Introduction to Psychobiology and Cognition

Course Information
Course Number: PSY 110 (PSYC_OX 110)
Semester: Fall 2020
Meeting Time and Place: Mon/Weds 6:00-7:15, Oxford Chapel

Instructor Contact Information:
Instructor Name: Dr. Andrew Neff
Office Location: Virtual (email to schedule)
ZoomID: 923 9993 4197
Office Hours: Tues/Thurs, 930am-11am
Phone: 248-770-7841 (email preferred)
Email Address: Andrew.Neff@Emory.edu

Textbooks & Resources
All reading assignments will be posted on Canvas (no textbook required)

Course Format
This course will hold 1-2 in-person meetings per week to review and discuss key points from the readings. Grading is primarily based on interaction on an online discussion board and four multiple-choice quizzes/exams.

Course Description
This course will take a long-term view of psychology, trying to understand current knowledge in reference to ultimate goals. As psychology is sometimes considered an emerging science, this class will strive to balance rigorous scientific research with your own reason. Throughout the semester, we'll talk about how neuroscience may revolutionize our understanding of the mind, focusing on the logical and technical foundations of neuroscience research.

Grading Scale
Course Outline

Unit 1: Introduction
1. Historic Trends In Psychology

Exam September 2

Unit II: Technology
2. Metacognition (Self-knowledge)
3. Imaging the Brain
4. Manipulating the Brain

Exam September 30

Unit III: Big Things
5. Language
6. Brain Regions
7. Consciousness
8. Brain networks

Exam October 21

Unit IV: Small Things
9. Intelligence
10. Genetics
11. Learning & Memory
12. Cell Biology

Exam December 11, 6:30–9:00 PM
Assignments

i) **Introductory Survey**: 5% of final grade
   - Take the survey and respond thoughtfully, you will be graded (very gently) on effort. A link to the survey will be posted in Canvas.

ii) **Career/Personal Connection**: 5%
   - How could cognitive psychology & neuroscience be useful in your life? You will be graded (again, gently) on effort. Find the complete assignment instructions posted on Canvas.

iii) **Exams (4)**: 50%
   - One exam for each unit, all multiple-choice questions. Your lowest exam score will be dropped.

iv) **10 Discussion Posts**: 10% for completion, 20% for quality
   - Ask a question related to course content, answer it in 300 (±50) words. Write about 10 topics from the 13 units, but ONLY TWO will be graded at random. Essays for each unit will be due during the week of the exam. Find the complete assignment instructions posted on Canvas.

v) **10 Discussion Responses**: 10%
   - In ~280 characters, respond to another student’s essay. Both essays and responses for each unit are due on the week of the exam. Find the complete assignment instructions posted on Canvas.

vi) **Extra Credit**: <50%
   - Extra credit will show up on exams and assignments. Also, you can earn 10-50% of course credit for completing large extra credit assignments (yes, 50%). Find the complete assignment instructions posted on Canvas. Email me during the first two weeks if you're interested, as these assignments are time-consuming.

Attendance Policy

There are no attendance points. However, I strongly encourage you to show up for the first three weeks. After this, if you think you can learn better on your own, please feel free to do so, but, please, tell me why (via email). I was a student who would rather work independently, so understand that you will not be judged.
Email Policy
- What to call me? professor Neff, doctor Neff, esteemed professor, whatever best suits you.
- If you have a question about this class, please reach out, but also, be considerate; I have a lot of students, and I’ve spent a ton of time creating resources that will answer many of your questions. Please feel comfortable emailing me after you’ve looked through this syllabus, Canvas, and course announcements.

Managing Online and Hybrid Classes (but really, any class)
- Exchange contact info with at least one other student
- Stay active on discussion boards
- Check your emails often (every day or two)
- Be sure you’re receiving notifications from Canvas
- Read this [Reddit thread](https://www.reddit.com) on taking an online class

How much work should you do in this class?
- **7.5 hours per week**: 16 credits is considered full time at Emory. With a 40 hour workweek, each credit should expect 2.5 hours per week. As a three-credit course, you should spend 7.5 hours per week. About 2.5 of which are in class, leaving 5 hours for readings, writing assignments, and studying.
Important Fall 2020 Dates

- August 19 First day of classes
- August 26 Add/Drop/Swap ends 11:59pm
- September 20 Labor Day (classes meet)
- September 11 Final day to submit degree applications
- October 9 Last day to change S/U or Grading option
- October 9 Last day for partial withdrawal without penalty
- November 6 Last day for one-time partial withdrawal without penalty
- November 24 Last day of classes
- Nov 30 – Dec 2 Reading Days
- Dec 3 – Dec 16 Final Exam Period

Writing Center and English Language Learners (ELL) Program

Tutors in the Emory Writing Center are available to support students of Emory College, Laney Graduate School, and the School of Nursing as they work on papers, discussion posts, websites, and other projects. Writing Center tutors work on idea development, structure, use of sources, grammar, and word choice. They do not proofread for students. Instead, they discuss strategies and resources students can use as they write, revise, and edit their own work. Tutors also support the literacy needs of English Language Learners; several tutors are ELL Specialists, who have received additional training. Learn more about the Writing Center and make an appointment through the EWC website: http://www.writingcenter.emory.edu/. The OWC is located in Pierce Hall 117, and appointments are recommended but not required. For more information, please visit the website at https://inside.oxford.emory.edu/academics/writing-center/index.html.

Academic Advising

Students who have an academic concern or question about Emory College of Arts and Sciences policies or who seek supplemental advising to that of their faculty pre-major or major advisors can seek advising from an Office for Undergraduate Education (OUE) staff. Academic advisors are assigned alphabetically. If an academic advisor is unavailable and the situation is time-sensitive, students may email oue.advising@emory.edu to determine how we can connect you. To schedule, visit: http://college.emory.edu/connect

Academic Support

There is a range of resources available to Emory undergraduates designed to enrich each student’s educational experience and support their academic progress. Visit
Teaching and Learning during the Pandemic

I want our classroom community to thrive no matter the classroom delivery method or your individual methods of participating in class. I cannot guarantee an identical experience for students who cannot be physically in the classroom or an experience that is identical to pre-pandemic semesters, but my goal is to treat all students equitably and to ensure grading is clear, consistent, and fair for all of you.

This semester is unusual in that there is a pandemic. This class has remotely taught components, and may have to shift from in-person to remotely taught at some point this semester. Additionally, some students in this class may need to be off-campus for some portion of the semester. My goal is for all students to receive a high-quality experience to the extent possible. To that end, during the summer I participated in Emory University's workshops on online teaching methods, and I am prepared to teach this class remotely as needed.

Due to the unusual nature of the semester, communication is important. I commit to responding to emails within 48 hours of receipt, and my intention to respond faster than that most of the time. I will likely be slower on weekends. Likewise, if your situation changes regarding health, housing, or in any other regard with respect to your ability to participate in the class, please contact the appropriate Emory student support organization first and then me as soon as feasible. It is easier for me to address your needs if I know about them as soon as they arise. This does not mean I can successfully respond to every request for consideration, but I emphasize that my goal is to treat you all equitably and do what I can to help you succeed in this course.

Attendance Policies

This semester due to the pandemic, some students might be sick or will need to go into isolation or quarantine. For students in quarantine who are well, we have provided ways that you can keep up with your schoolwork, whether our class is delivered online or in person. Please also contact me via email if you are in quarantine.

Health Considerations

At the very first sign of not feeling well, stay at home and reach out for a health consultation. Please consult the campus FAQ for how to get the health consultation. As you know, Emory does contact tracing if someone has been diagnosed with COVID–19. A close contact is defined as someone you spend more than 15 minutes with, at a distance less than 6 feet, not wearing facial coverings. This typically means your roommates, for example. However, your classmates are not close contacts as long as we are following the personal protective equipment protocols in the classroom: wearing facial coverings, staying six feet apart. As your instructor, I may be following different PPE guidelines which have been judged to be equally safe by Emory’s Environmental Health and Safety Office. This may
include a face shield or acrylic barrier. Due to the necessity of keeping your PPE on, eating and drinking is strictly forbidden in the classroom.

Class session recording

Our class sessions on Zoom / our in-person class sessions will all be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back to the information, and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live.

Lectures and other classroom presentations presented through video conferencing and other materials posted on Canvas are for the sole purpose of educating the students enrolled in the course. The release of such information (including but not limited to directly sharing, screen capturing, or recording content) is strictly prohibited, unless the instructor states otherwise. Doing so without the permission of the instructor will be considered an Honor Code violation and may also be a violation of other state and federal laws, such as the Copyright Act.

Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image.

Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live.

Please read the Rules of Zoom Engagement for further advice on participating in our Zoom class sessions.

Stress Management and Mental Health

As a student, you may find that personal and academic stressors in your life, including those related to remote study, COVID-19, economic instability, and/or racial injustice, are creating barriers to learning this semester. If you are struggling with concentration, motivation, or emotional concerns that feel overwhelming and are impacting your daily functioning, please know that there are university resources available to support you. More information on these resources is available here:

- Counseling & Psychological Services
- Office of Spiritual & Religious Life
- Student Case Management and Interventions Services
- Student Health Services Psychiatry

Honor Code

The Honor Code applies to all assignments, in and out of the classroom. All work in this course must be entirely your own and entirely original to the requirements of this course in this semester. For more info, visit:
http://oxford.emory.edu/catalog/regulations/honor-code.html
Religious Holidays Arrangements
This class need not interfere with your religious practice. Email me 3-4 weeks in advance, and I will work with you on any makeup assignments.

Grade Appeals
To appeal a grade, please wait 48 hours after the items are first returned to the class, in person or electronically. Within the timeframe noted below, please submit via email the reasons explaining why you believe your grade is incorrect along with the original work in dispute so that the request may be reviewed carefully. Upon review, your grade may remain the same, may increase, or may decrease.

Appeals submitted within the following time frame will be considered: no sooner than 48 hours after the items are returned to the class, and no later than one week after the items are returned. After the timeframe elapses, all grades are final and will not be adjusted. If you do not pick up or review graded work before the timeframe elapses, your eligibility to contest the grade expires.

Office for Undergraduate Education
The Office for Undergraduate Education (OUE) central office is located in White Hall 300. Please visit or call 404.727.6069 with questions about academic affairs, concerns or policies.

Department of Accessibility Services
Department of Accessibility Services works with students who have disabilities to provide reasonable accommodations. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, you must contact DAS. It is the responsibility of the student to register with DAS. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and that disability accommodations are not provided until an accommodation letter has been processed. Students registered with DAS who have a letter outlining their academic accommodations, are strongly encouraged to coordinate a meeting time with your professor that will be best for both to discuss a protocol to implement the accommodations as needed throughout the semester. This meeting should occur as early in the semester as possible. Students must renew their accommodation letter every semester they attend classes. Contact the Department of Accessibility Services for more information at (404) 727-9877 or accessibility@emory.edu. Additional information is available at the DAS website at http://equityandinclusion.emory.edu/access/students/index.html.

Attendance Policies (Absences and Absences from Examinations) Absences:
Although students incur no administrative penalties for a reasonable number of absences from class or laboratory, they should understand that they are responsible for the academic consequences of absence.

Absences from Examinations: A student who fails to take any exam at the scheduled time may not make up the examination without written permission from a dean in the
Office for Undergraduate Education. Permission will be granted only for illness or other compelling reasons, such as participation in scheduled events off-campus as an official representative of the University. A student who takes any part of a final examination ordinarily will not be allowed to defer or retake that final. Deferred examinations must be taken during the student’s next semester of residence by the last date for deferred examinations in the academic calendar or within twelve months if the student does not re-enroll in the college. Failure to take a deferred examination by the appropriate deadline will result automatically in the grade IF or IU. Honor Code The Honor Code applies to all work submitted for courses in Emory College. Students who violate the Honor Code may be subject to a written mark on their record, failure of the course, suspension, permanent exclusion, or a combination of these and other sanctions. The Honor Code may be reviewed online at:
http://catalog.college.emory.edu/academic/policies-regulations/honor-code.html.