



## Psychology 2221a Introduction to the Biological Basis of Behaviour Summer Day

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### 1. Course Information

Course Information: Psych 2221a – 550; Introduction to the Biological Basis of Behaviour  
Instructor: Dr. Shelley Cross-Mellor  
Contact Information: [scrossme@uwo.ca](mailto:scrossme@uwo.ca)  
Office Hours: Mondays 1:30-2:30pm  
Class Location: online

Scheduled Class Times: Content video lectures will be posted asynchronously. All exams, however, will take place synchronously on-line (see class schedule). There will also be synchronous activities that you will sign up for based on your own schedule, including office hour appointments and review sessions (see class schedule). Any synchronous activities will fall on Mondays or Wednesdays 1:30-4:30pm

Prerequisites: At least 60% in a 1000 level Psychology course.  
Antirequisites: [Neuroscience 2000](#), [Psychology 2220A/B](#).

### 2. Course Description

An introduction to the principles of evolutionary biology, genetics, and physiology in relation to behavior. This course is intended as an introduction to the biological basis of behavior for students who do not have a background in biology.

### Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- a) Explain the meaning of words in the biopsychology vocabulary
- b) Describe and apply the major principles of biopsychology including
  - i. Behaviour is caused by brain activity
  - ii. Behaviour is determined by on-going events and previous experiences.
  - iii. Researchers use specialized methods to examine the biology of behaviour.  
They interpret observations to draw conclusions.
- c) Use judgement to identify the most important information and integrate elements in biopsychology

### Expected Time Commitment

This course will require a substantial amount of time and effort. You will learn the same amount of material that is typically covered during a four month course (13 weeks), but you will do so in approximately six weeks! Additionally, online courses require more reading than most face-to-face courses, so please understand these will be significant and time-consuming parts of your learning experience – **you will need to cover approximately one chapter every 2-3 days, and often three in a single week.** Students often underestimate the work that online courses require, so be advised that this will be a major time commitment for the next six weeks!

### 3. Textbooks and Course Materials

Biopsychology by Pinel & Barnes (Pearson) 11th edition, 2021

UWO Bookstore Link: [https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=HC&term=S2024&courses%5B0%5D=550\\_HC/PSY2221A](https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=HC&term=S2024&courses%5B0%5D=550_HC/PSY2221A)

- please note the Revel alternative – comes with access to the e-text plus the Revel platform which includes the extra resources provided by the publisher (e.g. animations, practice questions). Revel is an optional resource and is not mandatory or used for any evaluation purposes.

### 4. Methods of Evaluation

Test 1 – 25% (Chapters 1, 3, 4) – Wednesday July 17, 1:30-3:30pm, online

Test 2 – 30% (Chapters 5, 6, 7, 11) – Wednesday August 7, 1:30-3:30pm, online

Test 3 – 30% (Chapters 10, 15, 17, 18) – TBD by Registrar's Office August 19-20, online

Infographic – 15% - due Friday August 16 at noon (12pm) to Brightspace

**Online Tests** – all online tests will be taken on OWL Brightspace. Tests are scheduled on Wed. July 17 and Wed. Aug. 7 and will be open for from 1:30-3:30pm. These tests will be timed, once your time starts it cannot be stopped or reset – so please make sure you are in a place with adequate internet. Technical issues will not be accepted. Tests will be comprised of multiple choice, fill-in-blanks, and short answer questions and be based on the video lectures and textbook readings. These tests are closed-book, you are expected to complete these tests **alone** and not use any outside electronic resources. **Use of tools such as generative AI software (including but not limited to ChatGPT or Google Translate) is strictly prohibited and is considered a scholastic offence which is subject to penalties as outlined in the academic calendar** Offline tools (such as answer analysis, plagiarism detection software) will be used to detect cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty and reported to the Dean's office. Students will be referred to the Dean's office for academic misconduct if found sharing the content/material of tests online. A thorough understanding of the material is expected as these assessments are designed to challenge you and assess your knowledge and application of the concepts presented. The final test will also be online (OWL Brightspace) at a day/time determined by the Registrar's office sometime between August 19-20.

**Infographic Assignment** – details regarding this assignment will be posted on Brightspace. You will be required to create an Infographic based on the synthesis and application of course material. Your infographic will be submitted to Brightspace by **12pm Friday August 16, 2024.**

### 5. Tentative Class Schedule

WEEK	Week Ending	COURSE READINGS & VIDEO LECTURES
Week 1	July 12, 2024	Chapters 1, 3 & 4
Week 2	July 19, 2024	Review and Exam Prep
Week 3	July 26, 2024	Chapters 5, 6 & 7
Week 4	Aug. 2, 2024	Chapter 11 & Exam Prep
Week 5	Aug. 9, 2024	Chapter 10
Week 6	Aug. 16, 2024	Chapters 15, 17, 18

I plan to hold synchronous review sessions on **Monday July 15 from 1:30-3:30pm** and **Wednesday July 31 from 1:30-3:30pm**. While these sessions are not mandatory, I will review some of the major topics to be covered in preparation for your tests and as such your attendance is strongly encouraged.

**Please Note the Following Grading Guidelines:**

A+	90–100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80–89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70–79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60–69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50–59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

**Makeup Tests:**

Students will be allowed to write makeup tests **only** under special circumstance that have been substantiated with proper documentation. **Please note that documentation must be submitted to (and approved by) the Academic Dean’s office. Please contact me within 24 hrs of missing a test so that arrangements can be made.** Additional information regarding appropriate documentation and procedures can be found below. A student who misses a test for any other reason (or who is unable to substantiate a claim) will be assigned a grade of zero for the test. In fairness to all students, **no exceptions** to this policy will be allowed. Please note the format of make-up tests may be of a different format than the original test (often times essay style).

**6. FASS Appendix** (to be added by FASS Program Assistants)

Includes the required statements as per Senate Policy:

- Prerequisite checking – the student’s responsibility
- Statement on Use of Electronic Devices
- Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)
- Statement on Academic Offences
- Support Services



## **Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations Summer 2024**

### **Student Code of Conduct**

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at:

<https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

### **Statement on Gender-Based Sexual Violence**

Huron University is committed to building and maintaining a safe learning and working environment. As an institution and community, we are committed to working collaboratively with leaders, students, faculty, and staff to address gender-based sexual violence through prevention and response efforts. As an academic community who cares for each other and the world, gender-based violence is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. In partnership with community members, Huron will strive towards a campus that is free from gender-based violence in all forms by creating a culture of consent, gender inclusivity, anti-oppression and support, and establishing respectful policies, processes, and support that reinforce this commitment.

Huron recognizes that a culture change regarding gender-based sexual violence requires ongoing commitment from the entire community. It takes time, persistence, and active engagement from everyone to achieve our goal. Huron remains committed to working to end gender-based and sexual violence on our campus and within our larger Western community.

### **Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

### **Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred

from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here: [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)

### **Statement on Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

[Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#) . The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf).

### **Turnitin.com**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

### **Statement on Use of Generative AI**

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized use of generative artificial intelligence to create content that is submitted as one's own. Use of AI content generators (such as ChatGPT) to complete assignments without attribution or permission from the instructor is a scholastic offence. AI content detectors may be used as a tool to assess the originality of student work.

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, tablets, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

### **Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)**

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional.

Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

### **Academic Consideration for Missed Work**

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should**

**consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

### **Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence**

**(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising**

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may not collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

**b) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising**

University Senate policy, which can be found at [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](http://www.uwo.ca/academic_calendar) requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Dean. The instructor’s decision is appealable to the Dean.

**c) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email [huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca).**

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: [accommodation\\_medical.pdf \(uwo.ca\)](#). Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at [hurousss@uwo.ca](mailto:hurousss@uwo.ca) for any further questions or information.

### **Support Services**

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at

[hurousss@uwo.ca](mailto:hurousss@uwo.ca). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/> Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>  
Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1> Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>  
Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>  
Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

### **Wellness and Health Supports at Huron and Western**

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. All Huron staff and faculty have received training on responding to disclosures of Gender-Based Sexual Violence (GBSV); students should know that the Community Safety Office is a resource for survivors, providing support and, if desired, guidance while referring them to the further supports that they may require. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:



Wellness Information links <https://linktr.ee/huronwellness>

Appointment request form <https://huron.emhware.ca/self-referral>

Wellness Services: [huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca) Community Safety Office: [safety@huron.uwo.ca](mailto:safety@huron.uwo.ca)

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

Western Calendar - Policy Pages - [Academic Calendar - Western University \(uwo.ca\)](#)