will be posted in the Gradebook and feedback on coursework provided in the Gradebook's Comments section. The timing of grade posting depends on the complexity of the assignment and on the feedback necessary to improve future work. Most grades will be posted within 4-5 business days of the due date for the assignment or quiz (except for some work related to quiz question development). Students should regularly monitor their grades in the Gradebook, and *should not hesitate to ask the professor about any grade or coursework concern*. Students should also review all feedback in the Gradebook when grades are posted to see what worked well and what more is needed for subsequent coursework.

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University – Central Texas:

911Cellular is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in 911Cellular through their myCT email account. Connect at 911Cellular [<https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management>] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. Your

staying enrolled in 911Cellular allows university officials to quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course description:

An examination of the biological basis of behavior with an emphasis on the structure and biochemistry of the human nervous system. Includes an exploration of the interactive relationships between biological processes, psychopharmacology, genetics, neurological disorders, normal growth and maturation, perception, memory, emotion, stress, mental disorders, consciousness, and communication. Contemporary theories and research are investigated and critiqued.

Course objectives (aka Student learning outcomes):

LO1. *Demonstrate comprehension and application of knowledge of fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories regarding physiological psychology.* Students will read and write about information regarding human physiology as it relates to the basics of human anatomy including the structure and function of nerves, brain structure and development, sensory systems, movement, states of consciousness (wake and sleep), internal regulation, emotional behaviors, learning and memory, and cognitive functions. Students will demonstrate their ability to comprehend and analyze these concepts on the discussion forums posts, section quizzes, and presentation assignment.

LO2. *Analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view.* Students will respond to others' writing (including that of peers and experts in the field) on topics related to physiological psychology and substantiate their points of view with theory and research. Students will demonstrate their ability to evaluate ideas critically in discussion forum replies, quiz question development, and research article reviews.

LO3. *Demonstrate skill in expressing oneself in writing.* Using correct APA style and appropriate use of sources, students will write quiz questions, posts to class discussions and replies to other students' posts, and research article reviews.

Course reading materials:

Required textbook: Kalat, J.W. (2013). *Biological psychology* (12th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth. (ISBN: 978-1-305-10540-9)

Useful resource: American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. (ISBN: 978-1-4338-0561-5) (not required)

Useful anatomy website: Johnson, K.A. & Becker, J.A. (n.d.). *The whole brain atlas*. Retrieved from <http://www.med.harvard.edu/AANLIB/home.html> (not required)

Course format/ attendance and late work policies:

This is a 100% online course using the TAMUCT Canvas LMS. Because it is a seminar, you need to keep up with the reading for each week; I will not post lectures, but I will provide and grade coursework and participate in discussion forums. All course materials except the textbook will be available through Canvas, including links for you to upload your coursework, but most work or materials will be made available as needed rather than being present for the whole session. Students are expected to be able to find all relevant work and materials on the course Canvas pages and to use Canvas to submit all work. Check out the Course Overview page in the General course information and materials module for information about the coursework. Make sure to consult and to review the syllabus periodically and contact me if you have any questions about work or materials. There is no comprehensive final exam for this course. Due to the short duration of 8-week classes, **late work will not be accepted, so plan carefully to get all work in on time**. You will probably want to keep up or even get ahead on your coursework. That is especially important in case something comes up that makes it difficult to get work done on a specific day. (See note below on technology.) **NO work submitted to me through EMAIL will be accepted unless that has been specifically arranged with me beforehand**. If you want to turn in any coursework early, that's fine. Note that it will probably not be graded until after the due date. **ONLY WORK THAT IS SUBMITTED NO LATER than 11:59 pm on July 26** will count toward your course grade.

To contact me, use my tamuct.edu email address; **any emails sent through Canvas will be deleted**. To contact your classmates, use the email addresses given in the Introduction discussion forum (Discussion forum 1) or ask general questions to the class using the Classmate Questions discussion forum (Discussion forum 0).

Academic integrity and classroom conduct policy:

Texas A&M University-Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a

course of action. More information can be found at <https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>. Note that only the discussion forums are specifically designed to be done in collaboration with other students. **All other work should be completed individually without help on the content from others except the course instructor.** You are permitted to get help on format and editing (but not content) from the University Writing center. For postings on the discussion forums, please be respectful of the ideas and opinions of all class members; inappropriate language and interactions may lead to being blocked for the rest of the semester from the discussion area and the loss of related points. Since you are graduate students, I hold you to a higher standard for independence and integrity than I do for undergraduates. To get the most out of this class and all your classes, it's best to treat them like a job; keep up with your coursework and take responsibility for your own work. In general, if you respect other class members and your instructor, you should be fine.

APA format: It is critical for psychology students to be familiar with APA format as published in the 6th edition of the American Psychological Association's publication manual. This course requires ALL WORK to meet the standards of the 6th edition; all relevant grading rubrics include an APA format component.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Coursework grading: *(with related learning outcomes)*

Section quizzes (<i>LO1, LO2</i>)	(6 quizzes at 6% ea)	36%	(24 pts/ quiz)
Quiz question development (<i>LO1, LO3</i>)	(5 at 6% ea)	30%	(6 pts/ q&a)
Research study article review (<i>LO1, LO3</i>)	(2 at 5%, 1 at 10%)	20%	(15, 15, 30 pts)
Discussion forums (<i>LO2, LO3</i>)	(5 at 2% ea)	10%	(4 pts ea)
Class participation		4%	(4 pts)

Grading scale: Grades in this course are earned, not given. Students earn grades by actively reading material, by participating in discussion forums, and by applying subject-matter content in discussion forums and on written assignments. Grades are determined based on the percentage of points earned on each assignment and the assignment's weight toward the overall course grade.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>University Definition</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
A	Excellent	90.00+ total points
B	Good	80.00-89.99 points
C	Fair	70.00-79.99 points
D	Not Passing for Graduate Courses	62.00-69.99 points
F	Failing	Below 62.00 points

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Technology Requirements: Students should be able to perform basic computer skills such as to access the internet, log on to websites that require usernames and passwords, navigate tabs and links on web pages, open and send emails, create and send attachments, download and view attachments including Microsoft Word documents and PowerPoint slideshows, open and view streaming video, and create folders on personal computers to organize and save completed work. For this course, you will need reliable and frequent access to a computer and to the Internet; it is recommended that you use a wired (*not wireless*) connection to access and submit coursework. Loss of wireless connection while uploading is not an acceptable reason for late or missing work. If you use non-Microsoft Office programs for coursework, you must save your coursework in the comparable Microsoft format for submission through Canvas (e.g., MS Word or PowerPoint). ***Technology issues are not an excuse for missing a course requirement or late submission of work; make sure your computer is configured correctly and address issues well in advance of deadlines.***

This course uses Instructure Canvas. Logon to TAMUCT's Canvas system using the info below.

Username: Your MyCT username (everything before the "@" in your MyCT e-mail address)
Initial password: Your MyCT password

Check the relevant Canvas guide for information about the browsers supported and computer compatibility in Canvas if you are having issues. If that doesn't help, the information below lets you know whom to contact for help.

a) For technology issues, students should contact Help Desk Central. HDC is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. *When calling for support please let your support technician know you are a TAMUCT student.*

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu
Phone: (254) 519-5466
Web Chat: <http://hdc.tamu.edu>

b) For anything inside of Canvas (uploading files, setting up notifications, using the calendar, etc.), students should contact Canvas Support, which is available from inside of Canvas by clicking on the "Help" link on the lefthand menu.

c) For issues related to specific course content and requirements, contact me by email.

Copyright notice: Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

<u>Week of</u> (Sunday night)	<u>Section topics</u>	<u>Readings/ Some work</u> <u>due dates</u>	<u>Section quiz</u> <u>due dates</u>
6/3	Introduction/ Major issues	<i>Syllabus, Intro</i> Discussion forum 1 due 6/7	(None)
6/10	Anatomy: Basics	<i>Ch. 1</i> Article review 1 due 6/11 Discussion 2 due 6/13	Quiz 1 6/15 at 11:59 pm
6/17	Anatomy: Brain structures	<i>Chs. 2-3</i> QQ1 due 6/17 Discussion 4 due 6/19 QQ1 answer due 6/20	Quiz 2 6/22 at 11:59 pm
6/24	Sensory systems	<i>Chs. 5-6</i> QQ2 due 6/24 Article review 2 due 6/25 QQ2 answer due 6/27	Quiz 3 6/29 at 11:59 pm
7/1	Movement/ Sleep	<i>Chs. 7-8</i> QQ3 due 7/1 QQ3 answer due 7/5 (extra day due to holiday)	Quiz 4 7/6 at 11:59 pm
7/8	Homeostasis/ Emotions	<i>Chs. 9 & 11</i> QQ4 due 7/8 Discussion 5 due 7/9 QQ4 answer due 7/11	Quiz 5 7/13 at 11:59 pm
7/15	Memory/ Thinking	<i>Chs. 12-13</i> QQ5 due 7/15 Article review 3 due 7/17 QQ5 answer due 7/18	Quiz 6 7/20 at 11:59 pm
7/22	Brain development	<i>Ch. 4</i> Discussion 6 due 7/23	(None)

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

Drop Policy: If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a Drop Request Form, found through the Registrar's web page at <https://www.tamuct.edu/business-office/drop-policy.html>.

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the University Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Academic Accommodations.

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Department of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Department of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such. For more information please visit our Access & Inclusion web page [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html>].

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible. For more information, please visit the Student Affairs web page [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html>]. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these requirements and guidelines online, please visit the website [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender—including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Tutoring: Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 519-5796 or by emailing Dr. DeEadra Albert-Green at deeadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu.

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! **Tutor.com** is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive FREE online tutoring and writing support. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas. Access Tutor.com through the lefthand menu in Canvas.

The University Writing Center: Located in 416 Warrior Hall, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University-Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10am-4pm Monday-Thursday during the summer with online hours available Monday-Thursday from 6:00-9:00pm. Students may arrange a one-on-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via WOnline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu to schedule an online tutoring session. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process.

While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the University Writing Center is here to help!

If you have any questions about the University Writing Center, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bowles at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu.

University Library: The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 72,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at TAMUCT are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On-campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available twenty-four hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the TAMUCT main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our homepage: <https://tamuct.libguides.com/>

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas: Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the Title IX webpage [<https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php>].

NOTE: I reserve the right to amend this syllabus at any time, with student input whenever possible. If changes are necessary, I will provide as much advanced notice as possible and will post an announcement in Canvas regarding the changes. Finally, if you have any questions or concerns about the class or problems with the coursework or course materials, please contact me by email or in person. The only exception is if you have technology issues. For those, please let me know what's going on, but ask for help from Help Desk Central or the Canvas Help system. Their contact info is given above.

Recommended Academic Strategies (developed by several university offices):

1. It is suggested that students should schedule a *minimum* of **9 hours each week over 16 weeks to devote to a typical semester course**. According to the federal definition of a credit hour, students should spend “not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out of class...for one semester hour of credit” (as noted at <http://www.sacscoc.org/subchg/policy/CreditHours.pdf>). Because this is an 8 week class, the

expected time per week doubles to 18 hours per week for 8 weeks. Bear in mind that this guideline is for an average class. Some students may find this course challenging and may require *significantly more time* to grasp the concepts and complete the assignments. Plan accordingly.

2. Research indicates that spaced practice is better than massed practice when learning new information. Thus, spending 3 hours a day for 6 days a week on coursework is better for your learning and your grade than trying to get work done all at once within one long session. Adjust your schedule accordingly.
3. Be professional and use proper netiquette (i.e., internet etiquette) in all course correspondence. Your college education is grooming you for a professional career so practice these skills now.
 - a. To receive full credit for your course written work, you must follow APA format whenever needed, but also use standard English structure in all of your communications. Do not abbreviate or use texting shortcuts (e.g., LOL). Spell check, revise, and edit your coursework or posts and emails before submitting them. Use proper punctuation and capitalization. The APA manual can help you determine how to do these.
 - b. Remember that you are individually accountable for all your messages and online course interactions. Be polite and respectful of others in discussion forums and messages. Do not use all UPPERCASE LETTERS, which is considered equivalent to shouting. Avoid sarcasm and irony because they may be misinterpreted by the reader. Do not send or post negative or hurtful comments; although the reader cannot see you, you are not anonymous to them or to the course instructor.