



15800 Calvary Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64147

Syllabus

Course: PSY430 Physiological Psychology & The Biblical Worldview
Credit: 3 credit hours
Semester: Spring 2026 (Session #2) (March 16th-May 8th)
Time: Monday & Wednesday (8:00am-9:20am)
Room: East Education Building #118
Professor: **Dr. Luther Smith** MRS, MACP, Psy.D.
Email: luther.smith.@calvary.edu.

I. DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on the general information regarding some of the physiological responses in the body and how these responses affect our behavior, interactions, etc. The Biblical worldview will also be examined in relation to the inner workings of the physical body.

This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Know the basic terminology of the brain and its functions (PLO 4, 5, 6).
2. Know some of the basic ways the body works in relation to the brain (PLO 4, 5, 6).
3. Know the origins of physiological psychology (PLO 4, 5).
4. Explain the Biblical worldview of physiological psychology (PLO 1, 4, 5).
5. Be academically prepared for graduate level study (PLO 4, 5, 6).

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Know the different part of the brain and its function (PLO 4, 5, 6).
2. Identify the parts of the brain that are affected in neurological disorders (PLO 4, 5).
3. Learn how the brain works in relation to the body (PLO 4, 5).
4. Differentiate from the perspective of a secular humanistic worldview and a biblical worldview (PLO 1, 4, 5, 6).

Our Mission: To Prepare Christians to Live and Serve in the Church and in the World According to the Biblical Worldview

III. REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading Assignments

Reading Journals: (two (2) *full* pages each) the student will give the main points of the chapters read and reaction/reflection on the reading. The student will also share his/her own thoughts or opinions about the subject of the material. The student will also share how this information might be used in his/her own life (or not), and why. The personal reflection section may be written in the first person. There will be a total of **seven (7)** journals. **Each journal is worth 25 points** (GC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; SC 1, 2, 3).

B. Written Assignments

Critical Thinking Canvas Discussion: (two-three (2-3) paragraphs minimum) the student will examine topics concerning physiology using other sources. Each student will respond to at least three classmates with a minimum of two-three paragraphs. There will be total of **seven (7)** Canvas discussions. **Each assignment will be worth 30 points** (GC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; SC 1, 2, 3, 4).

Key Term Assignment: Student will read, write down and submit the key terms that are relevant to the chapter they are reading. There will be **seven (7)** key term assignments. **Each assignment is worth 20 points** (GC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; SC 1, 2, 3).

Physiological Psychology Assignment: (one-two (1-2) page **maximum**) student will read vignette and observe which areas of the brain and the body that may be affected. Student will write out the assignment observing the important aspects of the physiology in the vignette. There will be **seven (7)** Physiological Psychology assignments. **Each assignment is worth 25 points** (GC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; SC 1, 2, 3).

C. Quizzes

There will be seven (7) quizzes in this course. The quizzes will cover information from the lectures from the previous week and will be taken on Canvas. They will consist of true/false, and multiple choice. There will be **five (5)** quizzes. **Each quiz is worth 10 points each** (GC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; SC 1, 2, 3).

D. Final Exam: The final exam will consist of 50 questions and will cover information presented and discussed in class. The exam questions will not be taken from the textbook unless the information was also covered in class. The final will include true/false, fill in the blank, and multiple choice (or guess). **The final exam is worth 100 points** (GC 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; SC 1, 2, 3).

E. Class Participation and Behavior

Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the professor, prompt and excellent attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the educational opportunity. Students are to refrain from using cell phones and handheld devices during class. Playing games, browsing the internet, using email, instant messaging, or text messaging, etc. are considered unacceptable when class is in session. In addition, the student will be expected to contribute to class discussions in a positive manner which shows respect for the views of others. Failure to maintain this standard may result in a **full letter grade deduction from their overall grade.**

IV. METHODS

A. Teaching

1. Lectures by the instructor
2. Large group discussion
3. Research and writing
4. Projects and Presentations

B. Grading

1. Weight given to each assignment

7 Journal Summaries of reading <i>25pts each</i>	150pts	15%
7 Critical Thinking Class Discussion <i>30pts each</i>	210pts	21%
Class Participation <i>25pts each</i>	200pts	20%
7 Key Term Assignment <i>20pts each</i>	140pts	14%
7 Physiological Psychology Assignment <i>25pts each</i>	150pts	15%
5 Quizzes <i>10pts each</i>	50pts	5%
Final Exam	100pts	10%

Grading Scale

Grade Value Grade Point Value
Per Semester Hour

A	100-93	4.0
A-	92-90	3.7
B+	89-87	3.3
B	86-83	3.0
B-	82-80	2.7
C+	79-77	2.3
C	76-73	2.0
C-	72-70	1.7
D+	69-67	1.3
D	66-63	1.0
D-	62-60	0.7
F	59-0	0.0

V. MATERIALS

A. Bible

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

B. Required Textbooks

Carlson, N. (2007). *Foundations of physiological psychology*. Seventh Edition. Allyn & Bacon. ISBN-13: 978-0205519408. Retail price: \$61.80. Kindle version not available.

Note: It is your responsibility as a student at Calvary University to have your textbooks *before* class begins so that you are able to complete all of the readings assigned. Please make sure that you have all of your assigned textbooks prior to the start of class. Failure to have your assigned textbooks at the start of the class will result in receiving a zero for every assignment that must be completed.

C. Selected Readings, which will be passed out by the instructor.

VI. CLASS POLICIES

Campus/Livestream Students: Students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of courses for which they are registered (as this also counts for class participation). If a student begins a course and is unable to attend a class, he/she will not receive the points allotted for this course. There are eight (8) class sessions, which correspond to the eight-week cycle. **Each class participation session is worth 25 points.**

Online Students: The online student is to watch the recording and answer the questions provided by his/her professor (as these counts for class participation). They are to be completed and uploaded on Canvas before the next class session. If a student fails to complete this assignment within the due date, he/she will not receive the points allotted for this course. There are eight (8) class sessions, which correspond to the eight-week cycle. **Each class participation session is worth 25 points.**

Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. The use of AI generated content in student work is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated.

A Secondary Statement Regarding Using AI For All Reports/Projects

Artificial intelligence (AI) in academic use could be beneficial for you as the student. However, when misused it may limit your ability to think critically. As the professor *I cannot catch nor stop you in the act of using AI for your papers and research*. However, it is my expectation that you as the student will do your best by your ability and skill as a human being in the subject(s) that you desire to study. Below is the percentage threshold concerning the effort you place in your paper and the presence of AI within your paper.

0-10 percent of AI*	No points deducted from your paper/project.
11-20 percent of AI*	A third of your overall points are deducted from your paper/project.
21-30 percent of AI*	75% of your overall points will be deducted from your paper/project.
30+ Percent of AI	You will receive no points for the paper/project.

*Keep in mind this deduction is *added* to the points that you would lose due to other things (Improper writing style, grammar, etc.).

Writing Style

All class papers must follow the APA style according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition*. You can find APA resources under the **Getting Started Checklist** located in the *Introduction to Biblical Counseling* Course on Canvas.

Late Work

Papers, projects, etc. are due at the class period assigned. Unless under extreme circumstances, which will be determined at the discretion of the instructor. **No late work will be accepted.**

Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

Learning Center

The Clark Academic Center is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

VII. TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Week/Date	Class Topics	Assignments
Week 1	Introduction to Course Overview of Syllabus Lecture #1: Physiological Psychology and the Biblical Worldview. Lecture #2: A Brief Historical overview of Physiological Psychology	Read <i>Physio Psych</i> (Chap. 1) DUE Journal Reading #1 DUE Critical Thinking Canvas Discussion #1 DUE Key Terms assignment #1 DUE
Week 2	Physiological Psych Discussion Lecture #2: Cells and the Nervous System.	Read <i>Physio Psych</i> (Chap. 2-3) DUE Journal Reading #2 DUE Critical Thinking Canvas Discussion #2 DUE Key Terms assignment #2 DUE Physiological Psych Assignment #1 DUE Quiz #1 DUE
Week 3	Physiological Psych Discussion Lecture #3: Brief Look at Psychopharmacology (Pros and Cons), and the Brain.	Read <i>Physio. Psych</i> (Chap. 4) DUE Journal Reading #3 DUE Critical Thinking Canvas Discussion #3 DUE Key Terms assignment #3 DUE Physiological Psych Assignment # 2 DUE Quiz #2 DUE
Week 4	Physiological Psych Discussion Lecture #4: Vision and hearing Senses.	Read <i>Physio Psych</i> (Chap. 6-7) DUE Journal Reading #4 DUE Critical Thinking Canvas Discussion #4 DUE Key Terms assignment #4 DUE Physiological Psych Assignment #3 DUE Quiz #3 DUE
Week 5	Physiological Psych Discussion Lecture #5: Sleep and Reproductive Behavior	Read <i>Physio Psych</i> (Chap. 8-9) DUE Journal Reading #5 DUE Critical Thinking Canvas Discussion #5 DUE Key Terms assignment #5 DUE Physiological Psych Assignment #4 DUE Quiz #4 DUE
Week 6	Physiological Psych Discussion Lecture #6: Internal Regulation, Hunger, Thirst.	Read <i>Physio Psych</i> (Chap. 10-11) DUE Journal Reading #6 DUE Critical Thinking Canvas Discussion #6 DUE Key Terms assignment #6 DUE Physiological Psych Assignment # 5 DUE Quiz #5 DUE
Week 7	Physiological Psych Discussion Lecture #7: Learning and Memory, and Communication	Read <i>Physio Psych</i> (Chap. 12-13) DUE Journal Reading #7 DUE Critical Thinking Canvas Discussion #7 DUE Key Terms assignment #7 DUE Physiological Psych Assignment #6 DUE Quiz #6 DUE FINAL EXAM IS NEXT WEEK!
Week 8	Physiological Psych Discussion Lecture #8: Physio Psych and Disorders	Read <i>Physio Psych</i> (Chap 15-16) DUE Physiological Psych Assignment # 7 DUE Quiz #7 DUE Final Exam DUE