

BIOL/PSYC 3329-001: Behavioral Endocrinology Course Outline--Spring 2008

Lecture: Class room: LS 122 Class Hours: T TH 11-12:20 pm

Instructor: Dr. Martha Mann

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Office: LS 303

Office phone: 817.272.3239

Office hours: T 10-11 am and W 2:30-3:30 pm and by appointment (typically afternoons)

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Course description: PSYC 3329. BEHAVIORAL ENDOCRINOLOGY (3-0) 3 hours credit. The effects of hormones on behavior and the physiological mechanisms which mediate these effects. Principles of brain-hormone interaction, sexual and aggressive behavior, parental care, ingestion, activity, motivation, learning and memory, behavioral disorders, environmental, and experiential influences on hormone production. Also listed as BIOL 3329. **Prerequisite:** PSYC 1315, or BIOL 4315.

Prerequisites: A course in introductory psychology (PSYC 1315) or general endocrinology (BIOL 4315) is a prerequisite for this course. Some background in research methods and statistics (PSYC 2441 and 2442 or 2443 and 2444) is suggested. Please consult with the instructor if you have concerns about your preparation for this course. A pre-test (without grading) will be given during the first week of class to assess your preparation for the course.

Learning objectives: (Please also see Exam Study Guides on WebCt)

At the conclusion of this course, you will be able to:

- Identify the principles of behavioral endocrinology research
- Demonstrate knowledge of modern methodologies
- Discuss the contributions of leading behavioral endocrinology researchers
- Relate recent discoveries in behavioral endocrinology to the underlying physiology of sex, aggression, parental care, feeding and drinking, learning, memory and motivation

Required readings:

Text: Nelson, R. J. (2005). An introduction to behavioral endocrinology, 3rd edition. Sinauer Associates, Inc. Sunderland, Massachusetts. (ISBN: 0-87893-617-3)

Please note: If you purchased a used copy of this text and did not receive the accompanying CD, you will need review assignments by borrowing a CD (in order to "launch" the CD in some browsers) and then by book marking the relevant sites.

Journal articles: Selected articles will be placed on electronic reserve through the library and linked through WebCt.

Exams and Grading: There is no comprehensive final exam in this course. Three objective, non-cumulative exams will be given as are weighted as follows: Exam 1 (40

points), Exam 2 (30 points), Exam 3 (30 points) for a total of 100 points and 100%. If you feel that you had a particularly bad testing day, please contact me before grades are posted on WebCt (within ~48 hours). If you wish to compensate for a poor exam grade, you may earn 5 percentage points by attending ACES and providing a critique of one of the oral papers. Make up exams will be given on the last class day if written documentation is provided within one week of the absence for a university-approved reason.

Student Support Services:

- **Library information** can be obtained through Helen Hough, Psychology Librarian. Please contact her by phone (817.272.7429) or by email (hough@uta.edu). You will find useful information for psychology at <http://ww.uta.edu/library/research/rt-psyc.html>
- **Other** services can be obtained from the University. The University supports a variety of student success programs to help you: learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and information about federally funded programs. Students seeking assistance with academic, personal or social problems should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817.272.6107.

Drop for non-payment of tuition: If you are dropped from this class for non-payment of tuition, you may secure an Enrollment Loan through the Bursar's Office. You may not continue to attend class until your Enrollment Loan has been applied to outstanding tuition fees.

Academic dishonesty: It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. Any form of academic dishonesty will be reported. *"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that is attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."* (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Part One, chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22.) All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation, reference to Public Law 93112—The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens. As required by law, we will provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. However, the student is responsible for informing faculty at the beginning of the semester of a disability requiring special accommodation and providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels.

Bomb threats: If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA will attempt to trace the phone call and prosecute all responsible parties. Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentations or tests caused by the bomb threat. Alternate sites will be available for these classes. Your instructor will make you aware of alternate class sites in the event that your classroom is not available.

Important dates:

January 30: Census Date
March 7: Midterm (or Mid-session)
March 17-21: Spring vacation
March 28: Last day to drop courses with an automatic 'W'
May 1: Last day of classes (NB: Make up exams will be given on 5/1)

E-Culture Policy. The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University email address as an official means of communication with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email. All students are assigned an email account and information about activating and using it is available at www.uta.edu/email. New students (first semester at UTA) are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UT-Arlington. Students are responsible for checking their email regularly. *In this course, please communicate with the instructor and teaching assistants by WebCt.*

Syllabus quiz (zero points but a lot of fun):

1. **At the end of this class, there is a comprehensive final.**
 - a. True
 - b. False **Answer?**

2. **In order to take a make up exam, I must present written evidence (a health care provider's note, a mechanic's bill, a court summons etc.) for the absence within one week of the missed exam date.**
 - a. True
 - b. False **Answer?**

3. **By attending the Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students (ACES) Symposium and providing an acceptable critique of one paper, I can increase one exam grade by 5%.**
 - a. True
 - b. False **Answer?**

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Tentative Schedule

Wk	Day/Date	Topics
1	T R 1/15, 1/17	Course overview; syllabus and WebCt review; pre-test Chapter 1: BE and 2: endocrine system
2	T R 1/22 1/24	Chapter 3 and 4: Differentiation and sex differences
3	T R 1/29 1/31	Chapter 5: Male reproductive behavior
4	T R 2/5 2/7	Chapter 6: Female reproductive behavior Study guide for Exam 1 and Review
5	T 2/12 R 2/14	Review Exam 1: Chapters 1-6 (40 points)
6	T R 2/19 2/21	Review of Exam 1 Chapters 9: Homeostasis
7	T R 2/26 2/28	Chapter 10: Biological rhythms
8	T R 3/4 3/6	Chapter 11: Stress and coping Study guide for Exam 2 and Review
9	T 3/13 R 3/15	Exam 2: Chapters 9-11 (30 points) Review of Exam 2; library day; wild card
10	3/17-3/21	Spring vacation—no class, no office hours
11	T R 3/25 3/27 F 3/28	Review of Exam 2 (cont.) Chapter 8: Social behaviors Attend ACES Symposium!
12	T R 4/8 4/10	Chapter 7: Parental care Lecture: Infanticide
13	T R 4/15 4/17	Chapter 13: Affective disorders Study guide 3
14	T 4/22 R 4/24	Review Exam 3: Chapters 7, 8, 13 (30 points)
15	T 4/29 R 5/1	Review of Exam 3 All make up exams will be given 5/1; critiques of ACES due
16	T 5/6	Optional class: Discussion of ACES and critiques