Instructor: Dr. Jeffrey D. Triblehorn  
E-mail: triblehornj@cofc.edu  
Office location: RITA 117  
Office hours: By appointment conducted via Zoom

1. Course prerequisites and Co-requisite(s) or Prerequisite(s)

   **BIOL 352**
   
   *Prerequisite:* BIOL/PSYC 351 or PSYC 214  
   *Co-requisite(s) or Prerequisite(s):* MATH 250 or equivalent course in statistics  
   *Cross-listing:* PSYC 352

   **PSYC 352**
   
   *Prerequisite:* BIOL/PSYC 351 or PSYC 214  
   *Cross-listing:* PSYC 352

2. Course description

The second course of a two-semester series that serves as a rigorous introduction to the field of neuroscience. This course focuses on sensory and motor systems, neural regulatory systems, functional neuroanatomy and behavioral/cognitive neuroscience.

3. Instructional objectives and student learning outcomes

   a. Identify and explain principles underlying sensory system functioning  
   b. Identify and explain principles underlying motor system functioning  
   c. Describe how neurons interact to form circuits that underlie behavior  
   d. Develop oral skills in class discussions of experimental design and issues related to neuroscience

4. Required reading and materials

   **Required textbook**  

   Any additional required readings will be posted on OAKS. There may also be videos that are required for viewing outside of class. These will expand upon the material presented in class.

   **Required hardware**  
   Personal computer with reliable, high-speed internet access  
   Webcam for use with LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor
5. Course and attendance policies
- This course is intended to be conducted via in-person or synchronous Zoom lectures, two times per week for 75 minutes.
- Lectures will not be recorded.
- Although attendance is not taken, students that do not attend regularly and keep up with the material generally do not do well on exams.
- Class time/online lectures will be used to present material, provide demonstrations and view video clips. Discussions will take place in face-to-face classes and on the Discussion board via OAKS.
- Exams and quizzes will focus on lecture material (online and face-to-face) and corresponding information from the book. Handouts will be provided ahead of time on OAKS to help notetaking. Complete slides will be posted on OAKS after lecture.

6. Expectations of the students
Remember that you have a responsibility for you own education. I am here to facilitate you in this process. You accept this responsibility by being prepared, being attentive and participating in class, and reviewing materials prior to class. This course will cover a lot of material. If you are having difficulties with the material, seek help early. I can only help you if you come see me so that we can work together.

7. Reaching your instructor
If you have any questions, please use email to reach me. During the week, I will deliver my responses for emails within 24 hours. My response emails will be delivered within 48 hours on the weekend. I expect you to regularly log into OAKS to review plans and expectations for course activities and to be informed of course updates posted in the news feed on the course homepage. Please check your email regularly as I will email updates through OAKS to update you on class events and assignments. Computer failure or unavailability does not constitute an excuse for incomplete or late assignments. If you feel uncomfortable with technology, the College offers a number of resources to help you develop your technological competency, in general, but specifically within the context of this online class. Visit http://blogs.cofc.edu/studentreadinessforonlinelearning/ to access those resources. If you experience technological problems during the class, please contact me immediately at triblehornj@cofc.edu.

8. Technology Policy
There will be no use of cell phones, computers, iPhones, etc. during class. These devices are disruptive to other students in the classroom and to my teaching. If your cell phone goes off during class, you may be asked to leave for the day. All devices are to be turned off and put away (not left on your desk) until class is dismissed.

Since tablets (such as iPads) are becoming more prevalent for writing notes on handouts provided online, these will be allowed as long as using a tablet does not distract me or the rest of the class.
9. Evaluation
Grades will be based on three exams, a comprehensive final, four discussion posts, and eight quizzes (see below).

- Exams
Exams will consist of a number of question formats that may include: multiple choice, matching, short answers, short essay and figure completions. Material will be drawn from lectures, class discussions, and the readings.

The exams will be given on the dates indicated on the schedule during the normal class time online using the Lockdown Browser and Respondus Monitor.

Each student is responsible for knowing when the exams will be given as well as taking the exams on those dates.

- Quizzes
Quizzes (eight total, drop lowest) will be given roughly every two weeks, according to the schedule. Each quiz is worth 20 points. The format will mostly be fill-in-the-blank, but may also include multiple choice and/or short answer).

The quizzes will be given online on the weekends within a window of Noon Saturday until 5 pm Sunday.

Quizzes will cover material indicated on the schedule.

Online quizzes will utilize the Respondus proctoring service (see Section 15).

- Discussion posts
There will be four (4) discussion topics posted throughout the semester. These will require an initial response the first week, followed by responses to two additional posts during the second week.

Each discussion will be worth 25 points. Information about discussion posts will be provided when the first discussion is assigned.

If you are a student with special needs (i.e. a documented learning disability) and you require special arrangements for the exams or course, please refer to Section 16 below and contact me as soon as possible so that I can accommodate your needs. Please provide documentation of your special need in writing at the beginning of the semester.

10. Exam policies
If you know that you are going to miss an exam, you should inform me of this as soon as possible so that we can make other arrangements. Due to the novel situation COVID-19 provides, if you become ill such that you are unable to take the exam, you need to contact me as soon as possible so that we can make other arrangements. It would be best for these requests occur prior to the day (or night) before the exam, the day of the exam, or after the exam. I will follow up requests with a Zoom meeting with the student as soon as possible to discuss arrangements.

Keep in mind that being dishonest about an illness or COVID-related absence is a violation of the Honor Code and students violating the Honor Code will be reported to the Dean of Students.
11. Grading policy
Grades will be assigned on the basis of the number of points that you earn at the completion of the course. The number of points and the approximate percentage of the grade are indicated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>% of Grade</th>
<th>Number of Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Best Exam</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Exam</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worst Exam</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (comprehensive)</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion posts</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. Grade assignment
The combined total for all of the above will be 1000 points. Your final grade in the course will be based on a percentage of points based on the College of Charleston grading scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of Total Points</th>
<th>Point Range</th>
<th>Grade Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93% and higher</td>
<td>930-1000</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92.9%</td>
<td>900-929</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89.9%</td>
<td>870-899</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86.9%</td>
<td>830-869</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82.9%</td>
<td>800-829</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79.9%</td>
<td>770-799</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76.9%</td>
<td>730-769</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72.9%</td>
<td>700-729</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69.9%</td>
<td>670-699</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-66.9%</td>
<td>630-669</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-62.9%</td>
<td>600-629</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;60%</td>
<td>&lt;600</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. Late assignment policy
Due dates for the homework assignment and discussion posts will be provided when assigned. You are expected to turn in assignments on time. Assignment grades will be reduced by 10% for each calendar day late. No assignment will be accepted after ten days late and the grade will be a 0 for the assignment. Please note, computer failure or unavailability do not constitute an excuse for not completing assignments on time.

14. College of Charleston Honor Code and Academic Integrity
Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student’s actions are related more to a misunderstanding will handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the
Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XXF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student’s transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the XX to be expunged. The F is permanent. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration--working together without permission--is a form of cheating. Discussion posts, quizzes, and exams (administered in class or online) are individual assignments and no collaboration during the completion of each of these is permitted. All quizzes and exams are considered closed book. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others’ exams, fabricating data, and giving or receiving unauthorized assistance.

Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php

15. Online quizzes and exams with exam proctoring
This course will require the use of the Respondus proctoring service for the quizzes. The College has purchased a license for Respondus, which is a lockdown browser and monitoring software system and there is no cost to students.

If the situation changes and the College mandates a move to all online during the semester, exams will also be delivered via OAKS and require the Respondus proctoring service as well.

16. Accommodations for students with disabilities
Any student eligible for and needing accommodations because of a disability is requested to speak with the professor during the first two weeks of class or as soon as the student has been approved for services so that reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Center for Disability Services/SNAP

17. OAKS
OAKS, including Gradebook, will be used for this course throughout the semester to provide the syllabus and class materials and grades for each assignment, which will be regularly posted.

18. Center for Student Learning
I encourage you to utilize the Center for Student Learning’s (CSL) academic support services for assistance in study strategies, speaking & writing skills, and course content. They offer tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, study skills appointments, and workshops. Students of all abilities have become more successful using these programs throughout their academic career and the services are available to you at no additional cost. For more information regarding these services please visit the CSL website at http://csl.cofc.edu or call (843)953-5635.
19. Inclement weather, Pandemic, or substantial interruption of instruction
If in-person classes are suspended, faculty will announce to their students a detailed plan for a change in modality to ensure the continuity of learning. All students must have access to a computer equipped with a web camera, microphone, and Internet access. Resources are available to provide students with these essential tools.

If the College of Charleston closes and members of the community are evacuated due to inclement weather, students are responsible for taking course materials with them in order to continue with course assignments consistent with instructions provided by faculty. In cases of extended periods of institution-wide closure where students have relocated, instructors may articulate a plan that allows for supplemental academic engagement despite these circumstances. Be sure to check email and OAKS for course information during evacuations.

20. Mental and Physical Well-being
At the college, we take every students’ mental and physical wellbeing seriously. If you find yourself experiencing physical illnesses, please reach out to student health services (843.953.5520). And if you find yourself experiencing any mental health challenges (for example, anxiety, depression, stressful life events, sleep deprivation, and/or loneliness/homesickness) please consider contacting either the Counseling Center (professional counselors at http://counseling.cofc.edu or 843.953.5640 3rd Robert Scott Small Building) or the Students 4 Support (certified volunteers through texting "4support" to 839863, visit http://counseling.cofc.edu/cct/index.php, or meet with them in person 3rd Floor Stern Center).

These services are there for you to help you cope with difficulties you may be experiencing and to maintain optimal physical and mental health.

21. Food and Housing Resources
Many CofC students report experiencing food and housing insecurity. If you are facing challenges in securing food (such as not being able to afford groceries or get sufficient food to eat every day) and housing (such as lacking a safe and stable place to live), please contact the Dean of Students for support (http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/about/salt.php). Also, you can go to http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/student-food-housing-insecurity/index.php to learn about food and housing assistance that is available to you. In addition, there are several resources on and off campus to help. You can visit the Cougar Pantry in the Stern Center (2nd floor), a student-run food pantry that provides dry-goods and hygiene products at no charge to any student in need. Please also consider reaching out to your instructor if you are comfortable in doing so.