

**San José State University**  
**Department of Psychology**  
**PSYC 030, Introductory Psychobiology, Sec. 01/61**  
**(30992/30993)**  
**Summer 2022**

---

**Instructor:** Jill Citron, PhD

**Office Location:** Zoom Room:

**Email:** [jill.citron@sjsu.edu](mailto:jill.citron@sjsu.edu)

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm & by appointment

**Class Days/Time:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am -1:45 pm

**Virtual Classroom:**

---

**Prerequisites:** Bio 021 or Bio 065

**Canvas:** Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the [Canvas learning management system](http://sjsu.instructure.com) course website at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. Messages to the class may be sent through Canvas or MYSJSU. You are responsible for regularly checking Canvas for updates.

**Description:** Biological Psychology is a major subdivision of psychology, the systematic study of behavior and mental processes. Bio-psychologists try to understand the biological basis for brain and behavior. This discipline involves examining many aspects of human functioning, through the mechanisms of evolution, genetic, neural, and hormonal influences on normal and abnormal behavior. The goal of this class is to pursue a greater understanding of brain and behavior from the smallest unit of the human nervous system, brain structures and interconnections with the nervous, endocrine, and immune systems.

**Course Format:** The material in this course will be presented through a combination of class lectures, assignments/discussions, and readings from the textbook and scientific journals. Lectures will expand upon reading assignments and we will investigate additional sources not covered in the readings. We will be using Zoom for lectures and Canvas for quizzes, discussions, and assignment submissions. Your presence in class is required for success in this course. Coming to class prepared and ready to engage in material is an essential component of learning.

## **Course Goals and Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

PSYC30-Introduction to Psychobiology explores the biological basic of cognition and behavior. This course examines the structural and functional components of the nervous systems, from the cellular level to the system level, and will consider how information from the internal and external environment can direct and influence adaptive behavior.

### Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, Psych 30 students will be able to:

CLO1 – *Students will be able to* –identify, describe, and communicate the major concepts related to basic neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and psychopharmacology. *Assessment for this will be in quiz 1, quiz 2, midterm exam, and final.*

CLO2 – *Students will be able to* –describe, and communicate the major transduction mechanisms, neuroanatomical pathways and theoretical perspectives associated with vision and nonvisual sensory systems, motivational systems and learning processes. *Assessment for this CLO will be conducted in quizzes 1, 2, Project 2, Annotated Bibliography 1, and Midterm.*

CLO3 – *Students will be able to* –identify, describe, and communicate experimental approaches and associated empirical findings for various methodological approaches in biopsychology. *Assessment for this CLO will be conducted primarily in Project 3, Midterm and Final.*

CLO4 – *Students will be able to* – think critically and creatively about biopsychological approaches to address issues related to behavioral and mental health processes. *This CLO will be assessed in Annotated Summaries, Collaborative Projects and Discussion, Quiz 3, Midterm, and Final.*

CLO5 – *Students will be able to* – apply biopsychological principles to individual, interpersonal and group behavioral and mental health issues. *This will be assessed by Annotated Summary 3, Collaborative Projects and Discussions, Quiz 4 and Final.*

### Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)

Upon successful completion of the psychology major requirements...

PLO1 – Knowledge Base of Psychology – Students will be able to identify, describe, and communicate the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.

PLO2 – Research Methods in Psychology – Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations.

PLO3 – Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology – Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.

PLO4 – Application of Psychology – Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.

PLO5 – Values in Psychology – Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

### Library Liaison:

The SJSU librarian specializes in social sciences and may serve as a resource for the development of research ideas and for finding the most appropriate research materials.

Psychology Librarian: Bailey, Christa

Phone: 408-808-2422

Email: [christa.bailey@sjsu.edu](mailto:christa.bailey@sjsu.edu)

<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/psychology>

**Required Textbook:** Watson, N.V and Breedlove, S.M. (2020). Minds Machine (4<sup>th</sup> edition). Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9781605357300

There are additional texts available with different ISBN numbers. Any form of the book is acceptable.

**Other Required Readings:** Other required readings are available on CANVAS.

Requirements: The requirements for this class include the completion of one library tutorial, four quizzes, 2 exams, and three collaborative projects. There will be three annotated summaries on assigned scientific articles and follow-up conversations on discussion boards. There will be a midterm and a final examination.

The format for quizzes and exams will objective (multiple choice and short answer questions) using Lockdown. Quizzes and library tutorials are to be completed outside of class time, on Canvas. You may use your textbook, or other written sources, but you may NOT consult with other persons. Quizzes and other course materials will be available Canvas Learning Management System course login website at <http://sjsu.instructure.com>. [University policy S17-1](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-1.pdf>) *which states that* “Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.” Exams are taken during class time. Study guides will be posted on Canvas the Friday before a test.

During the semester you will have the opportunity to read and summarize three scientific articles. The articles will be connected to the topic being covered in class and will facilitate class conversation and activities. All materials and assignment details are available on Canvas.

Class Protocols: To promote an inclusive learning environment that encourages collaboration and active participation, students will arrive on time and refrain from engaging in distracting behaviors during class time (preparing lunch, dyeing your hair, texting, etc). We will respect the opinions and contributions of class members. Be prepared to engage in class activities. Be respectful of your peers and open to new concepts and ideas.

Attendance: To succeed in this course, attendance and active participation is critical. If you must miss class, you are responsible for obtaining lecture notes from a classmate, watching recorded Zoom lecture, and reading Power Point slides. After checking the syllabus, getting the notes, and doing the readings (i.e., doing your due diligence), if you have additional questions or concerns about the class you missed, bring them to the Question Cafe. We will meet ten times during this summer session. **Missing one class is the equivalent of missing a week and a half during a traditional semester.**

[University policy F69-24](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states, “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

SJSU wants students to succeed. “Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practicum. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

"As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises." To learn important campus information, view [University Policy S16-15](#) and SJSU current semester's [Policies and Procedures](#)

### Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](#) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](#) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](#) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material [University Policy S12-7](#), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course:

Academic Integrity: Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](#) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Academic integrity is essential to the mission of San José State

*University. As such, students are expected to perform their own work (except when collaboration is expressly permitted by the course instructor) without the use of any outside resources. Students are not permitted to use old tests, quizzes when preparing for exams, nor may they consult with students who have already taken the exam. When practiced, academic integrity ensures that all students are fairly graded. Violations to the Academic Integrity Policy undermine the educational process and will not be tolerated. It also demonstrates a lack of respect for oneself, fellow students and the course instructor and can ruin the university's reputation and the value of the degrees it offers. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](#) is available at [http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial\\_affairs/index.html](http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html).*

Violators of the Academic Integrity Policy will be subject to failing this course and being reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action which could result in suspension or expulsion from San José State University.

## Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

*“If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec/> to establish a record of their special needs”.*

### Accessible Education Center (AEC) at SJSU:

The AEC provides comprehensive services in support of the educational development and success of students with disabilities. Use the central office link to find all types of information concerning available services and how to register. <https://www.sjsu.edu/aec/>

### Student Technology Resources:

The SJSU Computing Center has gone online, <https://library.sjsu.edu/student-computing-services/student-computing-services>. Computers and resources needed to participate in class are available for student loan.

The Student Success Center: has gone online. Visit their website to schedule appointments for tutoring, academic advising, and so much more.

<https://www.sjsu.edu/education/studentsuccesscenter/>

### SJSU Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS):

CAPS will help you adjust to college, meet your developmental needs, create meaningful relationships, improve your academic performance, and cope with life crises. We are the mental health service provider for you here at SJSU. <https://sjsu.edu/counseling/students/index.php>

SJSU Writing Center is available online this summer, <https://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>. At this site, you will find different ways of connecting with tutors and the type of writing support that you need. The SJSU Writing Center is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Their writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition, there are all types of resources available, <https://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/writingresources/index.html>

### Determination of Grade:

Grading: Due to the fast-paced nature of a summer course, there will be no late, make-up assignments, exams or quizzes. Please check your schedule to ensure that you have no conflicts with the test dates. If you have a written medical excuse for missing an exam, a makeup exam will be given within a week of the missed exam, or at the discretion of the instructor. Please note, it is the student’s responsibility to follow these guidelines for any needed make-up assignments.

### Determination of Grade

<b>Grading Scale</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Approximate %</b>	<b>Points</b>
A (90-100%)	Lib Guides (1)	5%	10
B (80 - 89%)	Quizzes (4)	30%	100 (25each)
C (70 - 79%)	Exams (2)	30%	100 (50 each)
D (60 - 69%)	Hypothes.is (2)	12.5%	40 (20 each)
F (0 - 59%)	Discussions (4) Collaborations (3)	12.5% 10%	40 (10 each) 30 (10 each)
Total		100%	320 total points

Students in the top or bottom 2.5% of each grade range will receive a plus or minus, respectively. *The instructor reserves the right to relax (but not stiffen) this criterion, depending on the actual distribution of grades.*

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ [Syllabus Information web page](#) at

<http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo>”

## Important Dates

	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due</b>
Week 1	Quiz 1	6/6 due at 11:59 pm
	Self-Introduction Discussion	1 <sup>st</sup> Post due on 6/3 Responses due on 6/6
	Lib Guides Quiz	6/6 due at 11:59 pm
Week 2	Quiz 2	6/13 due at 11:59 pm
	Collaboration Project & Discussion 1	1 <sup>st</sup> Post due on 6/10 Responses due on 6/13
	Hypothes.is #1	6/13 due at 11:59 pm
Week 3	<b>MIDTERM</b>	6/15 Tuesday, during class
	Collaboration Project & Discussion 2	1 <sup>st</sup> Post due by 6/17 Responses due by 6/20
	Quiz 3	6/20 due by 11:59 pm
	Hypothes.is # 2	6/20 due by 11:59 pm
Week 4	Quiz 4	6/27 due at 11:59 pm
	Collaboration Project & Discussion 3	1 <sup>st</sup> Post due by 6/24 Responses due by 6/27
Week 5	<b>Final Exam</b>	6/30 during class time

## Tentative Schedule of Events

<b>Week/ Module</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Class Topic</b>	<b>Reading (due for class)</b>	<b>Assignment (all due at 11:59 pm)</b>
<b>1</b>	Thurs 6/2	Introduction to Brain  Behavior Cells and Structure	Ch 1 Ch 2	Self-Introduction- 1 <sup>st</sup> Post due on 6/03 Responses due by 6/06
<b>2</b>	Tues 6/7	Neurophysiology  The Chemistry of Behavior	Ch 3  Ch 4	Quiz #1 due on 6/06  Library Tutorials & Quizzes- 6/06
	Thurs 6/9	The Sensorimotor System	Ch 5	Collaborative Project & Discussion 1- 1 <sup>st</sup> Post due on 6/10 Responses due by 6/13
<b>3</b>	Tues 6/14	Auditory and Vestibular Systems  Visual System	Ch 6  Ch 7	Quiz 2- due on 6/13  Hypothes.is #1 due on 6/13
	Thurs 6/16	Midterm (Ch 1-7), during class		Study Guide Available- 6/11
<b>4</b>	Tues 6/21	Hormones and Sex  Homeostasis	Ch 8  Ch 9	Collaborative Project & Discussion 1- 1 <sup>st</sup> Post due on 6/17 Responses due by 6/20  Quiz 3 due on 6/20  Hypothes.is #2 due on 6/20
	Thurs 6/23	Biological Rhythms and Sleep  Emotions, Aggression, and Stress	Ch 10  Ch 11	Collaborative Project & Discussion 1- 1 <sup>st</sup> Post due on 6/24 Responses due by 6/27
<b>5</b>	Tues 6/28	Psychopathology	Ch 12	Quiz 4- due on 6/27
	Thurs 6/30	Final Exam (Ch 8-12), during class		Study Guide Available- 6/25