**PSYC 376-002 Brain and Behavior**

Time: M 1:30 PM – 4:10 PM

Location: Robinson Hall B224

Instructor: Raul Ramirez

Office: TBA

Phone: 256-682-2416 (I’m better at responding to texts than calls)

**Required Prerequisites:** PSYC 372C, L372 or L375.  
C Requires minimum grade of C.

Email: [rramire8@masonlive.gmu.edu](mailto:rramire8@masonlive.gmu.edu)

Office hours: 4:10PM – 5:10 PM and by appointment

Readings: Bear, M.F. (2015). Neuroscience: Exploring the Brain (4th edition). Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins.

**Introduction**

This course serves as the second semester exploring the neurological underpinnings of cognitive processes and behaviors. PSYC 375, Brain and Sensory processes, is the first semester of the series. We will investigate the neural basis of phenomena such as movement, language, attention, memory, and emotion. This class will include analyzing experiments, case studies, and interpreting physiological data in order to help us understand how physiological processes can create and shape our thoughts and actions.

**Attendance Policy**

Attendence is required in this course and will be taken through blackboard. Discussion is a critical portion of a course so class participation is crucial for making this class work. 3 classes can be missed without penalty. Each additional unexcused absence will incur a 5% deduction on the participation portion of your grade. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis due to emergencies or sickness.

**Exams**

There will 3 exams and one cumulative final on this course. The exams and final will be compromised of multiple choice and short answer questions. If your lowest exam grade is lower than your grade on your cumulative final, the score on your cumulative final will replace your lowest exam score. The final exam is NOT optional.

**Grading**

Participation: 12%

Exam 1 - 22%

Exam 2 - 22%

Exam 3 - 22%

Cumulative Final - 22%

Total: 100 %

**Grading Scale (As a percentage of total points)**

A = 100-94 A- = 93-90

B+ = 89-87 B = 86-84 B- = 83-80

C = 79-70

D = 69-60

F < 60

**Drop/Add**

· Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes

o 1/28 last day to add classes

o 2/5 final drop deadline (no tuition penalty)

o 22/6 - 2/11 selective withdrawal period (50% tuition liability)

o 2/12-3/30 selective withdrawal period (100% tuition liability)

· After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons. Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.

**Mason Honor Code:**

***Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.***

For information regarding the specifics of the honor code, visit <http://oai.gmu.edu/>. If you have a specific question regarding the honor code in this class, please ask me. Any engagement in academic dishonosty can result in an automatic failure of the course and will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

**Communications:**

"Official Communications via GMU E-mail: Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices form the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their mason e-mail account, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly."

**Accommodations:**

“If you are a student with disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 709-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.”

**Technology**

A computer will be required to use Blackboard. If you do not have access to a computer, there are many computer labs around campus that are available to you.

**Calendar**

**Disclaimer:** The information on this calendar is subject to change.

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|  | Date | Readings (Readings are discussed on the posted date) |
| Monday | 1/20/2020 | University Closed (MLK Day) |
| Monday | 1/27/2020 | Course Introduction and Chapter 13 |
| Monday | 2/3/2020 | Chapter 14 |
| Monday | 2/10/2020 | Chapter 15 |
| Monday | 2/17/2020 | Chapter 16 and review if time permits |
| Monday | 2/24/2020 | **Exam 1: Chapters 13-16** |
| Monday | 3/2/2020 | Chapter 17 |
| Monday | 3/9/2020 | Spring Recess (No Classes) |
| Monday | 3/16/2020 | Chapter 18 |
| Monday | 3/23/2020 | Chapter 19 |
| Monday | 3/30/2020 | Chapter 20 and review if time permits |
| Monday | 4/6/2020 | **Exam 2: Chapters 17-20** |
| Monday | 4/13/2020 | Chapter 21 |
| Monday | 4/20/2020 | Chapter 22 |
| Monday | 4/27/2020 | Chapter 24 |
| Monday | 5/4/2020 | **Exam 3: Chapters 21, 22, & 24** |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Mon. 5/11 | 1:30 pm – 4:15 pm | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | **CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM** |
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