PSYC 4606

Brain mechanisms study questions

Remember that there is no class on 9/28, but you should use the time to make sure you understand all the material for the week.

**Assignment:** Rather than coming to class, you have a very simple assignment. You need to email me any questions that you have about this week’s material. Everyone must email me by Friday, Oct 1. These do not need to be long and details emails. They should just be something along the lines of “I was not sure why...” Or “I did not understand the explanation that...” If you think you completely understood everything, email me and just say you think you understood all the material.

**Other Important Information:**
- Your first application paper on facial expressions is due at 3 pm on Tues 10/5.
- I will not be able to have office hours on Mon, 10/4, so I will have extra office hours on Fri, 9/24 at 11-11:50 and on Tues 10/5 at 9-9:50.
- You can still turn in a weekly reaction paper for this material on 9/28 if you want. I don’t think I will have email access at that time, so I won’t be able to send an email confirmation.

1. What does the research by Kluver & Bucy (1937) and Olds & Milner tell us about the role of the limbic system in emotion?
2. What does the limbic system connect with? Why are these connections important in studying emotions?
3. What hemisphere has been associated with the recognition of emotional expressions? What types of research support this conclusion? (Note that this is discussed in the text.)
4. How are the hemispheres thought to be related to the experience and expression of positive and negative emotions? What types of research supports this conclusion? (Note that this is discussed in the Davidson reading.)
5. LeDoux
   a. What are natural and learned triggers? Explain how the same innate response can be associated with each.
   b. What is LeDoux saying about the central nucleus of the amygdala and its relation to different components of the fear response?
   c. What does he mean by a high and low road to the amygdala?
      i. Why would we have both of these paths?
      ii. What does this imply about emotions, especially thinking about the Lazarus and Zajonc debate?
6. Davidson
   a. Why does he use EEG?
   b. What is he quantifying? What is his dependent measure?
   c. He is studying both phasic emotional effects and what he calls affective style (what we have defined in the past as temperament). What is the difference between the two?
      i. Describe a study that relates to each focus
   d. Davidson's findings show that positive vs negative emotions are associated with different hemispheres. How does this fit in with the research discussed in the text that showed right lateralization of emotion?

   a. What are they interested in? What motivated this study?
   b. What did they do? What were the different tasks they used and what was each designed to assess?
   c. What were the results for each task? Together, what does this pattern of results suggest?