Physiological Psychology Lab
PSYC 373  Section 2C2  Summer 2011

Instructor: Gina Fernandez  E-mail: gfernan4@gmu.edu
Class Time: Monday & Wednesday 6:30-9:20pm
Class Location: DKH 3044  Office Phone: 703-993-1358
Office Hours: Wednesday 5:30 – 6:30pm  Office Location: DKH 2027

Goals of Lab: The primary goal of this lab is for students to learn brain and eye structure locations with some understanding of related function. A secondary goal is for students to gain critical skills in interpreting peer-reviewed research literature, specifically neuroscience-related literature.

Materials You Need To Purchase:

Material covered in lab will be the basis of quizzes and exams, so you are highly encouraged to attend lab. Attendance during dissections is especially essential because these will be your ONLY chance to use the sheep brain and eye. It is not be possible to repeat missed dissections during a later lab. If you know you will be absent for a class ahead of time, talk to me and I may be able to arrange for you to attend another lab time.

NOTE: You are responsible for all announcements and any syllabus modifications made in class each week whether you are present or not.

Lab Practical Exams: Practical exams are approximately 50% of your grade in this lab. These exams consist of identification and/or questions regarding pinned brain structures. The Lab Practical Exams cannot be made up at a later date. The nature of the exam does not allow it to be reproduced or preserved. Practical 1 will be administered on July 18, covers Brain Tours I & II, and is worth 50 points. Practical 2 is a cumulative final administered on August 1, and is worth 100 points.

Quizzes: There will be 2 quizzes worth 30 points each, based on lecture material covered in class. These quizzes will not require identification of brain structures. Questions will be in the form of multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blanks, labeling a diagram, and/or short answer. The first quiz will be July 11 and the second quiz will be July 25.

Article Summary: Each student will select an article from a scientific journal or magazine that relates to the topics covered in PSYC 373 or 372 (published during the last 5 years). A worksheet detailing the format of your article summary will be passed out in class and posted on Blackboard. A photocopy of the complete article must be turned in with your summary. All references must be cited in APA format. The article summary will be worth 30 points and is due July 14.

Presentations: Each student must give an 8-10 minute presentation on a neuroscience/biology topic of his/her choice. Topic choices must be approved by me no later than July 20. You may want to consider using your written article summary as a potential topic for your presentation. On July 27 you must turn in to me a typed outline of your proposed presentation, which will be
worth 10 points. Be sure to include all references. Each student will be required to provide some sort of visual aid (handouts, overheads, PowerPoint presentation) to accompany the presentation. Part of your presentation grade will be based on your presence at others’ presentations. The presentation will be worth 40 points.

**Policy Regarding Late Assignments:** Unless the student has obtained my consent to postpone an assignment, including quizzes, or has written medical documentation for absence from a quiz or other assignment, there will be an automatic grade-loss penalty of 10% that will be deducted from the score of the make-up quiz or late assignment. Permission to postpone a quiz or to turn in an assignment late will only be given for very important and acute reasons. Any make-up quiz or assignment will be structured like the original, but the content may be different. If a late assignment is not turned in or if a quiz is not taken before the following class meeting, a zero will be given for that assignment. Any documentation required for excused absences **MUST** be turned in by the following lab period. Additionally, I will not accept any work over email.

**The GMU honor code will be strictly enforced.** Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will be reported to the University Honor Board &/or penalized. Information that must be used from an outside source must be cited in correct APA format.

**Technology Statement:** Required knowledge of technology for this course includes ability to retrieve handouts sent via email to your GMU address or posted on Blackboard. Occasionally I may use computer programs or the Internet in class to present demonstrations of relevant material. You may also wish to use websites provided by me to study for the lab practical exams. I will post relevant information and documents via the latest version of Microsoft Office, so make sure to have the latest version of office or download the converter in order to read all important documents.

**Students with Disabilities:** If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

* This course does require participation in dissection of animal parts. If you have a concern about this, please meet with me as soon as possible.

**Add/Drop Deadlines:** The last day to add a class is **July 11.** The last day to drop a class is **July 18.**
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<th>Tentative Course Schedule:</th>
<th>Assignments Due:</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 6  Introduction/Neurophysiology &amp; Action Potential/Postsynaptic Potential</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11 QUIZ 1 (Neurophysiology, Action Potential/Postsynaptic Potential) Brain Tour Part I</td>
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<td>August 3 Presentations</td>
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**Grades:**  
Quizzes (30 pts x 2)  60 points  
Attendance and Participation  10 points  
Lab Practical 1  50 points  
Lab Practical 2  100 points  
Presentation Outline  10 points  
Presentation  40 points  
Article Summary  30 points  
Total  300 points  

A+ (97%+); A (90-96%)  
B+ (87-89%); B (80-86%)  
C+ (77-79%); C (70-76%)  
D (60-69%);  
F (59% & below)