



PSB 3002 Introductory Bio-Psychology

Section: RVBB

Internet/Fully Online

Spring Term 2024

Professor Information

Professor: Dr. Eliza Nelson

Contact: elnelson@fiu.edu

Turnaround Time: 48 business hours

Office Hours:

Tuesdays: 2:00-4:00 pm via Zoom or by appointment

Additional Notes:

Drop in for virtual coffee hours on Tuesdays with Dr. Nelson (she/her/hers) using the link go.fiu.edu/coffeehours. You do not need to have a question about class to join. You can ask about how to apply for a job, how to get into graduate school, meet her dog Berrin (she/her/hers), or just chat. Dr. Nelson also parents three children. All family members are welcome on zoom. If the coffee hours time doesn't work, you can request a one-on-one virtual meeting with Dr. Nelson.

Graduate TA: Kate Long

Contact: klong023@fiu.edu

Turnaround Time: 48 business hours

Office Hours:

By appointment only

Course Description and Purpose

A study of the more important psychobiologic correlates of behavior in basic psychological phenomena.

Translation: this course is all about linking the brain to behavior!

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

Students will be able to:

- recall key terms and concepts in biopsychology;
- interpret facts and main ideas in biopsychology;
- apply facts and concepts to solve problems in biopsychology;
- develop real-life connections in biopsychology.

Expectations of the Course

Accelerated Format:

Accelerated classes require more work in a shorter amount of time. All of the content of the traditional 16-week semester is compressed into just 7 weeks. Completing the course requires self-motivation as well as excellent time management. It's important to see how the workload fits into your life before the key dates below. Try out assignments in the first week of the course!

Key Dates:

- Mar 11: Add/Drop for "B"
- Apr 1: Last Day to Drop with DR grade for "B"

Late Policy:

All assignments have a suggested due date on Canvas to help you pace the workload. However, you can turn in any assignment without penalty until the availability date indicated on Canvas.

Canvas applies a "0" automatically if you miss the suggested deadline. This feature is enabled to avoid cases of "forgetting" an assignment is due soon. The "0" is replaced with your earned score once your assignment has been graded.

You may not use the Canvas grade comment feature, the Canvas messaging feature, or email to submit work for an assignment that has closed.

Make-up Policy:

No make-up work is permitted.

Module assignments (quizzes, cases, journals) can be submitted late at no penalty until the corresponding unit exam. After the exam closes, no further assignments related to that unit will be accepted. This grace period sufficiently covers unexpected illness, holidays, work schedules, and other emergent events that could impact your ability to submit your work. Do not wait until the last day to start the homework. Once the availability date has passed, no work is accepted. No exceptions.

You can work ahead in the course if you anticipate being unavailable. You may petition Dr. Nelson to take an exam early.

Extra Credit Policy:

There is one extra credit assignment in the onboarding module worth up to 12 points. The assignment is available through the Drop with a DR date. Bonus points can also be earned by completing course check-ins (3 surveys x 1 point = up to 3 points). The maximum extra credit available is 15 points. There is no other way to improve your grade in the course.

Preferred Name Policy:

Names and identity are important and valued in this course. Dr. Nelson earned her Ph.D. before she got married, and continues to use Nelson as her professional name. However, the FIU systems sometimes revert to her legal name and you may see her as

Eliza Eccles. If you have a preferred name that is not recognized by FIU, please let Dr. Nelson know. We want you to feel welcome in this space.

AI Policy:

You are allowed to use generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Dall-e, etc.) in this course but when you do, you must acknowledge it. Leave a grading comment on any assignment where AI was used stating what you used AI for and what prompts you used. You are responsible for all content that you submit in the course. If you do not understand a topic, do not use AI as you may not be able to recognize when the tool has made mistakes or left out important information. Not all assignments may benefit from AI tools. I encourage you to use your best judgement on when to use emerging AI technology.

Email Policy:

Email is the fastest way to reach Dr. Nelson. It is helpful to put the reason for your email message in the subject line instead of leaving the subject line blank. You should also include your full name, the course name, and your Panther ID in the body of the message. Dr. Nelson likes an empty email inbox and will respond as soon as she can. If you have an ongoing hardship, contact Dr. Nelson when you are able to. If you'd like to meet one-on-one outside of virtual coffee hours, just ask!

Grade Posting Policy:

Quiz grades are available immediately after submitting. Cases and journals are graded by the Graduate TA using rubrics by Dr. Nelson. Grades for cases and journals post within 2 business days of the recommended due date or the unit closing date (whichever is applicable). Exams are evaluated by Dr. Nelson. Grades for the exams post within 2 business days of the closing date. Submitting early does not mean your work will be graded faster.

Re-Grading Policy:

All of the assignments in this course are graded with a rubric that is available to students before starting the work. If you do not understand your grade, first check the rubric and any comments left for you. If you believe your work meets criteria for a higher score, you can petition Dr. Nelson for a re-grade by leaving a grading comment on the assignment.

You must ask for a re-grade within 72 hours of the assignment closing date. Your grade could go up or down after an assignment is re-graded.

Announcements Policy:

You are responsible for logging into the course regularly, reliably checking your FIU email, and reading all course announcements. Each week Dr. Nelson posts a to-do list of required and recommended activities through the course announcement tool.

Incomplete Policy:

Students who have completed at least half of the assignments but cannot finish the course may petition Dr. Nelson in writing for an Incomplete. Students must be in good standing (i.e., passing the course) at the time the request is made. Requests are handled on a case-by-case basis and are not guaranteed. An Incomplete may not be appropriate in all cases, and Dr. Nelson will work with you individually to decide the best course of action. You may not graduate with an Incomplete on your record. If there is an incident reported involving suspected Academic Misconduct, Dr. Nelson is required to give an Incomplete until the SCAI investigation is complete.

Assignments

Readings:

Required readings in this course are from the textbook *the Mind's Machine 4e* (Authors: Watson & Breedlove, Publication Date: 2020, ISBN: 9781605359731). Each module corresponds to one chapter in the textbook. Reading only works if you retain the information. Structure your notes using the lecture available in the modules. I recommend that you start off each module by taking notes in your own words as you read the chapter before starting the corresponding assignments. Purchase or rent the e-book from your favorite bookseller so that you can get started on assignments right away.

Key features of the textbook

- "The Road Ahead" learning objectives at the beginning of each chapter provide students a look at the important points made throughout the material
- "How's it Going" self-check points aid students in understanding the material better and letting it sink in throughout varying points in the reading
- "Researchers at Work" features cover experimental techniques and designs used in the behavioral neuroscience field and is aimed at piquing student interest and connection beyond the text
- "Signs and Symptoms" features related to clinical cases further helps students to think critically about the reading as they explore real clinical work
- The graphic layout of the "Visual Summaries" helps organize the material and directs students to figures that reinforce each point

Why Dr. Nelson selected this textbook

- Friendly, accessible and engaging writing style
- Color art aids students' understanding of biological processes with clear labeling and captioning

Onboarding Requirement:

There is an onboarding module in this course that must be completed to unlock the course content. You must view all the pages. Submitting the extra credit assignment is optional. Extra credit is due at the start of the course because Dr. Nelson wants to ensure that all students feel that they belong in biopsychology and get off to a good start in their gradebook. The assignment is a case study on diversity and inclusion in STEM.

Participation in this Course:

There is a fee to participate in this course if you opt-out of Panther Book Pack (PBP).

The Canvas course tool Yellowdig is required to participate in this course. There is no cost to you if you select Panther Book Pack (PBP). Yellowdig is included in PBP and you will be automatically enrolled. Students who opt-out of PBP can purchase an access

code for Yellowdig separately from the campus bookstore. The fee for Yellowdig a la carte is assessed per course per term.

What is Yellowdig? Yellowdig is the online conversation platform for this course. You receive points for participating in Yellowdig conversations, and the points you receive in Yellowdig factor into your final grade. Each week, you can earn up to 1350 points. To get an "A" in Yellowdig, you must have at least 7000 points by the end of the course. If you reach the weekly max by the end of each week, you are guaranteed to get an "A" in Yellowdig. You cannot earn all the points in a single week.

Anything you do on Yellowdig earns credit (e.g., creating new posts, commenting on another user's post, receiving comments, receiving reactions, receiving Accolades, and more). Details are posted in the assignment on Canvas.

Lectures:

Lectures are available in a fully-accessible PowerPoint, and can be downloaded in alternative formats. I recommend writing notes by hand in your own voice.

Reading/Listening to slides is not the same as sitting in a face-to-face lecture. Budget more time than you think you need to work through the material before starting the assignments. The e-book has additional study resources.

Homework:

Each module has three homework assignments: (1) a quiz that you can retake as many times as you want; (2) a case study that will push you to go beyond the textbook and solve or analyze a real-world problem; and (3) a journal that asks you to find and evaluate a layperson news article on a topic related to the module. Homework is due on Wednesdays and Saturdays. However, you can work ahead (or catch up) on assignments until the corresponding unit exam. Detailed instructions and rubrics are provided with each of these homework assignments on Canvas. It is better to earn partial credit on assignments than to take a "0".

Exams:

Exams in this course are open book and non-cumulative. No special browser or proctoring software is required. Each exam is available for 48 hours (1 weekend day and 1 week day). Once started, you have 4 hours to complete it. The majority of questions

will be multiple choice. These questions will be similar to the quizzes, and weighted equally across the modules on the exam. Some questions on each exam will be short answer. These questions are based on the case studies. There is no curve or extra credit on exams. Students will be able to see their score when grades are posted but will not be able to review their exams. To go over your exam performance, request a one-on-one meeting with Dr. Nelson. No study guide is given since exams are open book.

Note: Use of websites like Chegg and Course Hero to find exam answers is a violation of the Honor Code. If you find material from this course online, you can report it to the SCAI office. If you'd like to remain anonymous, you can submit a comment through the Feedback Box feature on Canvas.

Course Schedule

Week	Wednesday	Saturday
1	[M0] Onboarding	[M1] Structure and Function Quiz - Case - Journal
Complete onboarding in M0 to unlock the course content **Welcome check-in closes at 11:59 pm on Wednesday 3/13**		
2	[M2] Neurophysiology Quiz - Case - Journal	[M3] The Chemistry of Behavior Quiz - Case - Journal
Exam 1 opens Sunday 3/17 and closes Monday 3/18 **No work from M1-3 accepted after 11:59 pm on Monday 3/18**		
3	[M4] Development of the Brain Quiz - Case - Journal	[M5] The Sensorimotor System Quiz - Case - Journal
Mid-semester check-in closes at 11:59 pm on Sunday 2/24		
4	Brain Break	Brain Break

Week	Wednesday	Saturday
5	[M6] Hearing, Balance, Taste & Smell Quiz - Case - Journal`	[M7] Vision Quiz - Case Journal
Exam 2 opens Sunday 4/7 and closes Monday 4/8 **No work from M4-7 accepted after 11:59 pm on Monday 4/8** **Deadline to submit Extra Credit case is 11:59 pm on Monday 4/8**		
6	[M8] Homeostasis Quiz - Case - Journal	[M9] Biological Rhythms and Sleep Quiz - Case - Journal
7	[M10] Language and Lateralization Quiz - Case - Lecture	Yellowdig Closes
Exam 3 opens Friday 4/19 and closes Friday 4/20 **No work from M8-10 accepted after 11:59 pm on Saturday 4/20** **End-of-semester check-in closes at 11:59 pm on Saturday 4/20**		

All due dates are Eastern Standard Time (EST).

Grading

Grades are earned, not negotiated, in this course. To pass this course with a "C", you must earn at least 417 points across five types of graded activities: Please read rubrics carefully before starting assignments.

Number of Graded Items and Assignment Weighting

Course Requirements	Number of Items	Points (% of Grade)
Participation	1	1 x 60 = 60 points (10%)
Quizzes	10	10 x 6 = 60 points (10%)
Total	34	100%

Course Requirements	Number of Items	Points (% of Grade)
Cases	10	12 x 10 = 120 points (20%)
Journals	10	10 x 6 = 60 points (10%)
Exams	3	3 x 100 = 300 points (50%)
Total	34	100%

Extra Credit:

There are 3 check-in surveys throughout the course worth 1 point each and one extra credit assignment worth up to 12 points. You can earn up to 15 extra credit points. There is no other way to improve your grade in the course.

Final Letter Grades:

Final letter grades will be computed according to the following ranges. Grades are rounded to the nearest percentage, not the nearest letter. There is no curve.

Calculating Final Letter Grades

Grade	Grade Range
A	100% to 96%
A-	< 96% to 90%
B+	< 90% to 87%
B	< 87% to 83%
B-	< 83% to 80%
C+	< 80% to 77%
C	< 77% to 70%
D	< 70% to 60%
F	< 60% to 0%

Textbook and Course Materials for Purchase

If no materials listed, no items are needed.

YELLOWDIG

Required/Recommended: Required

Authors: Yellowdig

Publisher: Yellowdig

Publication Date: NA

Copyright Date: NA

ISBN 10: NA

ISBN 13: 9781736271100

Notes: Yellowdig is a digital access code

Additional Notes: If you opt out of PBP, you will have to purchase an access code separately for this class from the FIU Bookstore.

Panther Book Pack Undergraduate Rental Program

FIU has implemented the Panther Book Pack rental program, which provides your required print and digital course materials at a flat rate of \$20 per undergraduate credit hour. When you registered for your classes this session, you were notified via email of the required course materials that are included in the Panther Book Pack. The Panther Book Pack program applies to all undergraduate credit hours per academic session. I recommend that you review the pricing for all materials across your classes this session compared to the Panther Book Pack flat rate. If the Panther Book Pack is not your best option, you may opt out up to three days after the add/drop deadline. You may opt back into the Panther Book Pack up to three days after the add/drop deadline. If you do not opt out of the Panther Book Pack rental program, you will be charged \$20 per credit hour and the course materials will be reserved for you for the undergraduate courses for which you are registered. For more details, visit bookpack.fiu.edu

MIND'S MACHINE

Required/Recommended: Required

Authors: Watson & Breedlove

Publisher: Sinauer Associates (an imprint of Oxford University)

Publication Date: 2021

Copyright Date: 2021

ISBN 10: 0197542816

ISBN 13: 9780197542811

Notes: A copy of the textbook is on reserve at Green Library

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Zoom Video Conference

Zoom is a video conference tool that you can use to interact with your professor and fellow students by sharing screens, chatting, broadcasting live video/audio, and taking part in other interactive online activities.

Before joining Zoom:

- Reference the Zoom Student Tutorials to learn about the tool, how to access your meeting room, and share your screen.
- Access the Zoom Test Meeting Room to test out the software before joining an actual session.
- If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the FIU Canvas Help Team. Please ensure you contact support immediately upon the issue occurring.

There are no required zoom meetings in this course. Zoom is used for virtual coffee hours and 1x1 meetings only.

What are coffee hours?

Dr. Nelson sets time aside each Tuesday from 2:00-4:00 pm to talk to students. You do not need to have a question about class to join. You can ask about how to apply for a job, how to get into graduate school, meet Berrin (she/her/hers), or just chat. Dr. Nelson also parents three children. All family members are welcome on zoom. If the coffee hours time doesn't work, you can request a one-on-one virtual meeting. You can access coffee hours through a recurring zoom link: go.fiu.edu/coffeehours

Policies

Please review the [FIU's Policies webpage](#). The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses. For additional information, please visit [FIU's Policy and Procedure Library](#).

As a member of the FIU community, you are expected to be knowledgeable about the behavioral expectations set forth in the [FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code](#).

Technical Requirements and Skills

One of the greatest barriers to student success is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy, we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course, but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency in using a computer. Please go to the [What's Required webpage](#) to find out more information on this subject

Privacy Policy Statements for Partners and Vendors

- [Canvas](#)
- [Microsoft](#)

- [Adobe](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [ProctorU](#)
- [HonorLock](#)
- [Turnitin](#)
- [OpenStax](#)
- [Zoom](#)
- [Respondus LockDown Browser](#)

Please visit our [Technical Requirements webpage](#) for additional information.

Accessibility and Accommodation

The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive, and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

For additional assistance please contact [FIU's Disability Resource Center](#).

Web Accessibility Statements for Partners and Vendors

- [Canvas](#)
- [Microsoft](#)
- [Adobe](#)
- [YouTube](#)

- [LinkedIn](#)
- [ProctorU](#)
- [HonorLock](#)
- [Turnitin](#)
- [OpenStax](#)
- [Zoom](#)
- [Respondus LockDown Browser](#)

Please visit accessibility.fiu.edu for additional information about accessibility at FIU.

Academic Integrity

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Conduct and Honor Code.

Academic Misconduct includes:

Cheating

- The unauthorized use of any materials, information, study aids or assistance from another person on any academic assignment or exercise, unless explicitly authorized by the course Instructor;
- Assisting another student in the unauthorized use of any materials, information, study aids, unless explicitly authorized by the Instructor; and

- Having a substitute complete any academic assignment or completing an academic assignment for someone else, either paid or unpaid;

Plagiarism

- The deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the Student's own.
- Assisting another student in the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own.

Learn more about the [academic integrity policies and procedures](#) as well as [student resources](#) that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

If you are looking for help for yourself or a fellow classmate, Panthers Care encourages you to express any concerns you may come across as it relates to any personal behavior concerns or worries you have, for the classmate's well-being or yours; you are encouraged to share your concerns with [FIU's Panthers Care website](#).

[Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don't wait to call (305) 348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal.

Inclusivity

This course will serve to embrace the diversity and inclusivity found within Florida International University. We appreciate and respect diversity, equality, equity, cooperativeness, community, and sustainability within our online courses. We are committed to the ongoing education of our students and their participation within the course regardless of gender, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, geographical location,

religion, and disability. We strive in encouraging collaboration by preparing our students to value the differences in others. At the core of our intentions is the encouragement of acceptance and appreciation of differences within our student population and community.

Copyright

The following conduct is prohibited by the Student Conduct and Honor Code. Lack of familiarity with University policy is not a defense to a violation of this Code. Unless specifically noted, the intent is not a required element to establish a policy violation. The following conduct violation or any attempt to violate the Code will be used in charging all Students or Student Organizations;

Section 5 | Conduct Violations - g. Computer Misuse

- vii. Unauthorized distribution or downloading of copyrighted materials, including but not limited to, unauthorized peer-to-peer file sharing. This is a violation whether the user is using their own personal computer or the University's information technology system for unauthorized distributions.

Copyright Statement: The materials and content in this online course are provided solely for student use during the course. Course materials may not be shared outside of the course or with any third party without the explicit permission of the instructor or content publisher. [Visit FIU Library's Copyright Lib Guide](#) to learn more about copyright law and restrictions.

Additional Resources:

- [Student Conduct and Honor Code](#)
- [Digital Millennium Copyright Act Policy](#)
- [FIU - Copyright Guidance for Students](#)
- [FIU Library's Copyright Lib Guide](#)

Course Awards



High Quality: This certification mark recognizes that this course meets Panther High Quality review standards.