COGS Q301, Spring 2013
Brain and Cognition – Syllabus

CLASS TIME AND PLACE
Section 23409
Tuesday and Thursday, 2:30 – 3:45 PM in PY 111

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
Instructor: Rick Hullinger
Office: PY 183E
Office Hours:
   Monday and Wednesday, 9:30 – 11:00 AM in PY 183E
   Or by appointment
Office Telephone: 856-6854
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TEACHING ASSISTANT INFORMATION
Assistant: Seth Frey
Office Hours: By Appointment
Email Address: sethfrey@indiana.edu

TEXTBOOK
Gazzaniga, Ivry, and Mangun *Cognitive Neuroscience: The Biology of the Mind.* (3rd Ed)

Copies of the book are available at the IU bookstore and through various online sources. Please contact me immediately if you have any trouble obtaining a copy of the textbook.

COURSE GOALS
This course asks a deceptively simple question: how do the neurons and areas of the brain work together to accomplish the vast range of human behaviors? To answer this question, we will start with the basics of brain neuroscience and work our way up to a variety of human capacities studied by cognitive scientists. We will look at everything from the basics of sensational and perception to language to social cognition.

HOMEWORK AND EXAMS
Your course grade will consist of six short (15-20 minute) in class quizzes, six lab write-ups (each due one week after an in-class lab session), a mid-term exam, and a cumulative final exam.

According to the Office of the Registrar, the final exam for this course will be given on Tuesday, April 30th, from 2:45 – 4:45 PM.
If you have a scheduling conflict or cannot take a quiz or exam at its appointed date and time, you must let me know as soon as possible. With the exception of extreme and unforeseen circumstances, contacting me the day of (or even worse, after) a quiz or exam will be considered an unexcused absence and will result in a 0 on the assignment.

Your final grade is computed using the following formula:

Average of the 6 quizzes: 25%
Average of the 6 lab assignments: 30%
Mid-term exam: 20%
Cumulative final exam: 25%
Total: 100%

It is your responsibility to double-check your lab, quiz, and exam grades – both that the work itself was correctly graded and that the scores posted on Oncourse match your actual grades. You have two weeks from the time an assignment is returned to the class to address any grading issues with me. After that, the grades posted on Oncourse will be considered final.

**Grading Scale:**

A+: 97%-100%;  A: 93%-96%;  A-: 90%-92%
B+: 87%-89%;  B: 83%-86%;  B-: 80%-82%
C+: 77%-79%;  C: 73%-76%;  C-: 70%-72%
D+: 67%-69%;  D: 63%-66%;  D-: 60%-62%
F: Below 60%

**EXTRA CREDIT**

“The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly is to fill the world with fools.” – Herbert Spencer

I do not offer any extra credit in this course. If you put all of the effort that you might invest in worrying about extra credit and proposing extra credit ideas into making sure that your assignments are done and done well the first time, you’ll achieve much better results.

**RESPECT**

In order for this class to work well, there must be a certain level of respect between you and me and between you and your fellow classmates. Please be smart with your in-class behavior. If you have to arrive late, enter quietly and sit in the back. If you believe that you may leave early, please sit in the back and slip out quietly. Please turn off your cell phones and do not text-message your friends while I’m teaching. If you are being disruptive to me or to the class, I will ask you to leave.

**FEEDBACK**

Do not wait until the end of the semester course evaluations to let me know that I could be doing something better. Tell me as soon as possible so that I can make the class valuable and relevant as we go along.
If you have any feedback, good or bad, about the course or how it’s being taught, please feel free to send it to me anonymously using this link: http://www.indiana.edu/~rahteach/feedback.html

ACADEMIC HONESTY
This course is conducted under the University’s Ethics Code. Specifically, it is considered cheating if you obtain any kind of information about answers and solutions to the assignments in this course – exams and homework – from any non-intended source (including your peers) or conversely transfer such information to others. It is also considered cheating if you lie to me about an absence relating to a homework assignment or an exam. The punishment for academic dishonesty is failure of the course. As per university policy, all incidents of academic misconduct must be reported to the Dean of Students office.

STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact IU Disability Services for Students.

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
-- I do not take attendance. While I expect students to attend and participate in class, I understand that there will be times when you cannot make it. Realize, however, that what we cover in class is important and that you will still be held responsible for any materials we cover.
-- There is no curve and in general I do not round up.

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DISCLAIMER
This syllabus is an outline of the course and its policies, which may be changed for reasonable purposes during the semester at the instructor’s discretion. You will be notified in class and / or via email if any changes are made to this syllabus, and an updated syllabus will be provided on Oncourse.