

COMS30017

Computational Neuroscience

Intro

Dr. Cian O'Donnell

cian.odonnell@bristol.ac.uk



Unit structure

- 5-6 videos of 15-20 minute “chunks” of material per week, for weeks 1-7.
 - Will be released before Monday morning of each week.
 - *Watch during the week whenever you can.*
 - We will also release a problem sheet for revision - similar types of questions to those you would get on the exam.
- 1 live Q+A session per week, lecturer(s) plus all students. Weeks 1-8.
 - *Mondays at 10 a.m.*
- 1 live discussion seminar in bubbles every second week.
 - *Wednesdays at 1 p.m.* Check which group you are in:
 - Group 1: weeks 2, 4, 6.
 - Group 2: weeks 3, 5, 7.
- 1 live peer discussion session in bubbles every week. Weeks 1-7.
 - *Thursdays at 5 p.m.*

My suggestion

- Try to watch ~1 video per day. Consider timetabling slots for yourself to watch them.
- Try to answer the questions on the problem sheets yourself.
- If something is not clear, discuss with the TA on Wednesday or peers on Friday, or ask the lecturer on Monday live Q+A.

Unit lecturers

- Dr Cian O'Donnell (unit director)

cian.odonnell@bristol.ac.uk

<https://odonnellgroup.github.io>



- Dr Laurence Aitchison

laurence.aitchison@bristol.ac.uk

<http://www.gatsby.ucl.ac.uk/~laurence/>



- Dr Rahul Gupta

xv20319@bristol.ac.uk

https://odonnellgroup.github.io/people/Rahul_Gupta



- Dr Beatriz Mizusaki

fv18192@bristol.ac.uk

https://odonnellgroup.github.io/people/Beatriz_Mizusaki



What this course is about

- Learn how the brain works from a computational point of view.



Elon Musk @elonmusk

Replies to [@elonmusk](#)

A prior track record of exceptional achievement in engineering ***is*** required, but ***no*** prior experience working on the brain or human physiology is required. We will teach you what's known about the brain, which is not much tbh.

6:19 PM · Sep 19, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

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What this course is about

- Learn how the brain works from a computational point of view.
- Appreciate the methods and ideas underlying research in the field of computational neuroscience.

What this course is **not** about

- Brain-inspired computing
- Deep learning / artificial neural networks

Have a question about lecture material?

- Ask the lecturer in the live Q+A!
- Ask a question on the unit forum:
https://www.reddit.com/r/coms30017_20_21
- Ask your peers or the TAs in the group sessions.

Have fun and enjoy the course.