

Biology and Behaviour

E-112-LIAT



Year	1
Semester	Fall
Type of course	Core
Prerequisites	None
Schedule	3 hours per week for 15 weeks, 6 ECTS
Lecturer	Brynja Björk Magnúsdóttir and Magnús Jónsson
Content	
<p>This course provides an introduction to the structure and function of the main biological correlates of behaviour, including neuron and synapse, nerve-cell communication (intra- and inter-cellular); brain and nervous system structure and function; cerebral localisation; the peripheral and the central nervous systems; sensation and perception; motivation; emotion; eating and drinking; and sleep, wakefulness, and circadian rhythms. The course is intended as an introduction and is therefore suitable for students who do not have a prior background in biology.</p>	
Learning outcome - On completing the course, each student should be able to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe and name the main parts of the organs and biological units which will be discussed in the course, such as neuron, eye, and ear. • Explain the main biological processes which will be discussed in the course, such as neuron communication and the process of visual information, as well as compare similar/dissimilar processes. • Describe and compare the main research methods used in research in physiological psychology, and describe the advantages and disadvantages of each method. • Discuss the main points in the history of physiological psychology. • Use the knowledge which he or she has acquired concerning biological processes to solve new tasks, such as new but comparable problems to those found in the textbook. 	
Course assessment	
<p>Group assignment, multiple choice exam and final exam. Grades are given on a 0 – 10 point scale. The minimum grade to pass the course is 5.0. The student needs to get a minimum grade of 5.0 in the final exam and a minimum average grade of 5.0 for all course assessment.</p>	
Reading material	
<p>Carlson, N.R. (2009). <i>Physiology of Behavior</i> (10. ed). Boston: Pearson/Allyn & Bacon. Holt, N., Bremner, A., Sutherland, E., Vliek, M., Passer, M., Smith, R. (2012). <i>Psychology: The Science of Mind and Behavior</i> (2. ed). Berkshire: McGraw-Hill Education.</p>	
Teaching and learning activities	
<p>Lectures, in class exercises and discussions.</p>	
Language of instruction	Icelandic

