

## Wayland Mission Statement

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Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

## Contact Information

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**Course:** PSYC 4320 VC01 – Physiological Psychology

**Campus:** WBUonline

**Term/Session:** Spring 2 2026

**Instructor:** Dr. Peter Bowen

**Office Phone Number:** (806) 291-1179 during the day. I am in the office most of the day. After hours

**WBU Email Address:** [pbowen@wbu.edu](mailto:pbowen@wbu.edu) – please contact me directly with this email for best response.

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** Gates Hall, Room 314, Plainview Campus

- Monday 11:00 – 12:00 and 2:00 – 4:00
- Tuesday 9:00 – 10:30 and 2:00 – 4:00
- Wednesday 9:00 – 10:00
- Thursday 9:00 – 10:30 and 2:00 – 3:30

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Blackboard

## Course Information

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**Catalog Description :** Ideas about how the nervous system produces psychological phenomena such as hunger, addiction, memory, language, and mental disorders.

**Prerequisite(s):** PSYC 1301 or consent of instructor

## Textbook Information

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**Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Materials:** Discovering Biological Psychology by Freberg. Cengage 4<sup>th</sup> edition (2024). ISBN: 978-0357798232

**<<If using Wayland's Automatic eBook program, please include this statement; otherwise delete this paragraph.>>** The textbook for this course is part of the **Wayland's Automatic eBook** program. You will have access to an eBook and interactive learning material on the first day of class through your Blackboard course site. The cost of this Automatic eBook will be billed directly to your student account when you register for the course. You will be notified via email with access instructions and additional information. If you do not wish to participate in the Automatic eBook program, you will have the first 12

days of class to opt-out of the program (additional details will be outlined in your email instructions). For more information on the Automatic eBook program, visit the Wayland Bookstore [Automatic eBook FAQ](#) page.

**Course Outcome Competencies:** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe and identify the basic anatomy of the nervous system
- Describe the basic physiology and pharmacology of nervous system
- Apply these basic principles to the biological basis of psychological phenomena
- Develop a critical understanding of how mental illness can relate to the function and dysfunctions of the nervous system
- Evaluate different views of the mind-body relationship

## Attendance Requirements

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### WBUonline

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 2 or more weeks of an 8-week session, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given session is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

## University Policies

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[Link to Statement on Academic Integrity](#), and reference one of the following in regard to how generative artificial intelligence (GAI) such as ChatGPT may or may not be used in this course:

- a. Generative AI tools permitted in specific context and with proper citations.

- i. Students are allowed to use, reference, or incorporate generative AI tools into specific assignments for this course. When used, students must properly cite the generative AI tool in their submitted work.
- ii. While there is no true substitute for direct help and instruction for your instructor, students may be allowed to use generative AI tools to provide further explanations of course content, readings, and other assignments. Any use of generative AI tools to help further explain or translate to content must be properly referenced and cited.
- iii. Specific parameters for generative AI usage are provided by the instructor.
- iv. Any use of generative AI tools outside of the approved instructor parameters will be considered a form of plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

**Disability Statement:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Disability Services Coordinator and Academic Coach serves as the coordinator of students with disabilities and must be contacted concerning accommodation requests (office (806) 291-1057. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Accessibility issues with content in WBUonline courses or in Blackboard should be addressed to the WBU accessibility coordinator, Dr. Rick Hammer, [hammerr@wbu.edu](mailto:hammerr@wbu.edu) or call (806) 292-9150.

## Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

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All assignments may be found in folders set up for each week of the course. The weekly schedule is outlined in the 'Schedule' section below. All assignments for the week must be completed by 11:59 pm (Central time zone) on Sunday night. Some assignments may be available early if you want to work ahead. Discussions will need to be completed during the week assigned. Students who have circumstances which prevent them from participating or completing an assignment on time must communicate with me in order to find reasonable accommodations to complete the required course work.

One more thing: Unless directly given permission in an assignment, answers should not come directly from other sources, whether books, websites or AI. Your work should be your words and ideas. When you consult sources – even though you do not directly quote from them - be sure to cite and give credit to those sources!

**Weekly Reading Quizzes:** You will have weekly reading quizzes, covering chapters in the text. The quizzes are open book and untimed and they may be retaken as often as you like. You will get credit for your highest score. These quizzes will be very important to prepare you for the exams. The quizzes for the first 5 chapters (weeks 1 – 5) will be more intensive. The quizzes in weeks 6 – 8 will cover multiple chapters at a more superficial level. The quiz grades will total 20% of your final grade.

**Exams:** You will take THREE exams. The first will cover chapters 1 and 2, the second will cover chapters 3, 4 and 5 and the third exam will cover the remaining chapters. These will be timed and you will only have one chance to take them. The questions in the exams will be drawn from the weekly quizzes. Questions will be objective (multiple choice, etc.) like the quizzes. The average of the exams will be 30% of the final grade.

**Weekly discussion board and/or other assignment:** Each week will have a discussion board and/or another assignment to complete. Your work is not to be simply copied from another source (see academic dishonest policy). I take plagiarism seriously! Your work should be thoughtful and thorough, demonstrating your understanding of the material. Responses to other students on the discussion board should be substantive and make a contribution to the course. They should also be respectful to all other people. Discussion topics may require an initial post earlier in the week, so be sure to check the instructions. The average of these assignments will be 20% of the final grade.

**Chapter Application Projects:** You will choose TWO chapters to use for your projects. One chapter should be chosen from chapters 6 - 12. The other should be chosen from chapters 13 – 16. For at least one of the chapters that you select, you should create Powerpoint (or similar) slides show AND orally present/explain your findings. You can submit a voice-over recording within the presentation or submit a video recording of the presentation through VidGrid for your report. The presentations will be graded for clarity and quality of information and for good presentation. Each presentation should take about 10 minutes. An important part of good presentation is that you should not simply read your slides. Slides should present the main outline with you filling in the details. For the other chapter, you may do another video presentation or you may choose to submit a written report covering the same material. The written report will likely benefit if you include visuals to help support your points. The written report should be clearly written and well-proofread.

The report should cover the following:

- Overview of the three most important points from the chapter, from your perspective
- A focus on one specific aspect of that chapter
  - Describe the area of focus and why you chose it
  - Explain the main points from the text about that topic
  - Explain why this area is important to you and to society
  - Find and explain an example of research (outside the textbook) that is related to your topic. (You do not have to give highly detailed descriptions of research methods and results, but do need to explain what happened and what was discovered.) Be sure to give a citation for your source(s) in the presentation.
  - Describe an important question about this area that needs further research

These projects, combined, will count 30% of the final grade.

**The University has a standard grade scale:**

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term, within the last week of an 8-week session, or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond

the student's control. A grade of "incomplete" is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long 16-week term or 8-week session, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion. If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

**Student Grade Appeals:** Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

## Tentative Schedule

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We will focus the course on the "basics" and emphasize the first five chapters of the text for deeper study. These chapters tell you about the main parts of the brain, how brain cells work and how the brain develops its overall structure. Later chapters apply that information to specific areas of psychology. When we get to the application portions, I'll allow you to make some choices about which areas to concentrate your work.

Week	Text Chapter	Assignments	Due Date
1	Ch. 1 and Intro	Quiz, Discussion and work ahead on Week 2	TBA
2	Ch. 2	Quiz, Discussion, Exam 1	
3	Ch. 3	Quiz, work ahead on Week 4	
4	Ch. 4	Quiz, Assignment/Discussion	
5	Ch. 5	Quiz, Assignment/Discussion, Exam 2	
6	Ch. 6 – 9	Quiz, Assignment/Discussion,	
7	Ch. 10 -13	Quiz, Discussion, <b>Project 1 due by Wed (May 6)</b>	
8	Ch. 14 - 16	Quiz, Discussion, <b>Project 2 due by Tues (May 12)</b> , Exam 3	