



CURRICULUM GUIDE: OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code	PSYC 280	Course Title	Brain and Behaviour			
Credit Value	3	Department	Social Sciences			
No. of weeks	14	Hrs. per week	<i>Lecture</i>	<i>Tutorial</i>	<i>Laboratory</i>	<i>Total</i>
			3	0	0	3
Course Description	This course focuses on understanding the brain and its underlying structure to explain behaviour in humans and animals. Students will examine the neural basis of sensation, perception, learning, memory as well as behavioural, neurological and neurodegenerative disorders that arise from nervous system dysfunction. Students will learn to identify and describe parts of the nervous system, the neural basis of behaviour and to evaluate and give examples on how malfunctioning of the nervous system affects behaviour.					
Prerequisite(s)	ENGL 100, PSYC 101					
Initial Articulation Targets	<i>UBC</i>	<i>SFU</i>	<i>UVic</i>	<i>UNBC</i>	<i>TRU</i>	
	PSYC 230 (3)	PSYC 280 (3)	PSYC 2XX (1.5)	PSYC 2XX (3)	PSYC 2040 (3)	
	For updated information on the transferability of this course, please consult the BC Transfer Guide, www.bctransferguide.ca					
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and describe the general function of the major structures of the brain Describe the basics of neuronal cell communication Explain the function of the brain and the nervous system in producing behaviour Describe the usefulness of techniques, animal models and other analytical tools in studying brain and behaviour 					
Content	<p>Core topics – all of the following will be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foundational Concepts of Biological Psychology (including genetic influences and neuroplasticity) Functional Neuroanatomy Neurons, Synapses and Synaptic Physiology Pharmacology: Effects of Drugs and Hormones on Brain and Behaviour. Vision Audition Somatosensation Learning and Memory Movement Emotion and stress Approaches in studying brain and behaviour and behavioural disorders <p>Additional topics may also be covered, at the discretion of the instructor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The effects of brain damage on behaviour 					



Methods of Instruction	Lectures, demonstration of neuroanatomical models, e-classroom, classroom and group discussions, written assignments, course readings, critically evaluating audiovisual material, online learning platforms, library and internet research using electronic databases in biopsychology and neuropsychology.		
Required Textbook(s)	The following textbook(s) is/are required, or approved equivalent(s). Kolb, B., Whishaw, I. Q. & Teskey, G. C. (2019). An Introduction to Brain and Behaviour (6th ed.). New York, NY: Worth Publishing. (or latest edition)		
Required Equipment and Technology	Students are required to have a computer with internet access. The following resources are provided by the College: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office 365 • Student email 		
Homework Hours	At minimum, students can expect one hour of homework for every hour of instructional time.		
Evaluation	<i>Component</i>	<i>% Value</i>	
	Assignments and quizzes	10-15%	
	Midterm examination 1	20-30%	
	Midterm examination 2	20-30%	
	Paper and presentation	20-30%	
Final examination	20-30%		
Completion Requirements	The minimum grade to pass this course is D (50%). Unless otherwise stated, a minimum grade of C- (55%) is required for this course to fulfil a prerequisite.		
Course Designer(s)	Kevin Hamilton, Ph.D., (Chair) Department of Psychology, University of British Columbia, Kwantlen Polytechnic University	Consultant(s), <i>if applicable</i>	Laurence David Ph.D., Kwantlen Polytechnic University & Alexander College
Dean's Approval	Barbara Moon, Ph.D. Dean of Arts and Sciences, Alexander College	Dean's Approval Date	February 14, 2018
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	February 14, 2018	First Term Offered	Fall 2018
Last Review Date	February 14, 2023	Next Review Date	February 14, 2027
Revision History	<p>Jan 2020 – minor edits, evaluation given as ranges, text and recommended reading updated</p> <p>July 2022 – minor edits, adjust evaluation ranges to meet max final grade, add open access resources, adjust articulation table to match current BC transfer guide, by Wendy Comeau</p> <p>January 2, 2025 – English prerequisite increased to ENGL 100, effective Winter 2025</p>		