Synopsis

Helps apply the research findings of behavioral neuroscience to daily life. The ninth edition of Foundations of Behavioral Neuroscience offers a concise introduction to behavioral neuroscience. The text incorporates the latest studies and research in the rapidly changing fields of neuroscience and physiological psychology. The theme of strategies of learning helps readers apply these research findings to daily life. Foundations of Behavioral Neuroscience is an ideal choice for the instructor who wants a concise text with a good balance of human and animal studies. MyPsychLab is an integral part of the Carlson program. Key learning applications include the MyPsychLab Brain.

Teaching & Learning Experience

Personalize Learning

MyPsychLab is an online homework, tutorial, and assessment program. It helps students prepare for class and instructor gauge individual and class performance. Improve Critical Thinking

Each chapter begins with a list of Learning Objectives that also serve as the framework for the Study Guide that accompanies this text. Engage Students

An Interim Summary follows each major section of the book. The summaries provide useful reviews and also break each chapter into manageable chunks. Explore Theory/Research

APS Reader, Current Directions in Biopsychology in MyPsychLab

Support Instructors

A full set of supplements, including MyPsychLab, provides instructors with all the resources and support they need.

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Customer Reviews

I've used Carlson's Neuroscience books for years and find this to be an excellent up to date Behavioral Neuroscience foundation with clear interesting chapters. Love the use of clinical cases at the beginning and end of chapter to pique reader's interest as in a mystery novel. It has terrific image quality and great links to media in MyPsychkit companion. I commend the author on keeping the book manageable for a one semester course in light of this rapidly expanding technical field.

If you need the book edition that comes with "mypsychkit" do not order from here, its very misleading and says its "(MyPsychKit Series)", but DOES NOT include any access to mypsychkit online. I ordered this book assuming it was the right edition I needed because of the title and did not find out until class started, that I had to pay an extra $35 for access! Your best bet is to buy the package from the Pearson website, its the same price and a lot LESS HASSLE! Whoever typed the title is clearly a moron, because this is definitely NOT the same edition! Conveniently there’s no way to contact unless I want a refund, and now its too late to wait on the real book to be shipped!UPDATE: I feel the need to update this as I have had two review nazis leaving negative comments, when I purchased and left this review it was in 2010...since then they have obviously changed the description of the text (so it no longer says it includes "mypsych kit" anymore, as it did when I ordered it and the description was wrong) thankfully refunded me $35 of my purchase to cover the costs of having to buy "mypsych kit" from the Pearson website since they were in fact at fault. It was my first experience buying from and unfortunately was a very negative one, I have since bought hundreds of things from with no problem. The associate was very helpful and understanding of my frustration at the time and informed me that they were in fact wrong and would work on changing the description to make it accurate. Unfortunately this was not done and completely resolved until after I had left my review, it was posted not to down /the publisher/the book etc...as others have suggested (I actually suggested ordering it straight form Pearson) but was posted to save any future students/customers from going through the hassle that I had to...with that being said, all is well and seems to be correct now and having been an a loyal customer since, I would definitely recommend buying from them.As far as the book actually goes, its neuroscience, so its not exactly cake as workload is concerned, but the text /layout of the book was very well done. It reminded me of a biology book you’d have in high school (pertaining to layout and ease of reading
only). I could easily find exactly what I was looking for in the book when I needed it and the text was broken down in a way that made the complex content easily understandable! Would recommend this book! I only wish my class had been organized in the same manner! haha

Foundations of Behavioral Neuroscience is an excellent textbook aimed at an advanced undergraduate to graduate-level audience. At first, I feared the book was going to be too basic as it labored over explaining terms such as e-n-z-y-m-e and p-h-a-g-o-c-y-t-o-s-i-s. "Noooooo," I exclaimed to myself; "this book is for those who haven't even taken high school chemistry or biology!" But my early concerns proved to be baseless as the book smoothly transitioned into very good and thorough explanations of more advanced topics. Of necessity there was some overlap with the subject matter covered in other neuroscience textbooks I have read recently. After all, the textbook explicitly states that it takes up *foundations*. However, the repetitive material was very brief and was limited to only what was necessary to establish the foundation of the material to follow. The textbook really began to hit its stride once it had passed the more elementary portions and moved into the behavioral neuroscience topics such as sleep, reproductive behavior, emotion, ingestive behavior, and learning and memory. All of these areas were covered thoroughly at a level that was neither too simplistic nor overwhelmingly complex. Just like Goldilocks, I felt the textbook had found a balance that was *just right* for my own autodidactic needs. As an autodidact, though, I was frustrated by the over-reliance on the supplemental materials in MyPsychLab. I don't know if this was available on an accessory CD-ROM or DVD or on a web site, but in any case, it was not material that was available to me, except presumably for the payment of an additional fee. I wish the author had not assumed his readers had access to these supplemental materials and had not relied on them as much as he did; I would have preferred that he had applied his excellent explanatory prose and incorporated this material within the textbook itself. The text concluded with excellent chapters on communication, neurological disorders, and neurobehavioral disorders including schizophrenia, affective disorders, autism spectrum disorders and substance abuse disorders. I was not expecting to find a discussion of neuropathologies in this textbook, but I'm glad they were included because their explanations contributed to my understanding of the neuroscience of behavior. Reading this textbook was a greatly satisfying and enriching learning experience. I would be remiss in not making note of the organization of the textbook. Each chapter began with a clinical vignette, and concluded with further details about the opening vignette. I thought these vignettes were an excellent way of introducing and then wrapping up the topics covered in each chapter. The text was written in a single column with wide margins, allowing room for key terms to be highlighted
and elaborated upon in the spacious margins. The illustrations consisting of schematic diagrams and imaging studies were especially helpful. Each chapter closed with a recitation of the key points of that chapter. In summation, I thought this was a model textbook in neuroscience that other textbooks in the field would do well to follow, and I congratulate the author on finding such a successful format for presenting in a clear manner what was not simple material. The "only" thing that keeps me from giving this textbook five stars is its over-reliance on MyPsychLab and its corresponding assumption that all readers would have ready access to that material. If this content had been included within the text itself, it easily would have earned five stars.

I really like the layout and information of this book -- one of the best texts I've read. I like how it has space on both sides of the pages for notes and such, and every emboldened word is laid out neatly at the bottom corner of each page with the definition. It has a pretty laid-back writing style, and is very concise, at less than 500 pages of text -- one of the shortest textbooks I've ever had.

As a college student who’s been through at least 25 text books in her life, I never thought I’d love one enough to write a review. This textbook is hands down the best one I've ever read. The author portrays the concepts so clearly and even provides readers with extra (interesting!) information that helps you remember the material.

This textbook covered a lot of material, but was not as thorough as I would have liked for the course it was used for. I found it to stop short on many points and seemed to just skim the surface when it should have gone much deeper to give a clearer picture. If I had to choose to a textbook I think I would search a little further than this publication for my students.

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