

Neuroscience Lab Course Psych3L03

Instructor: Professor K. M. Murphy: Office - PC315
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Department of Psychology

Lectures: Monday 2:30-5:30 pm
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World Wide Web <http://www.science.mcmaster.ca/Psychology/psych3103>

Outline:

Lectures, Discussions, Presentation:

The theme for the course is the Development of the Brain Throughout the Life-Span. A series of 5 videos will be used to introduce the different stages of development.

Jan 8 Part 1

Jan 22 Part 2

Feb 5 Part 3

Mar 5 Part 4

Mar 19 Part 5

After the video there will be a discussion about the issues raised in the video. Students will form a group and pick a topic from the video to research for the next class. The group will write a short summary (1 page) and an annotated reference list (1 page) of their topic. These will be submitted by noon on Sunday before class and posted on the class web page that afternoon. Students will read and grade the summaries before class. In the class each group will make a short presentation (5 minutes) of their research followed by a class discussion. The presentations will be graded by the students, TAs & Professor.

Mini-Labs

There will be 2 Mini-Labs. The first will involve doing a short experiment on motor learning and the second will use an on-line database called the Mouse Brain Library. You will work in a group to design a short experiment, collect and analyse some data, then make a short presentation in class describing your experiment. The Mini-Labs will be graded by the students, TAs & Professor.

Jan 15 - 22 -- Visuo-Motor Learning Mini-Lab

Jan 29- Feb 5-- Brain Database Library Mini-Lab

Sheep brain dissection: tentative test date Mar 3.

Starting Jan 30 - Feb 27.

Laboratory experiment: Lab Report Due April 4.

This year the topic for the laboratory experiment is the development of the cortex. You will work in groups of 2 to design an experiment, collect the data, and carry out appropriate analyses. The group will write a lab report. We will discuss issues relevant to the experiment during each lecture and work together to design certain aspects of the experiments.

Evaluations:

5 research summaries/annotated reference list and presentations-- 10% each, total 40% (the lowest grade will not be included).

Mini-Labs -- 5% each, total 10%

Neuroanatomy practical test -- 20%

Lab Report -- 25%

Participation -- 5%

90-100	A+
85-89	A
80-84	A-
77-79	B+
73-76	B
70-72	B-
67-69	C+
63-66	C
60-62	C-
57-59	D+
53-56	D
50-52	D-
0-49	F

Final marks may be adjusted up or down, on an individual basis, in light of special circumstances and/or the student's overall performance in the course.

Lab Reports handed in late will lose one letter grade for each day past the due date. Weekly group research papers will not be accepted after noon on the due date.