**PSY6306 Coursework – Cellular neuroscience**

As mentioned in the opening lecture, PSY6306 is assessed in two ways – by an exam at the end of the semester (more on that later in the semester, in the second seminar), and by a piece of coursework.

The coursework and the exam will both count 50% to your overall mark for the module.

It is now time to set the coursework….

For this assignment, you are required to write an essay in response to **ONE** of the following questions/discussion points:

1. What is neurovascular coupling and what role do astrocytes play in the process?
2. "The optogenetic revolution is transforming neuroscience". Discuss
3. Why do dopaminergic neurons die in sporadic Parkinson's disease?

Details….

The essay should be up to **2000 words** (excluding references) in length (no more), and should consist of coherent text, not bullet points.

You should include a full reference list at the end.

Although you are perfectly at liberty to use books and review articles in your research, in the essay itself you should only use **PRIMARY SOURCES**.

Use diagrams if you feel that they help the exposition, but make sure you include a legend (the word count of which should be added into the total for your piece).

Submission….

The deadline is 12 noon on Thursday 28th November (3 weeks).

Submission will be via turnitin (you will receive details about how to do that in due course).

Each essay must be accompanied by a cover sheet, available on MOLE.

The broad marking criteria are also available on MOLE.

Marks will be available before the end of term.