Welcome to

MCB 314 / Neur 314

Introduction to Neurobiology

Prof. Mark Nelson, m-nelson@illinois.edu

Course website

Course website:
http://www.life.illinois.edu/mcb/314/

Note: this is the only website, there is no Compass site for this course.

Some items are password protected:

User: mcb314
Pass: brainy

Lecture slides will posted on the web 24 hours in advance of each lecture; if you want a hardcopy, you’ll need to print your own copy.

MCB 314 / Neur 314

Course Overview

Multiple sclerosis
Epilepsy
Eating disorders
Parkinson’s disease
Pain regulation
Memory formation
Brain development
Aging and neurodegeneration
Sensory prosthetics
Spinal cord injury and repair

Alzheimer’s disease
Language processing
Phobias
Mental illness
Addiction
Amnesia
Attentional disorders
Romantic love
Tourette syndrome
Sleep and dreaming
Functional brain imaging
Course Overview

- Foundations (~4 weeks)
  - neurons & glia, neural signaling, neurotransmitters, structure of the human nervous system
- Sensory Systems (~3 weeks)
  - smell, taste, vision, hearing, balance, touch
- Motor Systems (~3 weeks)
  - reflexes, motor planning, action selection, spinal cord, motor cortex, basal ganglia, cerebellum
- Cognitive Function (~4 weeks)
  - attention, motivation, learning, memory, emotion, sex, sleep, language, mental illness

Recommended Text

- OR
- FOURTH EDITION
  - ISBN: 0781778174
- OR
- THIRD EDITION
  - ISBN: 0781760038

Online Resource

- Online electronic textbook for the neurosciences:
  - http://neuroscience.uth.tmc.edu/toc.htm

Exams

- 4 in-class exams, 50 minutes, 150 points
  - Exams I – IV; multiple-choice, true-false, anatomical labeling, and graphical questions
- 2 optional make-up/improvement exams, 50 min., 150 pts.
  - held back-to-back during the final exam period
  - Exam V covers the same material as Exams I and II
  - Exam VI covers the same material as Exams III and IV
  - You may take either or both of the make-up exams, even if you took all 4 in-class exams
  - No other make-ups/conflicts will be offered during the semester
- There is no comprehensive final. The two optional make-up / improvement exams described above are offered during the scheduled final exam period.
Grading

➢ Your final grade is based on the sum of 4 exam scores (150 points max per exam):

| Top 2 scores from Exams I, II & V: | 300 pts |
| Top 2 scores from Exams III, IV & VI: | 300 pts |
| Total (Max possible): | 600 pts |

➢ Final grades are assigned using a fixed scale.

See table on the next slide for point cutoffs.

Grading scale (out of 600 points)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Point Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>top 5% of class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>&gt;= 545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>525-544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>505-524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>485-504</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>465-484</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>445-464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>425-444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>405-424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>385-404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>365-384</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>345-364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;= 344</td>
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</table>

Exam Dates 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day/Date</th>
<th>Exam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon, 9/25</td>
<td>Exam I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, 10/20</td>
<td>Exam II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed, 11/08</td>
<td>Exam III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon, 12/11</td>
<td>Exam IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon, 12/18, 1:30p</td>
<td>Exam V  (optional make-up / improvement)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon, 12/18, 2:30p</td>
<td>Exam VI (optional make-up / improvement)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No other make-ups/conflicts will be offered during the semester.

Plan accordingly... decide NOW whether or not the exam schedule presents a problem for you (particularly the makeup exams).

If you want the flexibility to take Exams V and VI, do not schedule holiday travel earlier than the exam date.

Contact Info

Course Instructor

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Course TA

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