

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **PSYC 380**

#### **PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Study of neurological aspects of human behavior for those who intend to further their study in psychology or related fields. Major objectives include developing appreciation for the complex functioning of the human body, acquiring basic understandings of the primary mechanisms of behavior and investigating medical advances affecting these areas.

#### **RATIONALE**

The class is intended to introduce the student to the scientific discipline of psychophysiology, the study of the mind, physiological processes, psychopharmacology, and behavior.

#### **I. PREREQUISITES**

Nine additional hours of psychology.

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click the following link to view the required resources for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word  
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Apply fundamental research skills per APA style.
- B. Appreciate the Ethical Principles of Psychologists as developed by the American Psychological Association.
- C. Develop specific information about psychology and psychophysiology.
- D. Evaluate his or her learning in terms of a Christian worldview.
- E. Read psychological journal articles.
- F. Understand quantitative versus qualitative studies in psychology.

- G. Understand various diagnosed conditions and the psychophysiological foundation of the same, particularly with reference to psychopathology (the study of abnormalcy).

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings and presentations

- B. Group Discussion Board Forums (4)

The student will be assigned to a small group of class members for discussion on each of the four assigned topics. For full credit in each discussion forum, the student must post a new thread containing a complete and thoughtful answer of 200–300 words to the question posed, citing outside sources to support his/her ideas, and then reply to the threads of at least two other students. Threads are due by Friday night and replies are due by Monday night of the weeks assigned.

- C. Bible Verses/Discussion

The student will choose a topic from the textbook and research 5 Bible verses to explain and elaborate upon that topic, writing a 350–500-word summary that unites the text's topic and the Bible's explanation of the same topic. The essay will be posted as a thread in the related Group Discussion Board forum. Like the other forum assignments, the student also must reply to two other students' threads. This assignment is due by the end of Module/Week 8.

- D. Research Paper

The Research Paper is the capstone assignment for PSYC 380. This paper is to be a representative written review of the research conducted, looking at psychophysiological aspects of an issue chosen from the textbook. Using Liberty's online library, the student will select and read at least five recent journal articles on the chosen issue and will then summarize his or her findings in an 8–10-page paper, written in APA-style. This assignment is due by the end of Module/Week 6.

- E. Exams (4)

Each exam is non-cumulative, open-book, consists of 40 multiple-choice questions, and must be completed within 90 minutes. Exams will include all presentation lectures and textbook readings from the modules covered. The student may retake each of the four exams during the testing period; however, only the last test taken will count for the student's grade. If a student takes longer than the allotted time to complete his or her exam, penalty points will be subtracted from the exam grade (1 point per minute over 90 minutes).

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

A. Points

Group Discussion Board Forums (4 at 50 ea)	200
Bible Verses/Discussion	100
Research Paper	300
Exam 1 (Modules 1–2)	100
Exam 2 (Modules 3–4)	100
Exam 3 (Modules 5–6)	100
Exam 4 (Modules 7–8)	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000</b>

B. Scale

A = 900–1000 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Plagiarism

Plagiarism or cheating in any form will not be tolerated. See the Policy on Academic Integrity located in Course Content>Student Expectations for any questions regarding this issue. If any part of a student’s paper is plagiarized, he or she will receive 0 Points for the paper.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations.

***COURSE SCHEDULE***

**PSYC 380**

Textbook: Carlson, *Foundations of Behavioral Neuroscience* (2011)

<b>WEEK/ MODULE</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Carlson: chs. 1 & 2 3 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Group DB Forum 1	0 50
<b>2</b>	Carlson: chs. 3 & 4 2 presentations	Exam 1 (Chapters 1–4)	100
<b>3</b>	Carlson: ch. 5 1 presentation	Group DB Forum 2	50
<b>4</b>	Carlson: chs. 8 & 9 2 presentations	Exam 2 (Chapters 5, 8 & 9)	100
<b>5</b>	Carlson: ch.10 1 presentation	Group DB Forum 3	50
<b>6</b>	Carlson: chs. 12 & 13 2 presentations	Research Paper Exam 3 (Chapters 10, 12 & 13)	300 100
<b>7</b>	Carlson: chs. 14 1 presentation	Group DB Forum 4	50
<b>8</b>	Carlson: chs.15 & 16 2 presentations	Bible Verses/Discussion Exam 4 (Chapters 14–16)	100 100
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1000</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week (except week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.