



Syllabus

Neuropsychology PSYC 424

Units: 4
Spring 2016, Tue-Thu, 10:00-11:50 AM

Location: KAP 148
Course Instructor/ Director: Antoine Bechara
HNB B26

Office Hours: Tue-Thu 9:00-10:00 AM
Also by appointment
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Teaching Assistant: Alex Hollihan
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IT Help: NA
Hours of Service: NA
Contact Info: NA

Course Description

The course consists of three major sections: Overview of Neuroanatomy, Neurological Illnesses, and Neuropsychological Syndromes. These sections are delivered in the form of lectures, and clinical cases on patients with neurological lesions or diseases. The course material is interrelated throughout these forms of teaching, giving students multiple ways of learning the material.

Learning Objectives

The objectives of the course are: (1) to introduce basic concepts about the organization, structure, and function of the human central nervous system; (2) to enable students to apply these fundamental principles toward understanding nervous system function and dysfunction and toward clinical problem-solving in relation to neurological and neuropsychological disorders; (3) to provide the necessary background for correlation with related courses, for advanced study of the nervous system, and for monitoring new developments in the basic and clinical neurosciences.

Prerequisite(s): Undergraduates in junior or senior year are allowed to enroll (no specific prerequisites).

Co-Requisite (s): none

Concurrent Enrollment: none

Recommended Preparation: PSYC 100

Course Notes

Slides used in lectures, and in class presentations, will be posted on Blackboard and accessible to registered students.

Attendance and Student Responsibilities: Students are held responsible for all material covered in class. Students are also responsible for all announcements or schedule changes that are made in class, whether or not they are in attendance. Attendance at examination is mandatory, except for illness. For other serious matters, students must receive permission in advance from the Instructor to be excused from attending an examination at the scheduled time.

Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required

NA

Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

No specific textbook is required for the course. Course syllabus, lecture materials, and clinical cases will be posted on Blackboard as the course progresses. All materials for midterm tests and final exam come from class and Blackboard.

Recommended for Readings: However, for additional knowledge and enrichment of neuropsychology background, additional readings are recommended from the following textbook:
John Stirling and Rebecca Elliott: *Introducing Neuropsychology*, 2nd Edition, Psychology Focus, 2008.

Description and Assessment of Assignments

There will be 3 midterm exams covering lectures and practical/ clinical cases, and a final examination.

Grading Breakdown

Final grades will be calculated as follows:

Midterm 1	25%
Midterm 2	25%
Midterm 3	20%
Final Exam	30%
Final Grade	100%

Assignment Submission Policy

NA

Additional Policies

NA

Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown

	Topics/Daily Activities	Readings and Homework	Deliverable/ Due Dates
Overview of	Neuroanatomy:		
Week 1 Jan 12 Jan 14	1. Course Introduction 2. CNS Blood Supply, Spinal Cord	Suggested from S and E: Chapters 1, 2, and 5	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.
Week 2 Jan 19 Jan 21	3. Brainstem, Cranial Nerves (1) 4. Cranial Nerves (cont'd); Cerebellum; Basal Ganglia	Chapter 5	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.
Week 3 Jan 26 Jan 28	5. Thalamus; hypothalamus 6. Cerebral Cortex	Chapter 5	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.
Week 4 Feb 2	7. Mid term test 1		
Neurological	Illnesses:		
Feb 4	8. Clinical Cases: Case Based Learning	Handout posted on Blackboard	Come prepared to discuss clinical cases in class.
Week 5 Feb 9 Feb 11	9. Neurological exam: motor and sensory, cerebellar, basal ganglia, and cranial nerves 10. Neurological exam: mental status and coma	Chapters 2, 4, and 5	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.
Week 6 Feb 16 Feb 18	11. Stroke 12. Dementia	Slides posted on Blackboard	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.
Week 7 Feb 23 Feb 25	13. Trauma, tumors, infections, epilepsy 14. Parkinson's and basal ganglia disorders	Slides posted on Blackboard	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.
Neuropsych	Syndromes:		
Week 8 March 1 March 3	15. Clinical Cases: Case Based Learning 16. Memory 1	Handout posted on Blackboard Chapter 7	Come prepared to discuss clinical cases in class.
Week 9 March 8 March 10	17. Memory 2 18. Review and catch up. Prep for WASI, WCST, IGT	Chapter 7	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.

Spring	Break March 14-20		
Week 10 March 22 March 24	19. Mid term test 2 20. Practical demo of clinical screening for neuropsychology evaluation: (1) WASI- Wechsler Abbreviated Scale of Intelligence (2) WCST-Wisconsin Card Sorting Task (3) IGT- Iowa Gambling Task By Alex Hollihan		
Week 11 March 29 April 1	21. Frontal lobe syndromes 1 22. Frontal lobe syndromes 2	Chapter 11	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.
Week 12 April 5 April 7	22. Emotion 1 23. Mid term test 3	Chapter 10	
Week 13 April 12 April 14	24. Emotion 2 25. Neglect	Chapter 10 Chapter 9	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.
Week 14 April 19 April 21	26. Aphasia 27. Disconnection syndromes	Chapter 6 Chapter 3	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.
Week 15 April 26 April 28	28. Agnosia 29. Apraxia	Chapter 8	Come prepared for all slides and handouts posted on Blackboard for this week.
FINAL Date			Date: For the date and time of the final for this class, consult the USC <i>Schedule of Classes</i> at www.usc.edu/soc .

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Section 11, *Behavior Violating University Standards* <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity* <http://equity.usc.edu/> or to the *Department of Public Safety* <http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us>. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. *The Center for Women and Men* <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

Support Systems

A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the *American Language Institute* <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. *The Office of Disability Services and Programs* http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, *USC Emergency Information* <http://emergency.usc.edu/> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.