

BIOL 6311/5311
Fall Semester 2018
Neurobiology of Brain Diseases

Instructor: Kyung-An Han, Ph. D.
Office: 3.152 Biosciences Building
Hours: by appointment
Email: khan@utep.edu

Class Meetings: 6:00 PM - 7:20 PM, MW

Classroom: Physical Science Bldg 314

Course Objectives: The objective of this course is to provide contemporary knowledge and insights into the molecular, genetic, cellular and neural basis of brain diseases. The course will focus on neurodegenerative and cognitive disorders that are prevalent in our society as listed below.

Topics to be covered

Overview on the nervous system – neurophysiology
Overview on the CNS – brain and spinal cord
Alzheimer’s Disease
Parkinson’s Disease
Huntington’s Disease
Prion Disease/CJD
Overview on brain development
Autism Spectrum Disorders
Depression
Learning and memory disorders - ADHD, mental retardation (RTS) and PTSD

Text: A general textbook – e.g *Neuroscience* (Purves et al., 3rd or 4th Ed, Sinauer Associates, 2004/2011) or *Human Anatomy & Physiology* (Elaine N. Marieb & Katja Hoehn, Pearson Benjamin Cummings, 2010) - is recommended for background information on CNS functions and anatomy. Readings on review and primary research papers on selected topics will be provided.

Examinations and grading:

1 st exam:	25% of the grade
2 nd exam:	25%
Paper assignment:	25% (due on October 29)
Review assignment:	10% (due on November 12)
Paper presentation	10%
Attendance/Participation	5%

Exams consist of short-answer and essay questions and will be take-home (1st exam) and open-book (2nd exam) tests. A paper is a compare/contrast critique of three current primary literatures on the topics covered in this course (detailed instructions will be given separately). The papers will be reviewed and graded by your classmates in addition to myself. Paper presentation is a group effort with each group consisting of 2 students. Topics and format will be discussed in the class. Final grades will be assigned as follows: A=90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, F=0-59

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148 or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

Course Schedule

Lectures	Topic
1-3	Introduction The Nervous System – overview, neurophysiology (ref: any <i>Human Anatomy & Physiology</i> textbook)
4-5	The Central Nervous System (ref: any <i>Human Anatomy & Physiology</i> textbook)
6-10	NG Introduction, Alzheimer’s Disease and FTD (review articles posted in blackboard)
11-15	Parkinson’s and Huntington’s Diseases (review articles) Hand out take-home exam on Oct 22
16	No class on Oct 24, work on the take-home First Exam Lectures 1 – 15 (up to HD) due 7:20 pm, Oct 24
17-18	Prion diseases (review articles) Paper presentations
19-21	Neurodevelopment & Autism Spectrum Disorders (review articles) Paper presentations
22-25	Depression (review articles) Paper presentations
26-28	Learning & Memory (LM: ADHD, RTS, PTSD) (review articles posted) Paper presentations
29 Dec 12 7-9 pm	Second Exam: Lectures from prions up to L/M Open book test

The schedule is subject to change. Please check Blackboard regularly for changes or important announcements.