



J. William Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Psychological Science

PSYC 4183: Behavioral Neuroscience

Fall 2021

Tu, Th 2:00-3:15

Memorial Hall 0242

Instructor: Josiah Leong

Office: Memorial 202F

Hours: Th 4-5 pm

Email: josiah@uark.edu

Humans feel, think, and do weird things. How does the brain make it all happen? The question remains a mystery, but past and present research in neuroscience is beginning to provide answers. This course surveys classic and modern neuroscience research and explores the future of the science.

Grades

Responses (20%)	A > 90%
Presentation (20%)	B 80-89%
Exam 1 (20%)	C 70-79%
Exam 2 (20%)	D 60-69%
Final paper (20%)	F < 60%

Reading responses and presentations

Students will pick 1 paper to read each week. The instructor will provide papers to choose from. Students will write a response to the paper. The instructor will provide a template for the response. Responses are due by end of Wednesday each week and will be graded for completion. At the beginning of each class, a pair of students will together present the paper and their response. The presentation will be graded for completion.

Final paper. Students will choose a topic in neuroscience, conduct a literature review (< 10 papers), summarize the literature, and propose an experiment to advance the research. Students will write a brief paper (< 5 pages), with an introduction, research methods, predicted results, and discussion.

Accommodations: <https://cea.uark.edu/>

Communications: email

Masks: Every human in the classroom must wear a mask. <https://health.uark.edu/coronavirus/>

Materials: google drive

Safety: <https://report.uark.edu/>

Teaching assistant: Joshua Upshaw, jupshaw@uark.edu, office hours F 12-1pm at Memorial 255

As a core part of its mission, the University of Arkansas provides students with the opportunity to further their educational goals through programs of study and research in an environment that promotes freedom of inquiry and academic responsibility. Accomplishing this mission is only possible when intellectual honesty and individual integrity prevail.

Each University of Arkansas student is required to be familiar with and abide by the University's 'Academic Integrity Policy' at honesty.uark.edu/policy. Students with questions about how these policies apply to a particular course or assignment should immediately contact their instructor.

Schedule (may change)

Week	Topic	Readings (will change)
1 (8/24 & 8/26)	Anatomy	Luria
2 (8/31 & 9/2)	Methods	DWI, ECoG, PET
3 (9/7 & 9/9)	Choice	Pavlov
4 (9/14 & 9/16)	Physiology	Cajal
5 (9/21 & 9/23)	Review and exam 1	
6 (9/28 & 9/30)	Data and statistics	Meehl
7 (10/5 & 10/7)	Perception (input)	Helmholtz
8 (10/12 & 10/14)	Motion (output)	McFarland
9 (10/19 & 10/21)	Arousal (neuromodulation)	Aston-Jones
10 (fall break & 10/28)	Exam 2	
11 (11/2 & 11/4)	Social	McDougall
12 (11/9 & 11/11)	Emotions	Panksepp
13 (11/16 & 11/18)	Clinical	Eysenck
14 (thanksgiving)	Work on paper (no class)	Zinsser
15 (11/30 & 12/2)	Hot topics	Snow, Wilson
16 (12/7 & 12/9)	Final paper	

Course:	PSYC 4183 002 - BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE	Department:	PSYC
Responsible Faculty:	Josiah Leong	Responses / Expected:	25 / 61 (40.98%)
Overall Mean:	4.79 5 Point Likert Scale (175 responses) 4.64 Excellent to Very Poor (50 responses)		

ARSC College Core: Course Questions	PSYC 4183 - 002							--- Survey Comparisons ---					
	Responses (%)					Course		PSYC			All		
	SA	A	U	D	SD	N	Mean	N	Mean	Pct Rnk	N	Mean	Pct Rnk
Q1	Assignments are related to goals of this course.												
	21 84%	4 16%	0	0	0	25	4.84	1.6K	4.75	64	32K	4.59	71
Q2	The teaching methods used in this course enable me to learn.												
	17 68%	5 20%	1 4%	2 8%	0	25	4.48	1.6K	4.51	36	32K	4.23	53
Q3	The stated goals of this course are consistently pursued.												
	20 80%	5 20%	0	0	0	25	4.80	1.6K	4.69	65	32K	4.49	74

Responses: [SA] Strongly Agree=5 [A] Agree=4 [U] Undecided=3 [D] Disagree=2 [SD] Strongly Disagree=1
Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

Demographics	PSYC 4183 - 002									
	Responses (%)									Course
	COE	COE	DBC	FJS	JWF	SMW	SOL	GS	U	N
Q4	Your College:									
	2 8%	0	0	0	23 92%	0	0	0	0	25

Responses: [COE] College of Education and Health Professions
[COE] College of Engineering
[DBC] Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences
[FJS] Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design
[JWF] J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences
[SMW] Sam M. Walton College of Business
[SOL] School of Law
[GS] Graduate School
[U] UNDECLARED

Demographics	PSYC 4183 - 002					
	Responses (%)					Course
	A	B	C	D	F	N
Q5	Expected grade					
	17 68%	8 32%	0	0	0	25

Responses: [A] A/PASS [B] B [C] C [D] D [F] F/FAIL

Demographics	PSYC 4183 - 002						
	Responses (%)					Course	
	F	S	J	S	G	O	N
Q6	Your class						
	0	1 4%	6 24%	18 72%	0	0	25

Responses: [F] Freshman [S] Sophomore [J] Junior [S] Senior [G] Graduate [O] Other

Demographics	PSYC 4183 - 002		
	Responses (%)		Course
	YES	NO	N
Q7	Course required		
	14 56%	11 44%	25

Responses: [YES] Yes [NO] No

University Core Course		PSYC 4183 - 002						--- Survey Comparisons ---						
		Responses (%)					Course		PSYC			All		
		E	G	F	P	VP	N	Mean	N	Mean	Pct Rnk	N	Mean	Pct Rnk
Q8	Overall, I would rate this course as:	15 60%	7 28%	3 12%	0	0	25	4.48	1.6K	4.51	39	32K	4.22	54

Responses: [E] Excellent=5 [G] Good=4 [F] Fair=3 [P] Poor=2 [VP] Very Poor=1
Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

ARSC College Core: Instructor Questions		Josiah Leong						--- Survey Comparisons ---						
		Responses (%)					Individual		PSYC			All		
		SA	A	U	D	SD	N	Mean	N	Mean	Pct Rnk	N	Mean	Pct Rnk
Q9	My instructor displays a clear understanding of course topics.	24 96%	1 4%	0	0	0	25	4.96	1.6K	4.82	73	35K	4.60	78
Q10	My instructor is readily available for consultation.	22 88%	3 12%	0	0	0	25	4.88	1.6K	4.61	78	35K	4.43	81
Q11	My instructor explains difficult material clearly.	19 76%	4 16%	1 4%	1 4%	0	25	4.64	1.6K	4.59	44	35K	4.22	66

Responses: [SA] Strongly Agree=5 [A] Agree=4 [U] Undecided=3 [D] Disagree=2 [SD] Strongly Disagree=1
Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

University Core Instructor		Josiah Leong						--- Survey Comparisons ---						
		Responses (%)					Individual		PSYC			All		
		SA	A	U	D	SD	N	Mean	N	Mean	Pct Rnk	N	Mean	Pct Rnk
Q12	My Instructor is fluent in English	24 96%	1 4%	0	0	0	25	4.96	1.6K	4.95	38	35K	4.78	52

Responses: [SA] Strongly Agree=5 [A] Agree=4 [U] Undecided=3 [D] Disagree=2 [SD] Strongly Disagree=1
Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

University Core Instructor		Josiah Leong						--- Survey Comparisons ---						
		Responses (%)					Individual		PSYC			All		
		E	G	F	P	VP	N	Mean	N	Mean	Pct Rnk	N	Mean	Pct Rnk
Q13	Overall, I would rate this instructor as:	20 80%	5 20%	0	0	0	25	4.80	1.6K	4.64	58	35K	4.39	71

Responses: [E] Excellent=5 [G] Good=4 [F] Fair=3 [P] Poor=2 [VP] Very Poor=1
Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

Question:	What went well in this course? Suggest ways to improve the course.
Response Rate:	56.00% (14 of 25)
1	using blackboard instead of google drive, it was difficult to track assignments and due dates, and it was hard to communicate with the professor and my classmates.
2	This course was very straight forward, which I liked. On the other hand, I would find myself getting really bored because everything was the same every week.
3	Reading all of the papers we did helped me so much with understanding how to write my own research papers for other classes this semester!
4	Make biopsychology (PSYC 3173) a prerequisite for this course
5	Josiah was an incredible teacher that clearly cared about his students and their understanding of the topics he taught in class. I liked his thorough powerpoint and the way he went about explaining and grading our papers. The one thing I think he could improve on is allowing students to spend more time on the google form quizzes. Afterwards, I would've liked there to be more time for Josiah to explain the answers. Other than that, this was a great course!!!
6	I thought the material covered was very interesting. I felt I learned alot but in a very chill/unstressful environment.
7	I really liked the demonstration with the EEG, and it would be great to have more demonstrations of neuroscience tools/ real life examples in future classes.
8	I really liked the way the course was set up and the professor sets up the course in a way that is not stressful and allows you to learn. I have no recommendations to improve the course other than slowing down the lectures so people can actually catch your personality instead of trying to scribble down notes.

9	I really liked this class but it was hard for me to take notes bc the professor talked fast and the slides only had a few points on each slide. I would of liked to have more information on each slide
10	<p>I loved how laid back this course was, but I did feel like it was almost too laid back. I think there should have been some sort of attendance, or bonus for attending, or some incentive to attend because I think that the lack of attendance hindered the ability of the class to learn from each other and have good discussions (particularly when we were working on the paper). However, I appreciated the emphasis on scientific papers and the way it forced me to be used to reading journal articles. I also enjoyed the lecture style and love how Josiah often incorporated cool scientific discoveries.</p> <p>Also, I hate using google drive for this class. Josiah is a genius and I know that he could learn blackboard. And I honestly think it would save him time.</p> <p>Overall a good course!</p>
11	I loved everything about this course! As someone with social anxiety it was really nice to have a course that pushed me out of my comfort zone and doing a presentation. Professor Leong didn't make to big of a deal out of it and actually made it a fun experience! As for all the other aspects of the course it was wonderful! I really fill like all of the assignments and tests reflected the material we learned really well. This was a really fun course and I was always excited to go to class and see what we were going to learn that day! There really isn't anything I would want to change about this course. There was some minor problems in the beginning of the course, but Josiah worked with us to improve our concerns and the rest of the course went smoothly!
12	I liked the fact that a lot of things were participation based. However, I didn't really like anything else in the class. I don't feel like I learned very much, but it was just ran differently than my other classes. I think a way to improve is to make the material more interesting to learn.
13	I liked doing presentations. I am not sure how beneficial reading articles was for me.
14	Better preparation materials for the exams might be helpful, but overall the exams were not extremely difficult or confusing. I enjoyed this course overall.

Faculty:	Josiah Leong
Question:	Comments:
Response Rate:	24.00% (6 of 25)
1	This was my favorite class this semester! Every topic was interesting!
2	Leong is amazing and really cares about the perspective of his students. To a student, that is what makes a great instructor.
3	Josiah is awesome!!!!
4	I was kind of nervous for this course because the subject of behavioral neuroscience seemed very complex or intimidating to me. I'm glad, however, that I took this class with professor Leong. He makes it easy to digest and is always open for questions. The weekly reading responses helped put in practice of understanding research articles better and I think ultimately helped when we wrote our own research paper for our final.
5	I think Josiah did a really good job and was a very good professor.
6	He was a cool teacher. I just didn't like the way he ran the class and I don't feel like much was really learned.