Course Description

This course presents an introduction to the biological basis of behaviour. We will introduce topics relevant to behaviour in the normal and abnormal states beginning with sensory perception, attention, movement, emotion and language with experimental examples from our labs and clinical studies\research illustrating the effects of impaired brain function. We will begin an introduction of topics such as: How does plasticity occur in the brain? Can music and dance help brain function? What is neurorehabilitation?

Learning Objectives

1. This course presents an introduction to the fundamentals of physiology of behaviour. At conclusion of the course you will understand the brain’s input and output
2. Understanding how we process sensory information from the world
3. Understand how motor functions are accomplished in our brain
4. Exposure to topics within Society for Neuroscience (www.sfn.org)

Prerequisites

1. AK/AS/HH/SC/PSYC1010 6.0 or AK/PSYC2410 6.0 with a minimum grade of C.

Course Format

Lectures/discussion/movies with textbook reading assignments and use of podcasts and internet resources.

Readings

The course will use’s Kalat’s (12th Edition). The text will be supplemented with internet resources, movies and lectures.
Final mark will be based on:

Quizzes – During random classes there will be a 5-10 minute quiz. If you are late for class there are no make up quizzes. If you miss a quiz there are no makeup quizzes. The quiz will be on a topic from the current lecture and/or previous material you should know and understand. BE ON TIME! Any missed quiz you WILL need to give a doctor’s note to my faculty secretary (see above), otherwise you receive 0 for that quiz. e.g. Hypothetical student’s quiz calculation, if you completed only 3 of 5 quizzes during the term. You only dropped 1 doctor’s note to our Faculty Secretary (rm282 BSB) within 8 days of the missed quiz. Thus, one zero mark is replaced with a note and you completed the 3 quizzes (80%; 80%; 90%). Thus, we will calculate your mark as follows (0+note+80+80+90) = 56.7%

DO NOT HAND ME A DOCTORS NOTE AFTER CLASS – I WILL loose it. DO NOT EMAIL ME A NOTE SINCE I WILL DELETE IT. FOLLOW THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS.

Midterm exam 1 in class [WEEK 5] (TBD). 2hr exam followed by lecture - 80% Multiple choice and 20% short answer (space of ~5 lines). There will be no makeup exams for Midterm exam 1. If you miss a midterm your final exam will be worth 27% more (no exceptions). If you miss the exam no doctors note is needed

Midterm exam 2 in class [WEEK 8](TBD) 2hr exam followed by lecture - 80% Multiple choice and 20% short answer (space of 5 lines). There will be no makeup exams for Midterm exam 2. If you miss the midterm your final exam will be worth 33% more (no exceptions). If you miss the exam no doctors note is needed

Last Exam in class [WEEK 12] (all material) 3hr exam on all material in all lectures and course readings).
Please note: I will probably not answer e-mails regarding class material in the last 5 days before the exam so please prepare them ahead of time in my office hours after class. If you miss the last exam yes you need a doctors note this time. Your makeup exam will have no multiple choice questions and will be all essay and short answer questions.

Participation in class, online discussion in moodle, completion of online tutorial on academic integrity (see below for link).

E-mail etiquette
We will respond to e-mails during Monday to Friday within 99 hrs. During the weekend e-mails will not be read.

Academic Integrity
Please go to the website and complete the tutorial at York University (http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity), to read the section ‘For Students,’ and to complete the Academic Integrity Tutorial: (http://www.yorku.ca/tutorial/academic_integrity/).

Ideally, when you were in first year you should have been required to complete the Academic Integrity Tutorial as part of your course. If you have it please e-mail the certificate of completion to the teaching assistant at your earliest convenience. We will accept these until we submit the final mark near the end of the exam period.