

## **COURSE OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this course is to survey the recent advances in neuroscience research. This course employs a seminar-based curriculum and, as such, you will find the nature of this course to be unlike many of the courses you have taken to date. Due to its smaller size, both collaborative and independent learning are important features that are integrated into this course. Moreover, this seminar course is much like the type of learning experience you would gain in either graduate or medical school.

Since this is a survey course, students contribute to the curriculum by selecting a suitable topic upon which to present to the class by way of a formal presentation. Given the multi-disciplinary nature of neuroscience, topics that are worthy of consideration will vary in keeping with the latest literature and student interest. Each presenter will also assign appropriate readings to prepare the audience for the forthcoming topic and allow for a collaborative exchange following each presentation.

Throughout the term, quizzes will be administered that relate to the content covered in the course thus far. This includes material from assigned readings from presentations by both the instructor and fellow classmates.

Students will also use this their chosen topic to write formal review paper that will be due at the end of the term. The term paper is expected to more comprehensive in both breadth and depth relative to the seminar presentation that is delivered during lecture.

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

All course materials including links to lecture slides, assigned readings, links to media, and component grades will be made available exclusively on the [Blackboard Learning Portal](#). Please be sure to check this site regularly to keep up with the calendar and postings made for this course.

## IMPORTANT NOTES

### Prerequisites

This course requires the following two course prerequisites: NROC61H3 (Learning and Motivation) & NROC64H3 (Sensory and Motor Systems).

### Academic Integrity

The **Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters** outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to: 1) using/possessing unauthorized aids or looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test; 2) misrepresenting your identity or falsifying/altering any documentation required by the University such as doctor's notes.

### AccessAbility Resources

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach the instructor and/or AccessAbility Services as soon as possible. AccessAbility Services staff (located in Room SW302, Science Wing) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations: 416-287-7560 & email: [ability@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:ability@utsc.utoronto.ca).

## SESSIONAL DATES

### Dates

January 5

January 18

February 16

February 17-21

March 22

March 22

April 3

April 6

April 9

April 10-25

### Detail

Winter Session classes begin

Last day to add S courses

Family Day holiday (University closed)

Reading Week (No classes held)

Last day to drop S courses without academic penalty

Last day to add or remove CR/NCR for S courses

Good Friday (University closed)

Last day of classes for S & Y courses with Friday lectures

Last day to drop S & Y courses with a LWD indication

Final examinations is S & Y courses

# **GRADING SCHEME**

## **Attendance & Participation**

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class and marks will be awarded for regular attendance. Participation will be graded each class by way of asking questions and generating class discussion (all or none each class). Lastly, marks for these two course components will be divided equally toward your final grade.

## **Presentation**

Students will be required to choose a suitable topic upon which to prepare and deliver a seminar presentation. Each student will also assign one or more suitable readings for the class to read beforehand. The duration of each presentation should be ten to fifteen minutes which will be followed by five minutes of questions and/or class discussion.

The evaluation of each presentation will be, in part, based on the presenter's demonstrated knowledge of their chosen topic. This will be assessed by way of the organization of material, the delivery, and the presenter's ability to field audience questions.

All of the equipment required to deliver each presentation will be provided by the instructor. Students are expected to prepare their presentation in Microsoft PowerPoint format as this is the software that is available with the provided equipment in the seminar room. Further information regarding the Presentation component will be detailed on Blackboard.

## **Quizzes**

Throughout the term, beginning in the fourth week, there will be weekly quizzes at the beginning of each class. These quizzes will be based on material covered in the course to date which includes assigned readings and lecture material by both the instructor and fellow classmates. These quizzes will be electronically administered through Blackboard. The lecture room, SW316, is equipped with laptop computers to allow for this method of regular evaluation. Completion of these quizzes will also serve as a means of attendance recording. If a student is absent from a class due to illness or other extenuating circumstance, they must contact the instructor as soon as reasonably possible.

## GRADING SCHEME (continued)

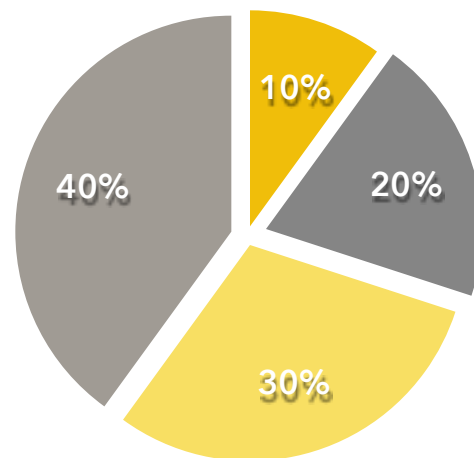
### Term Paper

Students are required to complete a comprehensive review paper that is based on a topic of their choice that is also pre-approved by the instructor. This topic should be suitable for a length of review paper that is fifteen to twenty pages content pages (i.e., excluding title page, abstract, references, etc).

Grading will be based on style, clarity and scholarship (third-person style). APA style is required and will be an essential component of the grade allocated to this assignment. Please also note that this assignment is due on the last day to submit term assignment in winter courses. Papers are to be prepared in Microsoft Word format (i.e., .doc) and submitted electronically to the Turnitin website (see next two paragraphs) before midnight on the due date. For every day that a paper is late, 20% will be taken off the total possible grade that could be allocated to the assignment. It is highly recommended that you submit your paper well in advance of the evening to avoid any technical issues that may arise etc.

*Students will be required to submit their review papers to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism.\* The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site. If Turnitin is not used, students will be required to submit their rough notes and hard copies of the references that they sourced within their assignments.*

● Attendance      ● Quizzes  
● Presentation    ● Term Paper



*\*This includes comparisons to papers completed by other members of this course as well as students who have previously completed assignment in this course.*