



PSY 315.31E US-Physiological Psychology

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2016

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Devin Pierce, Ph.D.

Office Location: TBA

Office Hours: 8:55am - 9:25am MW and by appointment

Office Phone: 903-886-5631

Office Fax: 903-886-5510

University Email Address: devin.pierce@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: Emails will typically be answered within 24 hours; however, please note that weekends and holidays are exceptions.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials

Textbook Required

Garrett, B. (2015). *Brain & Behavior: An Introduction to Biological Psychology* (4th edition), Los Angeles, CA: SAGE Publications.

Software Required

See below in the *Technology Requirements* section for details pertaining to this matter.

Optional Texts and/or Materials

Study Guide: Prepared by Gerald Hough. *Study Guide to Accompany Bob Garrett's Brain & Behavior* (4th edition). Los Angeles, CA: SAGE Publications.

In addition to the textbook and study guide, there is a useful student resources site that will help you learn the material in this course. The site contains a number of

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supplements for each chapter, including an action plan, learning objectives, a quiz, eFlashcards, and various videos and multimedia links. You can access this site at: <https://edge.sagepub.com/garrett4e>.

Course Description

Provides a basis for understanding the way in which biological mechanisms participate in behavior. It emphasizes both peripheral and central mechanisms involved in responding, sensing, motivation, emotion, arousal/sleep, and learning.

Hours: 3

Prerequisites: PSY 2301 or PSY 131

Student Learning Outcomes

1. The student will understand the organization and function of the nervous system, as well as, how communication occurs within it.
2. The student will understand the methods and ethics of research in the field of physiological psychology.
3. The student will understand how each of the following relates to physiology:
 - a. Drugs, Addiction, and Reward
 - b. Motivation and the Regulation of Internal States
 - c. Emotion and Health
 - d. Hearing and Language
 - e. Vision and Visual Perception
 - f. The Body Senses and Movement
 - g. Learning and Memory
 - h. Intelligence and Cognitive Functioning
 - i. Psychological Disorders
 - j. Sleep and Consciousness

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students enrolled in this class will be required to:

- use Pearson Learning Studio (eCollege) for taking online quizzes and accessing course resources.
- use the SONA system to sign up to participate in research.
- download and open PDF files

Instructional Methods

Although this is a web enhanced course, we will be meeting face-to-face for interactive lectures pertaining to each topic listed on the tentative course schedule (see below). You will also be presented with video segments to facilitate understanding of the course materials. From time to time, you will also be asked to participate in class activities.

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Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

I cannot overemphasize the importance of regularly attending class and not attempting to cram for exams. Come to class prepared via reading the appropriate chapter for a given class period. In addition, as previously mentioned, there is a study guide that goes along with this book that you may find beneficial, as well as, a student resource site (<https://edge.sagepub.com/garrett4e>) that accompanies the required textbook.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

Assessments

Throughout the semester the outcomes of the learning objectives will be assessed via 3 semester exams and a final exam, as well as, a series of short quizzes after each chapter.

Exams (90% of Final Grade). There will be three multiple choice exams during the semester, as well as, a multiple choice final, which will be cumulative. I will drop your lowest test grade on the three semester exams, but the final exam grade will not be dropped. Therefore, you will have three exams to count toward your grade, each of which will account for 30%.

Quizzes (10% of Final Grade). After each chapter, you will be required to take a short chapter quiz, consisting of approximately 10 multiple-choice questions. These quizzes will be administered through eCollege and will be available to be taken immediately after the lecture in which we finish the chapter. You will have from 10:45am after class until midnight to complete the quiz. However, you will have only ten minutes to take the quiz. Therefore, it is imperative that you read the chapter before you come to class and pay attention during the lecture.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- To fully participate in this web enhanced course you will need to use a current Flash enabled internet browser. For PC and Mac users the suggested browser is Mozilla Firefox.
- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred

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- Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
- Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- Run a browser check through the Pearson LearningStudio Technical Requirements website. [Browser Check http://help.ecollege.com/LS_Tech_Req_WebHelp/en-us/#LS_Technical_Requirements.htm#Browset](http://help.ecollege.com/LS_Tech_Req_WebHelp/en-us/#LS_Technical_Requirements.htm#Browset)

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
 - [Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/)
 - [Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/ uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.
- For additional information about system requirements, please see: [System Requirements for LearningStudio https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical](https://secure.ecollege.com/tamuc/index.learn?action=technical)

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ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to [myLeo](http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo) and from the top menu ribbon select eCollege. Then on the upper left side of the screen click on the My Courses tab. <http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx>

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: It is strongly recommended you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the My Courses tab, and then select the Browser Test link under Support Services.

Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support for the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24/7 (24 hours, 7 days a week).

If you experience LearningStudio (eCollege) technical problems, contact the LearningStudio helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511 (toll free) or visit [Pearson 24/7 Customer Support Site](http://247support.custhelp.com/) <http://247support.custhelp.com/>

The student help desk may be reached in the following ways:

- **Chat Support:** Click on '*Live Support*' on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

Accessing Help from within Your Course: Click on the '*Tech Support*' icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. Then you will be able to get assistance via online chat or by phone.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These

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methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure must be followed:

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511.
2. Students must file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and provide me with the helpdesk ticket number.
4. I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer and internet access problems are not a legitimate excuses for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. Only Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate reasons to contact the Help Desk.

You strongly are encouraged to check for your internet browser compatibility **BEFORE** the course begins and take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform.

myLeo Support

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at [myLeo](https://leo.tamuc.edu). <https://leo.tamuc.edu>

Learner Support

The [One Stop Shop](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/) was created to serve you by providing as many resources as possible in one location. <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/>


The [Academic Success Center](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/) provides academic resources to help you achieve academic success. <http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/>

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FREE Mobile APPS

The Courses apps for phones have been adapted to support the tasks students can easily complete on a smaller device. Due to the smaller screen size course content is not presented.

The Courses app is free of charge. The mobile Courses Apps are designed and adapted for different devices.

	App Title:	iPhone – Pearson LearningStudio Courses for iPhone Android – LearningStudio Courses - Phone
	Operating System:	iPhone - OS 6 and above Android – Jelly Bean, Kitkat, and Lollipop OS
	iPhone App URL:	https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pearson-learningstudio-courses/id977280011?mt=8
	Android App URL:	https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pearson.lsphone

Once downloaded, search for Texas A&M University-Commerce, and it should appear on the list. Then you will need to sign into the myLeo Mobile portal.

The Courses App for Android and iPhone contain the following feature set:

- View titles/code/Instructor of all Courses enrolled in online
- View and respond to all discussions in individual Courses
- View Instructor Announcements in individual Courses
- View Graded items, Grades and comments in individual Courses
- Grade to Date
- View Events (assignments) and Calendar in individual Courses
- View Activity Feed for all courses
- View course filters on activities
- View link to Privacy Policy
- Ability to Sign out
- Send Feedback

LearningStudio Notifications

Students can be alerted to course activities via text on their mobile phones or up to two email addresses.

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Based on their preferences, students can automatically receive a push notification with every new: course announcement, threaded discussion post, grade, and/or assignment without having to login to the course. Enrolled students will automatically receive email notifications for announcements and can opt out of this feature. To receive text notifications, students must opt in.

To begin setting up notifications, go into your course in LearningStudio and click on the bell-shaped Notifications icon on the main menu ribbon.

By default the student's university email address will appear. This cannot be changed in LearningStudio. Additional email addresses may be added by clicking the Add button. After all of the other selections are completed be sure to click the Save and Finish button.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement

It is of the utmost importance to me that my students walk away from this course meeting the aforementioned learning objectives to the best of his or her own ability. I am more than willing to work with students to increase the probability of this occurring. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you are having difficulties with the course and I will be more than happy to help.

As previously stated, I will typically reply to emails within 24 hrs, with the exception of holidays and weekends. Feedback on assessments are also generally prompt. The quizzes will be taken online and you will get feedback within 24 hrs upon completion. Regarding the exams, I generally try to have them graded by the following class period, whereby we will go over the results before proceeding to cover new material.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Attendance Policy.

I will be taking role throughout the semester at the beginning of each class period. It is important for you to come to class because it will help prepare you for the chapter quizzes and exams. According to university policy, you may be dropped from the course or dropped a grade point if you accrue an excessive number of absences (i.e., 3). In this course, you will be permitted 3 unexcused absences. Then, for each subsequent unexcused absence, I will deduct 2 points from your final course grade, regardless of what your average may be. Please note that I not only expect you to attend class, but I expect you to be on time and to stay for the entire lecture. If you

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expect to be late, please notify me ahead of time. If you need to leave class early, let me know before class begins. It is disrespectful to me and discourteous to your fellow students to get up and walk out during a lecture.

Missed Exams

Make-ups will only be given when the student provides documentation of legitimate University-approved excuse (e.g., medical emergency) within a week of the missed exam.

Missed Quizzes

There will be no make-ups on these quizzes under any circumstances.

Extra Credit

Students may earn extra course credit by participating in psychological research being carried out at Texas A&M University - Commerce. A separate handout with further details will be provided in class.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

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Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or

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veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url: <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Date	Topic	Chapter
8/29	Introduction to Biopsychology	1
8/31	Introduction to Biopsychology	1
9/5	Labor Day	
9/7	Communication Within the Nervous System	2
9/12	Communication Within the Nervous System	2
9/14	Organization and Functions of the Nervous System	3
9/19	Organization and Functions of the Nervous System	3
9/21	Methods and Ethics of Research	4
9/26	Methods and Ethics of Research	4
9/28	Exam 1	All of the above
10/3	Drugs, Addiction, and Reward	5
10/5	Drugs, Addiction, and Reward	5
10/10	Motivation and the Regulation of Internal States	6
10/12	Motivation and the Regulation of Internal States	6
10/17	Emotion and Health	8
10/19	Emotion and Health	8
10/24	Exam 2	All since Exam 1
10/26	Hearing and Language	9
10/31	Hearing and Language	9
11/2	Vision and Visual Perception	10
11/7	Vision and Visual Perception	10
11/9	The Body Senses and Movement	11

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11/14	Learning and Memory	12
11/16	Learning and Memory	12
11/21	Exam 3	All since Exam 2
11/23	Thanksgiving	None
11/28	Intelligence and Cognitive Functioning	13
11/30	Intelligence and Cognitive Functioning	13
12/5	Psychological Disorders	14
12/7	Psychological Disorders	14
TBA	FINAL EXAM	All chapters covered in class

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