

# Biological Psychology

FOURTH EDITION

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### **Preface**

#### TO THE INSTRUCTOR (Students can read it too.)

Biological psychology is the most interesting topic in the world. I am sure every professor and every textbook author feels that way about his or her own topic. But the others are wrong; this really is the most interesting topic. It deals with the fundamental questions of what the human mind is, what its relationship with the brain is, how it works, and why we are the way we are.

My primary goal in writing this text has been to engage readers' interest. I have tried to focus on the biological mechanisms that are most relevant to key issues in psychology—topics such as the mind-body problem, the development of language and learning, sexual behavior, alcoholism, psychosomatic illnesses, anxiety, aggressive behavior, recovery from brain damage, depression, and schizophrenia. I hope that by the end of the book readers will clearly see what the study of the brain has to do with "real psychology" and that they will be interested in learning more.

Every chapter in this text has been revised. The most substantial revisions are in Chapters 1 (Global Issues), 7 (Vision), and 14 (The Biology of Learning and Memory). The organization of the fourth edition differs from that of the third in these ways:

- Chapter 6 (Sensory Systems) now covers the sensory systems other than vision, with all material on vision deferred to Chapter 7, except for material on development of the visual system, which is in Chapter 8.
- Chapter 8, Development of the Brain and Brain-Behavior Relationships, is new, although it incorporates some material previously discussed in the chapters on anatomy and the visual system.
- The chapters on depression and schizophrenia, previously separate, have been combined into Chapter 16, Biology of Mood Disorders, Schizophrenia, and Autism.
- The BioSketches have been deleted, but a number of noted investigators are pictured and quoted on the inside covers.
- All chapters except Chapter 1 are divided into modules, each beginning with its own introduction and finishing with its own summary and questions. This organization makes it easier for instructors to assign part of a chapter per day instead of assigning a whole chapter per week. Parts of chapters can also be covered in a different order.

• The most noticeable change in the fourth edition is the use of four-color illustrations throughout the text. I hope this adds to both the clarity and the enjoyment.

Instructors adopting this text for class use may obtain from the publisher a copy of the Instructor's Manual, written by Thomas Stonebraker of Greenville College. Contained in the manual are nearly two thousand multiple-choice test items, which are also available on diskette for IBM and Macintosh computers. Additionally, there is a set of overhead transparencies. A Study Guide, written by Elaine Hull of SUNY-Buffalo, is available for student purchase. I am grateful for the excellent work of Stonebraker and Hull.

I have received helpful comments and suggestions from many students and colleagues, including Stephen Black, Bartley Hoebel, Elaine Hull, William Moorcroft, Duane Rumbaugh, Thomas Stonebraker, and Thomas Wason. My special thanks to Dana Copeland for a large number of color photos of human brains. I appreciate the helpful comments provided by the following reviewers: Elizabeth Adkins-Regan, Cornell University; Peter Brunjes, University of Virginia, Charlottesville; Carl Erickson, Duke University; Dennis Feeney, University of New Mexico; Earl Hagstrom, University of New Hampshire; and Seth Sharpless, University of Colorado, Boulder. Jeffrey Willner, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, made a final check of a preliminary draft of this edition and provided detailed and extremely helpful recommendations. Early drafts of the illustrations were reviewed by Francisco Gonzalez-Lima, Robert Graham, and Robert Lansing. I thank them for their excellent suggestions.

Thanks also to the staffs of the libraries at North Carolina State University and at the Marine Biological Laboratory of Woods Hole, Massachusetts, for

helping me locate various obscure materials.

In preparing this text I have been most fortunate to work with Mary Arbogast on the writing and organization, and with Sandra Craig on the production. Both have offered excellent judgment and many good ideas; both have voluntarily put in far more effort than I could possibly have asked. I have also been fortunate to work with Kelly Murphy and Marion Hansen on the art program and with Julie Johnson on supplements. Carolyn Deacy designed the text and cover. Pat Tompkins did a thorough job of copy editing the manuscript. The artwork was prepared by Darwen and Vally Hennings, Joel Ito, Carlyn Iverson, Precision Graphics, Nadine Sokol, and John and Judy Waller. I appreciate the splendid help these people provided.

I also thank Ken King, the best psychology editor in the business and a great friend. Thanks to my wife, Ann, and my children, David, Sam, and Robin, who listened every time I wanted to talk about the latest thing I had read. And thanks to my department head, Paul Thayer, for being consistently supportive and en-

couraging.

I welcome correspondence from both students and faculty. Write: James W. Kalat, Department of Psychology, Box 7801, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7801, U.S.A.

#### TO THE STUDENT (Instructors can read it too.)

A college education serves many purposes: to prepare you for a job or for post-graduate education; to provide a background useful to such nonoccupational roles as citizen and parent; to develop your ability to analyze an issue, assemble the relevant information, reach a conclusion, and apply the conclusion; and to satisfy intellectual curiosity and generate new intellectual curiosity.

Yet another goal that we don't always talk about may be even more important: to help you develop a philosophy of life—a coherent set of beliefs about the nature of the universe, the nature of life, and the purposes of your own life; a philosophy to help you organize future thinking and determine priorities and values.

A college education promotes the formation of a philosophy of life by bringing together a wide variety of people from diverse backgrounds, with different views and values. Course work in philosophy, literature, religion, history, and the like introduce you to the views of some great thinkers. Science courses contribute by addressing the questions of what the universe is all about. Consider: The scientific theories we generally regard as the greatest include Copernicus's theory that the earth goes around the sun and Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection. We identify these theories as great because they affect our basic beliefs about the place of human beings in the universe, not because they contribute directly to our standard of living.

Some philosophies of life can be stated briefly:

- Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.
- From each according to ability, to each according to need.
- Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die.
- My country, right or wrong. I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.

My own philosophy of life—well, one of my philosophies of life—is that life is a game in which the players do not know the rules. The game starts without warning or preparation (birth); we do not know when it will end (death). We do not know the object of the game, how the scorekeeper (if any) keeps score, or what rewards or penalties might be based on one's score. Initially we play by the rules given by our parents, until at maturity we realize that our parents have no claim to ultimate authority. We must then decide for ourselves the rules by which we shall live.

To make an intelligent decision, we need to understand as much as we can about the universe and especially about ourselves. What are we? How did we come to be the way we are? Why are we conscious?

Biological psychology provides at least a few tentative answers and certainly helps to clarify the questions. This book will, I hope, provoke you to think about what we mean when we say that the brain controls behavior. We all (I presume) know that is true, and yet most of us find this fact difficult to reconcile with our experience of making conscious decisions. What is the relationship between mind and brain? If they are in some sense the same thing, what does it mean to say they are the same thing?

In this textbook you will learn a great deal of detailed information, as is necessary in any field. The point is not to learn those details for their own sake but to apply them to the overall issues of mind and brain and the fundamental questions of what we are and what our relationship to the universe is.

### **Biological Psychology**

CHAPTER ONE

The Global

Issues of

**Biological** 

**Psychology** 

#### MAIN IDEAS

- 1. Biological psychologists seek to explain behavior in terms of its physiology, its development, its evolution, and its function.
- 2. Mind and brain are closely related, but we do not know the exact nature of their relationship or what mind really is. Both philosophers and scientists would like to know whether minds could exist independently of brains, whether brains could function equally well if they did not give rise to minds, and what aspects of brain activity are responsible for conscious experience.
- 3. Direct electrical stimulation of the brain can induce behavioral changes and subjective experiences. Studies of electrical stimulation of the brain provide strong evidence that the brain is responsible for mental activity.
- 4. Many experiments in biological psychology use animal subjects. Some of those experiments inflict pain or distress. The ethics of such experiments has become controversial.

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