

Texas A&M University - Central Texas
PSYC 5315-115 (CRN 60376)
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.**)
Webex office hours: By appointment; contact me through my faculty email above

Mode of instruction and course access:

This course is a 100% online course and uses the A&M Central Texas 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 the course's Canvas page on most days and my email daily during the week and periodically on weekends and will usually reply to email within two business days. We can meet via Webex's appointment system. Contact me by sending an email from your A&M Central Texas student email to my faculty email to set up an appointment; in our Canvas class page, there is an Appointment Booking tab you can access by clicking Webex Meetings on the lefthand menu to log into the meeting at your scheduled appointment time. I'd recommend setting the Canvas notifications to inform you about anything made available or changed for the course else or checking the course in Canvas frequently (at least 3 times during the week). On Sundays nights before 6:00 pm I'll update any relevant information for the upcoming week such as announcements, assignments, discussion forums, or other course information, so checking after that time is a good idea.

WARRIOR SHIELD Emergency Warning System for A&M Central Texas:

To enhance personal safety on the A&M Central Texas campus, the A&M Central Texas Police Department uses Warrior Shield by 911Cellular. Warrior Shield is an emergency notification service that gives A&M 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 Warrior Shield through their myCT email account. In addition, you can download the Warrior Shield app from Google Play or the Apple App Store and install it on your mobile device. Connect to Warrior Shield [<https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Account/Login>] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. Your staying enrolled in Warrior Shield helps university officials quickly pass on safety-related information to you, 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 discipline-specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories about physiological psychology.* Students will read and write about information on human neural physiology as it relates to 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. *Demonstrate the development of intellectual and critical thinking skills to 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 threads, the group PPT presentation, and research article reviews.

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

Course reading materials:

Required textbook: Kalat, J. W. (2019). *Biological psychology* (13th ed.). Cengage. (ISBN: 978-1-337-40820-2)

Required manual: American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). (ISBN: 978-1-4338-3216-1)

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 an asynchronous online course. Because it is set up as a seminar, I will not post

lectures and you need to keep up with the reading for each week. The MindTap materials for the Kalat textbook are available for the course as additional student learning materials. 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 semester. 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 except in extreme cases, so plan carefully to get all work in on time.** If you miss a deadline, email me right away to let me know why the work is late, but **DO NOT** include any coursework in your email. I'll respond as soon as possible. **ALL work submitted to me through EMAIL will be deleted unless that has been specifically arranged with me beforehand.** You will want to keep up; that is especially important in case something comes up that makes it difficult to get work done on a specific day. If you want to turn in any coursework early, that's fine, but be aware 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 30 will be counted toward your course grade.**

To contact me, use my tamuct.edu email address; **emails sent through Canvas's message system 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:

A&M 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. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. 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. More information can be found at <https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>. If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may submit a report at the address below:

[\[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0\]](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=0). When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action. Note that only the discussion forums and the group PPT presentation 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) of coursework 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 forums 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: Although some students may not be familiar with APA format, it is critical to know for reading and writing in psychology and counseling, so I want to help you practice using it. This course requires ALL WORK to meet standards of the 7th edition, published in October 2019; all relevant grading rubrics include an APA format component.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Coursework grading: *(with related learning outcomes)*

Section quizzes (LO1, LO2)	(6 quizzes at 5% ea)	30%	(20 pts/quiz)
Group PPT presentation (LO1, LO3)		20%	(40 pts)
Research study article reviews (LO1, LO3)	(2 at 7.5%, 1 at 15%)	30%	(15/ 15/ 50 pts)
Discussion forums (LO2, LO3)	(5 at 3% ea)	15%	(3 pts ea)
Class participation		5%	(5 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 quizzes and 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

Grades will be posted in the Gradebook and feedback on coursework provided in the grade 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 work. Students should regularly monitor their assignment grades in the Gradebook, and *should not hesitate to ask the professor about any grade or coursework concern*. Students should also review all grade comments in the Gradebook when grades are posted to see what worked well and what more is needed for subsequent coursework.

Note that, due to its frequent inaccuracy, I have disabled student access to view the total course grade info in Canvas; contact me by email to set up a Webex (or in-person) meeting if you have questions about your current course grade.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Technology Requirements: For this course, you 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**. *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.* If you use non-Microsoft Office programs or a non-PC computer for coursework, you'll need to **save your coursework in the comparable Microsoft and PC format** for submission through Canvas (e.g., Word or PowerPoint) so I can open it.

This course uses the A&M Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. Logon to A&M Central Texas's Canvas system using the info below. Note that Canvas can no longer be accessed using the Internet Explorer browser; the university recommends using the latest version of Firefox or Chrome.

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 browser versions 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 an A&M Central Texas 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. You can select "Chat with Canvas Support," call the Canvas Support Hotline: 1-844-757-0953, or submit a support request through "Report a Problem". As noted above, however, do **NOT** use Canvas's *Ask Your Instructor a Question* link.

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

COURSE SCHEDULE CALENDAR

<u>Week of</u> (Sunday night)	<u>Section topics</u>	<u>Readings/ Due dates for</u> <u>some coursework</u>	<u>Section quiz</u> <u>due dates</u>
6/6	Introduction/ Major issues	<i>Syllabus; Overview/Major issues</i> Discussion forum 1 due 6/10	(None)
6/13	Anatomy: Nerve basics/ Chemistry basics	<i>Ch. 1; Appendix A</i> Article review 1 due 6/14 Discussion forum 2 due 6/16	Quiz 1 6/18 at 11:59 pm
6/20	Anatomy: Transmission/ Brain structures	<i>Chs. 2-3</i> Discussion forum 3 due 6/23	Quiz 2 6/25 at 11:59 pm
6/27	Sensory systems	<i>Chs. 5-6</i> Article review 2 due 6/28	Quiz 3 7/2 at 11:59 pm
7/4	Movement/ Sleep	<i>Chs. 7-8</i> Discussion forum 4 due 7/7	Quiz 4 7/9 at 11:59 pm
7/11	Homeostasis/ Emotions	<i>Chs. 9 & 11</i> Article review 3 due 7/14	Quiz 5 7/16 at 11:59 pm
7/18	Memory/ Thinking	<i>Chs. 12-13</i> Group PPT presentation due 7/21	Quiz 6 7/23 at 11:59 pm
7/25	Brain development	<i>Ch. 4</i> Discussion forum 5 due 7/28	(None)

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

Drop Policy: If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must log into Warrior Web and complete the Drop Request Dynamic Form at

<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/casAuthentication.ashx?InstID=eaed95b9-f2be-45f3-a37d-46928168bc10&targetUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2FSubmit%2FForm%2FStart%2F53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>.

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed 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 A&M 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 Office 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 Office of Access and Inclusion in Warrior Hall, Room 212, or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such. For more information please visit our Access & Inclusion Canvas Community page (log-in required) at <https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717> or, when logged into Canvas, click on Courses on the blue lefthand menu, then choose Access and Inclusion for Students.

Important information for Pregnant and/or Parenting Students: A&M 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 relevant Student Affairs webpage at <https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>. If you would like to read more about requirements and guidelines online, please visit the relevant government website at <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 Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs at (254) 501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator in regard to pregnancy and parenting; see more information at <https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html>.

Tutoring: Tutoring is available to all A&M Central Texas students, on a remote online basis. Visit the Academic Support Community page in Canvas to view schedules and contact information. Subjects tutored on campus include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors will return at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111 in the Fall 2020. Student success coaching is available online upon request.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, success coaching, or have any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at (254) 501-5836, visit the Office of Student Success in Warrior Hall, Room 212F, or email studentsuccess@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 online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through the lefthand menu in our Canvas class page.

University Writing Center: The University Writing Center (UWC) at A&M Central Texas is a free service open to all A&M Central Texas students. For the Summer 2021 semester, all services remain online. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday with satellite hours online Monday thru Thursday from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The UWC is also offering online hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. 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. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, or understanding proper citation practices, the UWC is here to help! Below are two links to presentations about UWC services:

Full presentation: <https://tamuct.instructuremedia.com/embed/102e462f-3dcc-4b33-bbc9-1e467d23fba6>

Shorter presentation: https://youtu.be/V51Ye_x6fb8

Students may arrange an online one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via WConline at <https://tamuct.mywconline.com>. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC and/or need any assistance with scheduling.

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 400,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 96,000 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 A&M Central Texas 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 24 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 virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams 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 A&M Central Texas 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, visit our Library website at <http://tamuct.libguides.com/index> .

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 at <https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html> .

Behavioral Intervention: Texas A&M University Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, who are exhibiting concerning behaviors, or individuals causing a significant disruption to our community, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the referral online https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TAMUCentralTexas&layout_id=2 .

Anonymous referrals are accepted. For more information, please see the Behavioral Intervention Team website at <https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/bat.html> . If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5800.

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

Important University Dates: <https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/academic-calendar.html>

NOTE: I reserve the right to amend this syllabus as needed 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 for help. The only exception is if you have technology issues. For those, make sure to 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 <https://sacscoc.org/app/uploads/2019/08/Credit-Hours.pdf>). Because this is an 8 week class, the expected time per week doubles to 18 hours per week for 8 weeks. Remember 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. 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 online as shouting. Avoid sarcasm and irony because they may be misinterpreted by readers. Do not send or post negative or hurtful comments; the reader cannot see you, but you are not anonymous to them or the course instructor.