

## Psychology 361: Neuropsychology, Spring Semester 2008

Professor: Paul Gilbert, Ph.D.  
Email: [pgilbert@sciences.sdsu.edu](mailto:pgilbert@sciences.sdsu.edu)  
Office: 6475 Alvarado Road, Suite 104 (See Blackboard site for map)  
Phone: 619.594.7409  
Office Hours: Before or after class and by appointment  
Class Times: T-Th 11:00a-12:15p, GMCS-333

### Graduate Teaching Assistants:

Adam Renteria ([adamrent@yahoo.com](mailto:adamrent@yahoo.com))  
Danielle Salomonczyk ([salomonc@rohan.sdsu.edu](mailto:salomonc@rohan.sdsu.edu))

### Undergraduate Teaching Assistants/Tutors:

Lacy Olson ([lacy.olson@gmail.com](mailto:lacy.olson@gmail.com))  
Krystle Schmidt ([krystleschmidt04@gmail.com](mailto:krystleschmidt04@gmail.com))  
Oscar Rico ([deanmoriarty882@yahoo.com](mailto:deanmoriarty882@yahoo.com))

**Required Textbook:** Zillmer, E.A., Spiers, M.V., & Culbertson, W. (2007). Principles of Neuropsychology (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed). Wadsworth Publishing. A copy of the textbook will be placed on two-hour reserve in the reserve book room of the library.

**Course Objectives:** The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the field of neuropsychology and explore how brain damage can affect various cognitive, behavioral, and affective processes. We will spend a majority of the course discussing a variety of diseases studied by neuropsychologists. However, before we can discuss diseases and brain-behavior relationships, we must first review the basic elements of neuroanatomy and brain function. We then will begin to examine the effects of brain damage in humans on specific cognitive, perceptual, affective, and motor functions. We will cover in depth a number of different clinical conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, amnesia, Parkinson's disease, stroke, schizophrenia, agnosia, aphasia, and Huntington's disease just to name a few. This course will give students a strong foundation in neuropsychology to prepare them for professional or graduate work in the field of psychology.

### **Course Policy**

**Office Hours:** Office hours will be set by appointment. In addition, I will be available for 15 minutes before and after class to talk to students. My office is located at the address listed on the front of this syllabus (a link to a map can be found on the Blackboard site for the class). My office is in Alvarado Medical Center, which is just East of SDSU on Alvarado Road. I am usually available and willing to meet with students any time during the day. If you want to see me, please give me a call and set up an appointment. Also please feel free to ask questions via email or telephone. I check my email and voice mail regularly during the day and will try to respond as quickly as possible to your questions. My email address and phone number are listed on the top of this syllabus. **If you are having problems in the class please take advantage of office hours. I am very committed to helping students who are committed to their education.** Your teaching assistants also will be available to answer questions after class, via email, or by appointment. Please take advantage of your teaching assistants. They are very knowledgeable and willing to help.

**Attendance:** Regular attendance is strongly recommended. Students should note that **exam material will come primarily from lecture material not covered in the textbook.** If you cannot attend class, it is highly recommended that you borrow notes from another student in the class.

**Class Format:** The class format will consist primarily of daily lecture, patient videos, and CD-ROM lab demonstrations. **Students are encouraged to ask questions during lecture.** Also, please let me know if I am going too fast. If any material from the lecture or the reading is unclear, please do not hesitate to ask for clarification. It is also recommended that students read the assigned readings prior to the associated lecture. Doing so will create a foundation for lecture material and will allow you to follow the lectures more easily. I

also would recommend bringing your lecture outlines and Powerpoint slide printouts to class (see below for details on downloading these items).

**Blackboard:** A Blackboard site has been created for this course at the following address: <https://blackboard.sdsu.edu/webapps/login>. Student can log onto the site using their Red ID and pin. Students can use Blackboard for downloading all lecture outlines and select PowerPoint slides for each lecture. **It is recommended that students download the items for each lecture and bring them to class.** The outlines and handouts will make it easier for students to follow the lecture and take notes. **Before each quiz, a review sheet will be posted on Blackboard and a discussion board will be posted to help students prepare for the quiz.** Grades also will be available on Blackboard. If you have any problems with the blackboard site, please feel free to call the TA or me. A Blackboard demonstration will be given the first day of class.

**Quizzes:** You will need to bring a ParScore form to each quiz. Please purchase the **red (skinny) ParScore form # F 289** from the bookstore (\$0.25 per sheet). Instead of having two major midterm exams that cover ridiculous amounts of information (each worth 1/4 of your final grade) and a massive comprehensive final exam (worth the other half of your grade), you will have five quizzes and a final quiz. Each quiz will be worth 50 points and the final quiz will be worth 75 points. The multiple quiz format will benefit you in three ways: 1) the quizzes will help you keep caught up in the class, 2) the quizzes will not cover as much material as a midterm exam would, and 3) the larger number of quizzes will help to average out a low score on a quiz.

Each quiz will consist of 50 questions. The quiz questions will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and matching questions. The Final Quiz will consist of 50 questions from the last four lectures in the class (similar to the other quizzes) and 25 cumulative questions from class. The cumulative questions will not cover small details from the course but rather large conceptual issues and integrative questions. **You will be allowed to drop your lowest quiz score of Quizzes 1-4 but you will NOT be allowed to drop the Final Quiz.**

Your three highest quizzes will be worth 50 points each (150 total) and the final quiz will be worth 75 points for a total of 225 points. **A make-up quiz will be given only under extenuating circumstances with proper documentation.** If you are unable to attend a quiz for whatever reason, then you are able to drop that quiz. **The following do not qualify as an extenuating circumstance: two exams on the same day, a family vacation, needing to work, sleeping too late, etc.** If you do miss a quiz due to a documented extenuating circumstance, you must contact me before the quiz or the day of the quiz to arrange a make-up (assuming of course the circumstances allow you to contact me). **Please do not wait a day or two to contact me if you miss a quiz.**

**Disputes on Quiz Questions/Grades:** Following each quiz, you will have two weeks to review your quiz. **Quizzes may be reviewed during the office hours of your teaching assistants or by appointment.** All disputes regarding quiz questions must be given to me in writing the class period following the return of the quiz. Please explicitly state your dispute and then after I have read your statement I will either make the necessary adjustment or we can schedule a time to discuss the matter. Simple mistakes in arithmetic etc. may be handled when the quizzes are returned.

**Grade Evaluation:** The following distribution will be used to determine your final letter grade:

<u>Final Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
94-100	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
59 and below	E

**Religious Observances:** The University Policy File includes the following statement on Absence for Religious Observances: By the end of the second week of classes, students should notify the instructors of affected courses of planned absences for religious observances. Therefore, if you foresee that the date of a religious observance coincides with a quiz date, please see me before the end of the second week of the semester. However, do not wait until the day of the quiz or the day after the quiz to ask for a make-up quiz.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. **Faculty are required to report any incident involving academic dishonesty to the University.** See the Student Code section of your Student Handbook for definitions and regulations concerning cheating and plagiarism.

**Withdrawals and Incompletes:** The University policy on withdrawals and incompletes is printed in the SDSU General Catalog.

### Course Outline

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Tu	1/22		Syllabus and Blackboard Introduction
Th	1/24	5	Functional Neuroanatomy
Tu	1/29	5	Functional Neuroanatomy
Th	1/31	4	BASIC review of brain cells and chemicals
Tu	2/5		<b>NO CLASS: Professor at Conference</b>
Th	2/7		<b>NO CLASS: Professor at Conference</b>
Tu	2/12	2	Methods in Neuroimaging
Th	2/14	3	Methods in Neuropsychological Testing
Tu	2/19		<b>QUIZ 1</b>
Th	2/21	BB*	Multiple Sclerosis and ALS
Tu	2/26	12, BB*	Stroke
Th	2/28	12, BB*	Brain Tumors
Tu	3/4	13, BB*	Head Injury
Th	3/6	8	Language and Aphasia
Tu	3/11		<b>QUIZ 2</b>
Th	3/13	8	Object Recognition and Agnosias
Tu	3/18	8	Spatial Processing and Neglect
Th	3/20	BB*	Schizophrenia
Tu	3/25	16 (pg. 451-461)	Sleep Disorders
Th	3/27		<b>QUIZ 3</b>
Tu	4/1		<b>SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS</b>
Th	4/3		<b>SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS</b>
Tu	4/8	9	Memory and Amnesia
Th	4/10	14, BB*	Alzheimer's Disease and Aging
Tu	4/15	14	Other Cortical Dementias
Th	4/17	11, BB*	Pediatric Neuropsychology (ADHD & Autism)
Tu	4/22		<b>QUIZ 4</b>
Th	4/24	7 (pg. 189-197)	Motor Control and Apraxia
Tu	4/29	15, BB*	Parkinson's Disease
Th	5/1	15, BB*	Huntington's Disease
Tu	5/6	16 (pg. 463-474), BB*	Seizures and Epilepsy
Th	5/8		<b>FINAL QUIZ (Cannot be dropped)</b>

\*BB= Click "External Links" button on Blackboard for additional, optional readings.

\*\*NOTE: This is only a tentative outline of the topics, readings, and quizzes for the semester. This schedule may be modified as the class progresses.