



University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code PSY-230A	Course Title Brain and Behavior	ECTS Credits 6
Department Social Sciences	Semester Fall	Prerequisites Introduction to Biology
Type of Course Required	Field Psychology	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 2nd	Lecturer Dr Marios Constantinou
Mode of Delivery face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Course Objectives

- understand and learn basic neuroanatomy of the Central Nervous System and Senses
- learn the basic anatomy of the neuron and its functions
- comprehend the role of the synapse and neurotransmitters
- get introduced in research and theories of biological psychology
- identify the connection between cognition and neuroanatomy
- learn how the brain develops and ages
- cover the truth behind brain plasticity

Expected Learning Outcomes

1. recall the history of neuroanatomy, neurosciences, and neurodevelopment
2. appreciate the philosophical conceptualizations behind brain functioning
3. examine how the nerve cells and nerve impulses are responsible for our everyday functioning as human beings
4. appreciate the methods used to research brain and behavior linked to areas of the brain
5. critically assess the basic neuroanatomy linked to basic behaviors
6. use the appropriate terms for describing physiology of the brain
7. critically evaluate research pertaining to brain and behavior
8. correctly identify different areas of the brain, neuron, synapses, and brain circuits
9. appreciate how the brain develops from conception to adulthood
10. appreciate the plasticity of the brain
11. identify the neuroanatomy of vision
12. identify the neuroanatomy of hearing, taste, smell, and tactile sense and appreciate their connection to cognition and cognitive processes (theories)

CLASS CONTENT

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR ISSUES OF BIOPSYCHOLOGY
2. NERVE CELLS
3. NERVE IMPULSES
4. SYNAPSES
5. ANATOMY OF THE CNS
6. DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRAIN
7. PLASTICITY OF THE BRAIN
8. VISION
9. AUDITORY SENSE
10. MECHANICAL SENSES
11. THE SYSTEMS THAT CONNECT THE CNS TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD
12. RESEARCH METHODS IN BIOPSYCHOLOGY
FUTURE DIRECTIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND TEACHING METHODS

LECTURES, DEMONSTRATIONS OF ASSESSMENT, BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH, PROJECTS AND ASSIGNMENTS, CLINICAL INTERVIEW PRACTICE

ASSESSMENT METHODS

MID-TERM EXAM 1 & 2
CRITICAL DISCUSSION OF PUBLISHED RESEARCH
FINAL EXAM

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Kalat James W.	Biological Psychology 10 th Edition	Wadsworth	2009	0495603112