

Psychology 745-201: Hormones & Behavior
Online, Spring 2019

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****Email availability:** I am generally available via email from 9 am – 5 pm on weekdays. I typically check email up until 10 pm on weekdays and at various points on weekends, and may answer your question at these times as my schedule allows. However, you should not expect to receive an answer to any emails received after 5 pm until after 9 am on the next weekday.

Course format:

- This course will be conducted entirely online.
- All course business will be conducted on UWM's D2L website (<https://idp.uwm.edu/idp/Authn/UserPassword>).
- Quizzes are best taken on a computer or laptop hardwired into the wall to prevent a loss of signal from causing an error when you submit. **Cell phones are NOT recommended for taking quizzes** because signal problems often lead to errors in submitting.
- For questions about accessing or working D2L, please contact the UWM Help Desk *before* contacting me. The Help Desk staff knows D2L far better than I do and can answer your questions better and faster than I can. The Help Desk can be reached in any of the following ways:
 - 414-229-4040 or 877-381-3459 (toll free)
 - <http://www4.uwm.edu/technology/help/campus/gettechhelp.cfm>

Course description and learning objectives:

- The learning objective of this course is for students to understand how hormones influence the brain and behavior. Using data from both humans and animal models, we will discuss current theories, methods, and research in behavioral endocrinology. We will discuss the traditional roles of hormones in regulating sexual differentiation, reproduction, parental behavior, and aggression, as well as newer research showing that hormones influence various forms of cognitive function, including learning and memory, affect, and emotion. By the end of this course, students should have learned:
 - How the endocrine system works
 - Why men and women look and act different
 - How hormones regulate sexual differentiation, reproduction, parenting behavior, and aggression
 - How hormones influence mood and cognitive function
 - To think critically about topics in behavioral endocrinology

Prerequisite:

- **Successful completion of an introductory course in physiological psychology, neuroscience, or neurobiology is required for this course.** This prerequisite is necessary because students must understand how the brain works in order to understand the concepts covered in this course. You should know how neurons work (e.g., parts of a neuron, how action potentials are generated), communicate (e.g., receptors, neurotransmitters, neurotransmission), and are organized in the brain (e.g., basic neuroanatomy, neural circuitry). If you do not know this information, then you will do poorly in this course.

Required text:

- Nelson, Randy J. and Lance J. Kriegsfeld (2016). *An Introduction to Behavioral Endocrinology*, 5th edition. Sinauer Associates, Inc, Sunderland, MA.
- The text is available at <https://uwm.ecampus.com/course-list?s=139233&p=&c=%7C3081420&c1=PSYCH&c2=645&c3=201&c4=&ll=3&pv>. As per the image below, this site will offer you three options for accessing the textbook as follows:
 - Buy New: \$152.04
 - Rent Textbook: \$78.37 (due back 5/27/2019)
 - Rent Digital eBook: \$80.83 for 180 days

The screenshot shows the 'Books by eCampus' website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Order, Sell, Apparel, Help, Sign In, and a shopping cart icon with '(0)' items. A search bar is also present. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'Select Your Course Items' with a '<< Back to Shop By Course' link. The main content area features a yellow header for the course 'PSYCH - 745 - 201 - 58870 - Hormones and Behavior' with a 'Remove' button. Underneath, the 'Required' section displays the textbook 'An Introduction to Behavioral Endocrinology' by Nelson, Randy J.; Kriegsfeld, Lance J., 5th Edition, ISBN: 9781605353203, Hardcover, published 10/19/2016. The list price is \$156.74. Three purchase options are available: 'Buy New' for \$152.04 (in stock), 'Rent Textbook' for \$78.37 (in stock) with rental options for Semester (due back 5/27/2019) and Quarter (due back 4/22/2019), and 'Rent Digital eBook' for \$80.83 (online for 180 days, downloadable for 180 days). There are also promotional messages: 'Free Two Day Shipping on In Stock Items*', 'We Buy This Book Back!', and 'eCampus.com Device Compatibility Matrix'. A marketplace option is also visible: 'Buy from our Marketplace starting at \$86.19'.

- You may also purchase the textbook at online booksellers like Amazon.com or directly from the publisher Sinauer/Oxford University Press (<https://global.oup.com/ushe/product/an-introduction-to-behavioral-endocrinology-9781605353203?q=nelson&lang=en&cc=us>), where prices may be lower.
- ***Feel free to shop around, but make sure to find some way to access the textbook—it's extremely important that you read it!***
- **A companion website that includes animated tutorials can be found for FREE at:** <http://sites.sinauer.com/be5e/index.html>

Student expectations and responsibilities:

- Students are expected to do the assigned weekly readings, take weekly quizzes on time, contribute meaningfully to class discussions, and complete all written assignments on time.
- Students are expected to take primary responsibility for their performance in this course and are strongly encouraged to contact the instructor with questions about course content, format, or instructions.
- Because this is an online course, you have *far more responsibility* for ensuring your adequate course progress than in a typical face-to-face course. You will be given a certain amount of flexibility in completing course requirements (e.g., when during the week you choose to take the weekly quiz before the Sunday night deadline), but it is imperative that you complete these requirements on time or your grade will suffer.

- *****It is your responsibility to read this syllabus completely to be aware of due dates and course policies. Although the instructor may remind you of some important deadlines, it is your responsibility to complete all work in this course on time.**
- This course contains at least as much (if not more) content as the face-to-face version, so do not assume that this course will be less work because it is online.
- Netiquette:
 - It is expected that students will engage in proper “Netiquette” while interacting with the instructor and other students online.
 - Proper Netiquette abides by the basic principle, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”
 - All of your classmates and I can read whatever you post, so choose your words carefully.
 - Hostile, threatening, or inappropriate comments posted to the discussion board or emailed to other course participants are serious breaches in academic integrity and will not be tolerated. Although disagreements are encouraged in discussions, abuse and cruelty will not be tolerated. Such posts will lower your grade in the course.
 - Tips for effective emails and posts:
 - Properly address your emails, e.g., “Dear Dr. Frick” or “Hi Cindy”
 - Review your email/post before you send it to ensure proper tone and clarity.
 - Minimize use of all caps or other text that could be construed as yelling.
 - Be kind to others and tolerant of errors in their emails/posts. You could easily make the same error.
 - Most importantly, strive for each email/post to achieve a constructive objective (e.g., getting a question answered, seeking or providing feedback).

Assessment:

Grades in this course will be determined as follows:

Learning Objective	Assignment	Points	% of grade
Demonstrate knowledge of basic course concepts	11 weekly quizzes (20 points each, <i>will drop the lowest 1</i>)	200	50
Demonstrate ability to think critically about concepts, and participate constructively and intelligently in discussions of topics relevant to course materials	Discussion participation (week 1, 4, 8, and 15)	80	20
Demonstrate ability to think critically about concepts, and write about them clearly and articulately	Discussion position papers (weeks 8 and 15)	40	10
Use the scientific literature and web sources to research a controversial issue in behavioral endocrinology	Graduate research paper	80	20
	<i>Total</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>100</i>
Participate in research for extra credit: Participating as a subject in research studies conducted by faculty in Psychology. This experience gives you first-hand knowledge of psychological research.	<u>Extra credit opportunity!!</u> Research participation	Up to 20	Up to 5% added to final grade

Grades in this course will NOT be curved. Quiz, position paper, and discussion grades will be earned according to the following scale: A=94-100%, A-=90-93%, B+=86-89%, B=83-85%, B-=80-82%, C+=76-79%, C=73-75%, C-=70-72%, D+=66-69%, D=63-65%, D-=60-62%, F=<60%. Final grades will be calculated according to the same scale. The final point values that correspond to these grades are listed below.

Final Points	Percent	Grade
400-373	94-100	A
373-358	90-93	A-
357-342	86-89	B+
341-330	83-85	B
329-318	80-82	B-
317-302	76-79	C+
301-290	73-75	C
289-278	70-72	C-
277-262	66-69	D+
261-250	63-65	D
249-238	60-62	D-
237 and below	less than 60	F

Course schedule:

Course week	Week of	Topic	Assessment
1	Jan. 21	The Study of Behavioral Endocrinology Discussion #1 <i>Topic= Introductions, general issues in behavioral endocrinology</i>	-Syllabus quiz -Weekly quiz -Discussion participation
2	Jan. 28	The Endocrine System <i>Topic= Introductions, general issues in behavioral endocrinology</i>	-Weekly quiz
3	Feb. 4	Sex Determination and Differentiation	-Weekly quiz
4	Feb. 11	Discussion #2 <i>Topic= Dealing with ambiguous gender</i>	-Discussion participation
5	Feb. 18	Sex Differences in Behavior: Animal Models and Humans	-Weekly quiz
6	Feb. 25	Male Reproductive Behavior	-Weekly quiz
7	Mar. 4	Female Reproductive Behavior	-Weekly quiz
8	Mar. 11	Discussion #3 <i>Topic= Are men from Mars and women from Venus?</i> Discussion position paper due on March 17 by 11:59 pm	-Discussion participation -Discussion position paper
9	Mar. 18	Spring Break—no assignments	
10	Mar. 25	Parental Behavior Research paper topic due by March 31 at 11:59 pm	-Weekly quiz
11	Apr. 1	Hormones and Social Behavior	-Weekly quiz
12	Apr. 8	Stress	-Weekly quiz
13	Apr. 15	Learning and Memory Research paper due on April 21 by 11:59 pm	-Weekly quiz
14	Apr. 22	Hormones and Affective Disorders	-Weekly quiz
15	Apr. 29	Discussion #4 <i>Topic= Plan for anabolic steroid abuse</i> Discussion position paper due on May 5 by 11:59 pm	-Discussion participation -Discussion position paper

Weekly quizzes:

- You will take weekly quizzes in 11 weeks during the course as indicated above.
- All quizzes are taken in D2L via the Quiz tab.
- Quizzes consist of 20 objective questions (multiple choice, true/false) graded automatically by D2L. You will receive immediate feedback.
- Quizzes should be taken *closed notebook*, so please do not cheat and use your notes.
- **SUPER IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT QUIZZES—PLEASE READ BELOW!!!!**
 - You can take the quiz at any point during the week, but must submit the quiz by 11:59 pm Sunday of the week or you will receive a 0 for the quiz. Given this flexibility, no make-up quizzes will be allowed.
 - Once you start a quiz, you will have 20 minutes to submit it. Late submits will be penalized 1 point for each 5 minutes the quiz is submitted late.

- You can only take each quiz once, so please be sure you are ready to take a quiz before you start it. Save your answers after each question to ensure that all answers are recorded.
- Each quiz will ONLY be available for one week--the week indicated in the table above. (e.g., the Week 4 quiz will only be available during Week 4 of the course). This means that you cannot go back and take a quiz you missed earlier in the semester.
- You will drop your lowest-scoring quiz during the course of the semester. Thus, only your highest 10 quiz grades will count towards your final grade.
- You will be introduced to quizzes by taking a quiz on this syllabus. This quiz must be passed with a score of 90% before you will be able to take the first weekly quiz. Therefore, you can retake this quiz as many times as you need to in order to pass. NOTE: The syllabus quiz does NOT count towards your final grade!

Discussions and Discussion Position Papers:

- Discussions are critical to allow us to get to know each other in the online domain and exchange ideas about the course material.
- We will engage in four discussions during the course of the semester as follows:

<u>Calendar week</u>	<u>Course week</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Jan. 21	1	Student introductions and general issues in behavioral endocrinology
Feb. 11	4	Dealing with ambiguous gender
Mar. 11	8	Are men from Mars and women from Venus? <i>Discussion position paper due by 11:59 pm on Mar. 17</i>
Apr. 29	15	A national plan for anabolic steroid abuse <i>Discussion position paper due by 11:59 pm on May 5</i>

- Discussions will be graded according to the grading rubric in the Discussion Guide on D2L (Contents tab).
- **You should post during a discussion at least five times** through your initial posting and your responses to other students. **At a minimum, you should respond to at least two other student's posts and respond to at least two responses to your own postings.**
- All discussion posts should follow proper Netiquette (see above).
- More specific instructions on how to conduct a discussion and grading of discussion posts are posted in the "Info about Discussions" folder in the Content tab of D2L.
- The third and fourth discussions will take place in weeks without course readings in order to allow you to spend time writing a position paper for each discussion. This position paper will allow you to expand upon your own discussion postings eloquently, but succinctly. Position papers should be up to one-page, single-spaced. Instructions for writing this paper are posted in the "Info about Discussions" folder in the Content tab of D2L.
- Position papers submitted after 11:59 pm on the due date will be **penalized 5%/day**. After one week, late papers will not receive credit.

Graduate Research Paper:

- Although we will cover many topics related to behavioral endocrinology, it is impossible to cover many interesting topics due to time limitations.
- As such, this assignment gives you the opportunity research a controversial topic in behavioral endocrinology.
- The steps for this paper are as follows (more detail to follow in a separate document):
 - Select a controversial topic in behavioral endocrinology, and **have it approved by Dr. Frick by March 31.**
 - Write an 8-10 page paper describing the controversy, the biological basis of the controversial

issue including the role of hormones, and the implications for society.

- **You must upload your paper to the D2L Dropbox by 11:59 pm on April 21.**
- You have the entire semester to write this paper, so NO extensions will be given past the due date.
- Papers submitted after 11:59 pm on April 21 will be **penalized 5%/day**. After one week, late papers will not receive credit.

Extra Credit:

- Earn extra credit for participating as a subject in research studies conducted by faculty in Psychology. This experience will give you first-hand knowledge of psychological research. You may earn up to 20 points (up to 5% added to your final grade) through research participation, where 5 points corresponds to 1 hour of research participation (so 4 hours of participation earns you all 20 points).
- You will access these research projects through the SONA website—see detailed instructions at the end of this syllabus or in the “Extra Credit Opportunities” folder in the Contents tab of D2L.
- **Please note that the deadline to earn extra credit via research participation is Friday, May 10 at 5 pm.**
- For those of you who are not local and cannot make it campus to participate in research, I have designed five alternative assignments in which you read and discuss up to five empirical articles about issues in behavioral neuroendocrinology. These can be found in the file “Psych 645-745 Extra Credit Assignments” in the Content tab. Satisfactory completion of the assignment for each article will count as 1 hour of extra credit and earn you 5 points. **The deadline to complete any of these alternative assignments is Wednesday, May 1 at 5 pm.**

On average, students should expect to make the following minimum time commitment in this course:

<u>Course element</u>	<u>(Min/week) x (# of weeks) = hours</u>
Reading weekly notes and slides:	180/60 x 15 = 45 hours
Assigned Reading:	210/60 x 15 = 52.5 hours
Studying for weekly quiz:	120/60 x 15 = 30 hours
4 discussions:	60/60 x 4 = 4 hours
Discussion positions papers:	180/60 x 2 = 6 hours
Total semester commitment:	146 hours (45.83/credit)

Weekly average (15 weeks): **9.17 hours**

In sum, you should plan to devote ***at least 9 hours/week to this course*** (137.5 hours across the entire semester). Bear in mind that this is a minimum time commitment, and that more time may be required to prepare effectively for the quizzes.

University Policies:

Information on university policies on participation by students with disabilities, accommodation for religious observances, complaint procedures, grade appeal procedures, and other standing policies (e.g., sexual harassment, incompletes) can be found at <http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/SyllabusLinks.pdf> or by viewing the “UniversityPolicies.pdf” file in the Syllabus folder on our D2L site.

Students with Disabilities:

If you have a documented disability and need special accommodations in order to meet any of the requirements of this course, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. You will need to provide your VISA form, which you can obtain at the Accessibility Resource Center (Mitchell 112; 229-6287; <http://www4.uwm.edu/sac/>).

Academic Misconduct:

This course will strictly adhere to UWM's policy regarding academic misconduct. UWM does not

tolerate academic misconduct, in any form. Cheating and plagiarism, on behalf or yourself or another student, will not be tolerated. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing may be subject to receiving a zero for that exam or quiz, and may risk removal from the course or other sanction. The University defines academic misconduct as, "an act in which a student seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation, uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise, forges or falsifies academic documents or records, intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others, engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance, or assists other students in any of these acts." Information about the procedures that are followed when a student is suspected of academic misconduct can be found at:
http://www4.uwm.edu/Dept/Acad_Aff/policy/academicmisconduct.cfm.

SONA INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS Spring 2019

Research Participation for Extra Credit

Opportunities for research participation for extra credit can be found on the Psychology Department SONA website – see the top link on the department Sona webpage:

<http://uwm.edu/psychology/undergraduate/participate-sona/>

The last day for participation is 5:00 PM on Friday, May 10, 2019.

All credit must be assigned to the course for which you want extra credit by Saturday, May 11 at 5:00 PM. See the Sona FAQ on the website for how to reassign credit to another course.

If you participated in previous semesters you may already have an account. If your account no longer exists or you need to establish a new account, follow these steps:

1. Log onto the SONA website: <http://uwmilwaukee.sona-systems.com/>
2. Click on “Request Account.”
3. Enter all of the requested information – MAKE SURE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS IS CORRECT. Your userID should be your epanther email address, not your student ID number.
4. When you receive your password via email, log into your account and change your password.

The first time you log in you will be asked to do a brief prescreening survey (approximately 25 questions). Researchers may invite you to participate in their studies based on your responses to the prescreen questions. You may choose whether or not you wish to participate in these studies.

Once you have logged on to the website you will see a list of studies. If a study interests you and “Time slots available” is stated to the left of the study title, you can view available sessions and sign up for those sessions by clicking on the study title and then on View Time Slots at the bottom of the study description page. You will receive a reminder email prior to your session.

It is very important to remember that when you sign up for a session you are making a commitment to show up for that appointment. If you need to cancel you may do so via the SONA website prior to the session. Studies vary in how much advance notice they need of cancellation (most are 24 hours) – please take note of this when you sign up. **If you do not show up for a session you will lose the opportunity to earn one percent of extra credit. If you fail to show for a second session you will again lose the opportunity to earn a second percentage of extra credit and you will no longer have the opportunity to sign up for research studies to earn extra credit for your course(s).** You can make up the extra credit points you lost by completing an alternative extra credit option (see Alternative to Research Participation study on Sona). The alternative option involves reading an empirical paper related to the course for which you wish to receive extra credit and writing a summary of the article.

If you have questions please contact the SONA Subject Pool Coordinator, Dr. Christine Larson, larsoncl@uwm.edu.