



PSYC 620.28

Neuroscience Seminars

Winter 2019

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|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Instructors: | Richard Dyck | Lecture Location: | TBD |
| Phone: | 403-220-4206 | Lecture Days/Time: | F 12:00-2:00pm |
| Email: | rdyck@ucalgary.ca | | |
| Office: | AD28 | | |
| Office Hours: | By appointment | | |

Course Description

This course will expose students to current, state-of-the-art research in neuroscience in a seminar-series format. The Hotchkiss Brain Institute weekly seminar series brings together researchers, graduate students, undergraduate students and clinicians in a forum that allows broad discussion of research and its application to neuroscience and healthcare. The topics cover numerous aspects of experimental neuroscience and the speakers include national and international leaders in their respective fields. The seminars are held on Fridays from 12:00 – 12:50pm.

In addition, students in the course will have the opportunity to meet with the seminar speakers immediately following the seminar, where they have the opportunity to discuss aspects of their own research and of professional development with the speaker, and network with other neuroscience trainees at the University of Calgary.

Required Text

There is no required text.

Evaluation

The final course grade will be based on:

- 1) Attendance at seminars and speaker meetings (50%)
 - a. Twelve seminars are scheduled weekly between January 18 and April 26 (see tentative schedule, below). Students must attend 10 of the weekly seminars, as well as the post-seminar meetings with the speaker
- 2) Thought paper (50%; 10 X 5% each)
 - a. Maximum 2-page, double-spaced thought paper on the research that is presented at each seminar. The thought papers should have a clear structure and have an introduction, a body, and a conclusion. The introduction should be one paragraph that concludes with your own thesis, written in a concise and focused form. The body of the paper supports your thesis. Your thoughts/ideas should be clear and logically organized. Your thoughts should be analytical and defend your point of view. The concluding paragraph should include a summary and a comment which focuses your thoughts

and/or makes predictions for future experiments. Thought papers are due within 7 days of the corresponding seminar.

- b. Marking Scheme for Thought papers:
 - i. Writing (5 points). Clarity and organization of writing. Relevance. Accuracy of information.
 - ii. Your own thoughts (5 points). Evidence of independent, critical thinking. Justification of thoughts. Uniqueness of thoughts (simple summary<methodological assessment<critique of the research or new view on the topic or alternative interpretation of the results, or suggesting a new experiment)

Department of Psychology Criteria for Letter Grades

Psychology professors use the following criteria when assigning letter grades:

A+ grade: *Exceptional Performance*. An A+ grade indicates near perfect performance on multiple choice and short answer exams. For research papers/essays/course projects/presentations, an A+ grade is awarded for exceptional work deserving of special recognition and is therefore not a common grade.

A, A- Range: *Excellent Performance*. Superior understanding of course material. Written work is very strong in terms of critical and original thinking, content, organization, and the expression of ideas, and demonstrates student's thorough knowledge of subject matter.

B Range: *Good Performance*. Above average understanding of course material. Written work shows evidence of critical thinking and attention to organization and editing but could be improved in form and/or content.

C Range: *Satisfactory Performance*. Adequate understanding of course material. Knowledge of basic concepts and terminology is demonstrated. Written work is satisfactory and meets essential requirements but could be improved significantly in form and content. Note: All prerequisites for courses offered by the Faculty of Arts must be met with a minimum grade of C-.

D range: *Marginally meets standards*. Minimal understanding of subject matter. Written work is marginally acceptable and meets basic requirements but requires substantial improvements in form and content. Student has not mastered course material at a level sufficient for advancement into more senior courses in the same or related subjects.

F grade: *Course standards not met*. Inadequate understanding of subject matter. Written work does not meet basic requirements. Student has not demonstrated knowledge of course material at a level sufficient for course credit.

Grading Scale

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---------|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|
| A+ | 96-100% | B+ | 80-84% | C+ | 67-71% | D+ | 54-58% |
| A | 90-95% | B | 76-79% | C | 63-66% | D | 50-53% |
| A- | 85-89% | B- | 72-75% | C- | 59-62% | F | 0-49% |

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.

In this course there will be no rounding up of final grades, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research participation. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

| Date | Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date |
|----------|--|
| F Jan 11 | Introduction; Course overview; Room TBD |
| F Jan 18 | Chris Dulla; https://sackler.tufts.edu/facultyResearch/faculty/dulla-chris |
| F Jan 25 | Gail Eskes; https://www.dal.ca/diff/eskes.html |
| F Feb 8 | Michael Gold; http://lsi.ubc.ca/person/michael-gold/ |
| F Feb 15 | Gwyneth Card; https://www.janelia.org/lab/card-lab |
| F Mar 1 | Marina Picciotto; https://medicine.yale.edu/bbs/people/marina_picciotto-1.profile |
| F Mar 8 | Karen Davis; https://www.uhnresearch.ca/researcher/karen-d-davis |
| F Mar 15 | Bob Datta; http://datta.hms.harvard.edu/research/overview/ |
| F Mar 22 | David Kleinfeld; https://neurophysics.ucsd.edu/index.php# |
| F Mar 29 | Larry Zweifel; https://depts.washington.edu/zweifel/about.html |
| F Apr 5 | Gerard Sanacora; https://medicine.yale.edu/psychiatry/people/gerard_sanacora-1.profile |
| F Apr 12 | Valeria Cavalli; http://neurosci.wustl.edu/cavallilab |
| F Apr 19 | Good Friday, no lecture |
| F Apr 26 | Melissa Herman; https://www.med.unc.edu/pharm/people/primaryfaculty/melissa-herman |
| F May 3 | Conor Liston; https://www.listonlab.net |
| F May 10 | Brian Dias; http://www.yerkes.emory.edu/research/divisions/behavioral_neuroscience/dias_brian.html |
| F May 17 | Stephan Lammel; https://www.lammellab.org |
| F May 24 | CAN meeting, no speaker |

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class; no reappraisal of term work is permitted after the 15 days. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal,

and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodations

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy. Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy. Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the instructor.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are **NOT** an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have up to 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam during exam make-up hours provided by the department <http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/exam-and-course-information#mues>. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final.

Travel During Exams

Consistent with University regulations, students are expected to be available to write scheduled exams at any time during the official December and April examination periods. Requests to write a make-up exam because of conflicting travel plans (e.g., flight bookings) will NOT be considered by the department. Students are advised to wait until the final examination schedule is posted before making any travel arrangements. If a student cannot write their final exam on the date assigned by the Registrar's Office, they need to apply for a deferred exam http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred_final.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act

The FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having student's retrieve tests and assignments from a public place. Therefore, tests and assignments may be returned to students during class/lab, or during office hours, or will be made available only for viewing during exam review sessions scheduled by the Department. Tests and assignments will be shredded after one year. Instructors should take care to not link students' names with their grades, UCIDs, or other FOIP-sensitive information.

Acknowledgments and Respect for Diversity

Our classrooms view diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion. The Department of Psychology would also like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>. Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 130 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suypaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman's Office

The Office of the Student Ombudsmen provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. The office can be reached at 403-220-6420 or ombuds@ucalgary.ca (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>)

Safewalk

The safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus. This service is free and available 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year.
Call 403-220-5333.

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no “W” notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **January 17, 2019**. Last day to add a course is **January 18, 2019**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **April 12, 2019**.