

ISN104

Biological Foundations of Psychology

Unit Description

The **Biological Foundations of Psychology** unit will introduce students to the following areas of biological psychology: neuron structure and function, nervous system structure and function, psychopharmacology, genetics, movement, sleep, reproductive behaviours, emotion and motivation. Students will develop an understanding of key methodologies for investigating brain and behaviour relationships, including basic skills in completing research, report writing applied to psychology, and the ability to discuss and debate critical issues related to biological psychology.

Required Textbooks and Readings

Freberg (2015) *Discovering Behavioural Neuroscience: An Introduction to Biological Psychology*, (3rd Edition). Melbourne, Australia: Cengage

*Textbooks may be subject to change prior to the start of semester

Administrative Details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Core or Elective	Level	Unit Coordinator	Other Teaching Staff
Bachelor of Psychology	One semester	Core	First year, Semester 1	Dr Chris Tailby	TBA

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Learning outcomes for Unit	Assessment tasks		
	Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Develop an understanding of key methodologies for investigating brain and behavior relationships	Exam – see above		
Develop basic skills in completing research in one of the following areas of biological psychology: psychopharmacology, genetics, sleep, emotion and motivation, reproductive behaviors and movement	Laboratory report [1500 words]	Year 1, semester 1, week 10	40%
Develop basic skills in report writing applied to psychology	Laboratory report – see above		
Develop the ability to discuss and debate critical issues in the following areas of biological psychology: Research protocols and ethics; psychopharmacology, genetics, sleep, reproductive behaviors, emotion and motivation and movement	Tutorial activities (discussion, debates, presentations)	Year 1, throughout semester 1	20%
Develop an understanding of key methodologies for investigating brain and behavior relationships	Exam – see above		



Delivery mode

Face to face on site with E-learning (online) components;

Full-time or Part-time study

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

None

Other Resource and Requirements

None

Unit weighting as a percentage of the year

Unit credit points	Total course credit points
12.5	400

Student workload

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
4 (1x2 hour lecture; 1x1 hour face-face tutorial and 1x1 hour online activities)	6	10

**Unit outlines may be subject to change. The most up-to-date outlines will be provided to students once the semester commences.*