

# PSYCHOLOGY 206

## Developmental Biopsychology

### Syllabus, Fall 2015

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Steven E. Brauth; **OFFICE:** BPS 3123J; **OFFICE HOURS:** Mon. 1:00-2:00PM; [EMAIL=sbrauth@umd.edu](mailto:sbrauth@umd.edu)

**CLASS SCHEDULE:** TuTh 12:30PM-1:45PM, Room BPS 1232.

**TEXT:** "*Course Packet*", by S. E. Brauth, 1992-2015. the packet is downloadable at this website using the **MODULES** link on the menu at left.

#### **COURSE GOALS:**

PSYC 206 (Developmental Biopsychology) is an undergraduate behavioral neuroscience course designed to explore basic topics in the evolution and development of human behavior and the human brain. Topics include retracing the history of human origins, identifying ultimate causes which are believed to underlie human evolution, basic principles of brain development, neural functioning, localization and lateralization of function in the human brain, and selected topics in the neural correlates of aging of the nervous system and psychopathology. *PSYC 100 is a prerequisite for this course.* You must have satisfied this prerequisite in order to enroll in PSYC 206.

#### **GRADING PROCEDURES:**

Grades for PSYC 206 will be based on the scores students earn on three in-class examinations (see enclosed course calendar), an on-line **brain quiz** available through the Elms website ([www.elms.umd.edu](http://www.elms.umd.edu)) and an optional cumulative final exam which will replace the score on the lowest exam. Each examination will be worth 50 points for a total of 150 points possible. The brain quiz will be worth 20 points. Letter grades for the course will be assigned on the following basis although plus and minus grades will be assigned at the margins. A total of 165 points is required for an A+:

<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF POINTS</b>	<b>LETTER GRADE</b>
150-170	A
130-149	B
110-129	C
90-109	D
Below 90	F

**WEBSITE FOR PSYC206** (www.elms.umd.edu):

All course materials are available at this website. These materials include the **Course Packet** for PSYC206, on-line study guides for each examination, practice examinations and the **brain quiz**. Grades for each examination will be posted at this site after each examination. Students are urged to visit this site often.

**GENERAL UNIVERSITY GUIDELINES:**

The Psychology Department provides the following URL describing most University guidelines which students should familiarize themselves with:

<http://umdpsyc.blogspot.com/2012/01/department-of-psychology-standard.html>

**GRADE OF INCOMPLETE:**

The grade of "I" is an unusual grade at the University of Maryland and is only assigned at the discretion of the instructor and in special cases. The following conditions must be met:

1. ***MOST*** of the course work must be completed at the time the grade is requested. Students who have seldom attended class and have not completed most of the work and two of the examinations will not be considered eligible for this grade.
2. ***SATISFACTORY*** performance in course work at the time of the request is required. Students not performing at the level of "C" or better (see grade schedule on previous page) are not considered eligible for a grade of "I".
3. An ***INCOMPLETE CONTRACT*** must be signed by both the student and the instructor. This contract will set a date at which time the work must be completed and specify the remaining assignments. If this contract is not fulfilled (i.e. if the student does not complete the assignments on schedule) a grade of "F" will be assigned in the course.
4. Students desiring a grade of "I" must present compelling and strong evidence that such a grade is warranted. Medical evidence must be documented and endorsed by appropriate physicians or medical professionals in writing. If the student's request is based on nonmedical reasons, the student must petition the instructor ***in writing*** for the grade of "I" stating clearly the reasons for the request.

**RETAKES:**

There are ***NO*** retakes of examinations. Once you take an exam, the results (i.e. the grades) are final!

**PARTICIPATION IN PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT EXPERIMENTS:**

Students may receive up to two (2) course points for participation in approved Psychology Department experiments or for playing the *Neurologic Game* (see Course Modules), but *not* for both. The SONA Instructions Link is: <http://ter.ps/sonainstruct>

**MAKE UP EXAMS:**

Students requesting make-up examinations must petition the instructor in writing, providing written documentation of medical excuses and clear explanations of nonmedical problems. The final decision in these cases rests exclusively with the instructor.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

The University of Maryland has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit <http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html>. The code prohibits students from cheating on exams, plagiarizing papers, submitting the same paper for credit in two courses without authorization, buying papers, submitting fraudulent documents, and forging signatures. The University Senate encourages students to write the following signed statement on each examination or assignment: "I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this examination (or assignment)."

**INCLEMENT WEATHER:**

Inclement weather or emergency closure of the University may occur during any semester. In the event of such occurrences students are advised to call the University main information number 301-405-SNOW and listen to radio and television news programs reporting local school closings. In the event the University is closed, PSYC206 will not meet. If school closes on a day an exam is scheduled, the exam will occur on the next regular class meeting. In the event of school closings, it may be necessary to make up the work by extending the hours for other class periods or by meeting for an extra period at the end of the term. In such cases announcements will be posted at this website. Students should be mindful of these possibilities.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS:**

If you have a documented disability, you should contact Disability Support Services 0126 Shoemaker Hall. Each semester students with documented disabilities should apply to DSS for accommodation request forms which you can provide to the instructor as proof of your eligibility for accommodations. The rules for eligibility and the types of accommodations a student may request can be reviewed on the DSS web site at [http://www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS/receiving\\_serv.html](http://www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS/receiving_serv.html).

**RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES:**

The University System of Maryland policy provides that students should not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs, students shall be given an opportunity, whenever feasible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment that is missed due to individual participation in religious observances. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor of any intended absences for religious observances in advance. Notice should be provided as soon as possible but no later than the end of the schedule adjustment period.

**COURSE CALENDAR:**

<b><u>Lecture Topics</u></b>	<b><u>Dates</u></b>	<b><u>Reading Assignments</u></b>
<b><i>I. Ultimate and Proximate Causation</i></b>		
Evolutionary Theory	Sept. 1-3	Packet Chap. 1
Retracing the Path of Human Evolution	Sept. 8-10	Packet Chap. 2
Nervous System Development	Sept. 15-17	Packet Chap. 3
Principles of Neurophysiology	Sept. 22-24	Packet Chap. 4
<b>EXAMINATION #1</b>	<b>Sept. 29</b>	<b>Packet Chaps 1-4</b>
<b><i>II. Brain Function and Cortical Plasticity</i></b>		
Functional Brain Organization	Oct. 1-20	Packet Chap. 5 <i>Brain Browse</i>
Plasticity of Cortical Development	Oct. 22-27	Packet Chap. 6 <i>Brain Browse</i>
<b>EXAMINATION #2</b>	<b>Oct. 29</b>	<b>Packet Chap. 5-6</b> <i>Brain Browse</i>
		<b><i>Brain Quiz Due!</i></b>
<b><i>III. Behavioral Development</i></b>		
Neurological disease and Aging	Nov. 3-12	Packet Chap. 9 <i>Brain Browse</i>
Psychopathology	Nov. 17-19	Packet Chap. 10 <i>Brain Browse</i>
Psychiatric Disorders and Development	Nov. 24 -	Packet Chap. 10
	Dec. 3	
<b>EXAMINATION #3</b>	<b>Dec. 8</b>	Packet Ch. 9-10
Review for Final Exam	Dec. 10	All above
	<b><i>Fri. Dec. 18</i></b>	
<b>Final Examination</b>		<b>All Above</b>
	<b><i>1:30 - 3:30PM</i></b>	