

NEUROSCI 4850 Contemporary Topics in Neuroscience

One semester course—Two meetings per week

Course Description: A merging of pop culture and Neuroscience, this course will survey recent events and literature in the field of Neuroscience from learning and memory, neurodevelopmental disorders, the microbiome and aging. Discover why the *Wall Street Journal* calls this the “Golden Age of Neuroscience”.

Pre Reqs:

- Psych 3313: Introduction to Behavioral Neuroscience
- Neuro 3000: Introduction to Molecular/Cellular Neuroscience

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Exams & grading:

Attendance is mandatory. One excused absence, each subsequent absence results in one point from your final grade.

Quizzes (80%) and attendance (20%) will contribute to the final grade.

Office hours: by appointment

Lectures:

1. Why are there so many tests? (Learning and Memory)
2. Why are there so many tests?
3. Instructor Paper Presentations

4. Quiz / Taboo Topics (Neuroscience and Sexuality, Gender and Identity etc.)
5. Taboo Topics
6. Instructor Paper Presentations

7. Quiz / A way to a man's brain is through his gut (Microbiome)
8. A way to a man's brain is through his gut
9. Instructor Paper Presentations

10. Quiz / Nikes & Neurons (Exercise)
11. Nikes & Neurons
12. Instructor Paper Presentations

13. Quiz / The New Gladiators (Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy)
14. The New Gladiators
15. Instructor Paper Presentations

16. Quiz / Stuck on you (Parabiosis)
17. Stuck on you
18. Instructor Paper Presentations

19. Quiz / Cool Techniques (Optogenetics/Brain Machine Interface/3D Light Sheet Microscopy e.g.)
20. Cool Techniques
21. Instructor Paper Presentations

22. Quiz / Vaccines are not the problem (Autism)
23. Vaccines are not the problem
24. Instructor Paper Presentations

25. Quiz / To Legalize or Not (Marijuana)
26. To Legalize or Not
27. Instructor Paper Presentations

28. Quiz/Final Discussion