

Biol 2340 (18854): Introductory Neuroscience

Tue / Thu 1:30 – 2:50 p.m. BUSN 309

Instructors: Dr. Kristin Gosselink and Dr. Bruce Cushing (Course Directors)

Dr. Gosselink's Office hours: Tue 10:00 a.m. – noon, or by appointment.

Office location: Biosciences 2.173

Phone: (915) 747-6877

Email: kgosselink@utep.edu (*recommended method of contact*)*Other instructors listed on class schedule.***Text:** Neuroscience: Exploring the Brain (4th Edition)
by Mark F. Bear, Barry W. Connors, Michael A. Paradiso.
ISBN-13: 978-0781778176 ISBN-10: 0781778174**Prerequisites:** Undergraduate student in good standing. Psychology 1301, Biology 1305 and 1107, and Biology 1306 and 1108 (may be taken concurrently).**Objective:** This course begins with the study of neuronal structure and function, and the propagation of nerve impulses and the transfer of information between cells. We then move to sensory and motor systems, the integration of neural and endocrine systems, and motivation, emotion, learning, and sleep. This course will provide critical knowledge for upper division neuroscience courses in the Departments of Biological Sciences or Psychology. The knowledge gained in this course will provide an appropriate background for students planning to pursue careers in neuroscience research, medicine or the allied health fields, or education.**Learning Objectives and Outcomes:** This team-taught course will provide a broad introduction to nervous system structures and functions. At the end of the academic term, students who successfully complete this course will be able to: 1) define the molecular, cellular, and tissue-level organization of the central and peripheral nervous system; 2) explain the properties of cells that make up the nervous system including the propagation of electrical signals used for cellular communication; 3) relate the properties of individual cells to their function in organized neural circuits and systems; and 4) describe how the interaction of cells and neural circuits leads to higher level activities such as cognition and behavior. In addition, students will be able to demonstrate effective teamwork, oral and written communication, quantitative skills, and critical thinking abilities.

Tentative Lecture Schedule: A tentative schedule of lecture topics and the required readings for those lectures is provided on a separate page. This schedule also includes important dates. Twice during the semester, the “State of the Field’ will be discussed; on these days, current research, clinical findings, or other newsworthy events in neuroscience will be covered.

Exams:

The 4 exams may include multiple choice, true/false, matching, short-answer, essay and/or fill-in-the-blank questions, and will be weighted equally. No test scores will be dropped.

UNDER EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, OR IF YOU MISS AN EXAM DUE TO ATTENDANCE AT AN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC OR OTHER UNIVERSITY-SPONSORED ACTIVITY, YOU MAY REQUEST (IN WRITING) PERMISSION TO TAKE A MAKE-UP EXAM. IF YOU KNOW YOU ARE GOING TO MISS AN EXAM, IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU DISCUSS THIS WITH THE PROFESSOR BEFORE THE EXAM DATE. MAKE-UP EXAMS MAY NOT BE OFFERED OR MAY BE OF A DIFFERENT FORMAT THAN THE REGULAR EXAMS, AND MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE REGULAR EXAM IS GRADED AND RETURNED TO THE REST OF THE CLASS.

Other assignments:

Throughout the semester, you will be responsible for 4 homework assignments and 4 group activities. More information on these assignments will be provided, and the due dates for them are also noted on the tentative lecture schedule.

How your grade will be calculated:

Exams (100 points each x 4)	400 points
Homework (25 points each x 4)	100 points
Group days (25 points each x 4)	100 points
Attendance & participation	50 points
Total: 650 points	

Grading: Letter grades for this course will be assigned as follows:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59% or less	F

Drop date: The Drop Date for this class is **November 3rd**.

Academic Dishonesty and Expected Behavior:

Students at UTEP are expected to behave in a manner that supports the integrity of the academic system. Cheating, plagiarism and collusion are prohibited, and will result in disciplinary action. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students. A zero tolerance policy for plagiarism will be applied. Questions? Ask one of the instructors. Also, check this site: www.plagiarism.org

PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY STATEMENT

Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording; it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm> for further information.

Classroom Etiquette: Attendance and participation will factor into your grade, as will professionalism in your individual performance and group interactions. As you work together, it is expected that all group members will arrive prepared and on time, will participate effectively in the discussions, and will respect each other as well as the information and viewpoints expressed by members of your group or the other groups. If you must arrive late, leave early, or exit the classroom during class time for personal reasons, please do so quietly and with as little disruption as possible. Cell phones should be on vibrate or silent mode. Any student that presents a barrier to learning for the other students (e.g., non-attendance during group work, disrespecting fellow classmates or the instructor) will be subject to grade reduction and may be dismissed from the classroom or from the class entirely.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

Disabilities: I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) in the East Union Bldg., Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes. CASS can also be reached in the following ways:

Web: sa.utep.edu/cass

Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY

Fax: (915) 747-8712

E-Mail: cass@utep.edu

Need help with academic, career, or personal issues? These people are ready to help!

University Counseling Center	202 Union West	747-5302
Center for Accommodations and Support Services	106 Union East	747-5148
University Career Center	103 Union West	747-5640