

**Spring 2024 | Biology 5399 (CRN 26250) | Thesis**  
*Hours TBA, Location: BRB 2.210 or IDRB 3rd floor*

### **Instructor**

Dr. Arshad M. Khan. *Office hrs: BRB 2.171; By appt. (Tel: x8436; E-mail: amkhan2 [at] utep.edu)*

### **Definitions and Objectives**

This course is designed to provide credit for a Masters-level student performing a thesis project within the UTEP Systems Neuroscience Laboratory, directed by Dr. Khan. The objective of this course is to complete a publishable research project by the time of graduation, which will be prepared in the form of a written thesis as specified by the Graduate College. The student will be graded each semester on their progress towards this objective based on her or his performance during that specific semester. The student's project will be supervised by Dr. Khan and will be guided by input from faculty comprising the student's thesis committee.

### **Course Organization and Grading**

Attendance is required, as is weekly communication with Dr. Khan, and timely periodic communication with the student's thesis committee members. Grading will be based on research progress toward completion of the thesis project each semester and timely communication with Dr. Khan.

### **Absence and Drop Policy**

It is your responsibility to attend the lab the required amount of time. If you have a serious illness or a legitimate excuse (includes military personnel called to active duty or training) for being out-of-town, make arrangements with me before you leave. **Mar 28** is the last day students may drop with an automatic "W".

### **Texts**

- *Brain maps 4.0—Structure of the rat brain: An open access atlas with global nervous system nomenclature ontology and flatmaps. The Journal of Comparative Neurology*, **526**(6), 935–943.
- Additional research literature will be provided.

### **Course Schedule**

The schedule for each student will be determined on an individual basis based on that student's course schedule and teaching assistantship (TA) duties, if any. Graduate students wishing to perform a thesis project are expected to be in the lab working when they are not in class or performing TA duties. Students are expected to be in the lab after hours and on weekends if required for the experiments being performed.

### **UTEP Policy on Academic Dishonesty**

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline and will be reported to the Dean of Student Affairs. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person or to an artificial intelligence system (e.g., ChatGPT), taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

### **Accessibility**

If you have or suspect you have a disability and need accommodations, contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at (915) 747-5148 or e-mail their office at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu). The office is located in Union Building East, Rm. 106; and on the web at <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>. You are responsible for presenting to Dr. Khan any CASS accommodation letters and instructions.