**PSY600C: Neuropsychology**

**Fall 2018**

**Course Syllabus**

**Professor:** Michael Brinker, PsyD

**Email:** michael.brinker@colostate.edu

mbrinker@rams.colostate.edu

**Phone:** 303-681-8712

**Office:** Variable,

**Office Hours:** Thursdays by appointment

**Class Information:**

**Location**: 357 Behavioral Sciences Building; **Time:** Friday9:00-11:40

**Course Requirements:**

***Term Paper****:* Students will be expected to complete a term paper. The paper should be between 10-15 pages in length, double-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman or a similar font. Ideally, the paper will reflect the student's current research and will complement their area of research interest or clinical interest. For that reason, there are not strict rules concerning the topics that will be accepted, only that it pertains to neuropsychology or neuroscience. I ***strongly*** encourage that you discuss your interests with me so that we may come up with a topic that best fits your interests and the focus of the course. Papers will be due December 7th and may be brought to class or sent via email. ***Five point deductions will be incurred for each day that papers are turned in late after December 7th.***

**Term Paper Progress Deadlines:**09/07: Have topic selected/approved by Dr. Brinker   
09/14: 50-word abstract regarding your topic   
10/05: List of search terms used and number of results   
10/12: Review criteria selected & articles approved by Dr. Brinker

10/26: List of articles you will be using for the systematic review and a general summary of findings

11/02: Article Decision Tree completed  
11/09: Have systematic review table completed   
12/07: Final paper due

***Paper Presentations:***Students will be asked to present their research topics in an informal presentation on dates prior to the midterm examination or prior to the final examination. A PowerPoint presentation is expected and supplemental visual aids and/or handouts are acceptable if needed. In general, presentations should be approximately 15 minutes in duration and should allow the class to familiarize each other with one another's research. It is anticipated that students whose research reflects the 1st half of the semester's topics will present prior to the midterm. Similarly, those whose research reflects the 2nd half of the semester's topics will be asked to present prior to the final examination. During the first two weeks, we will select topics and assign presentation dates. You will not be tested on the contents of the presentation days. This structure is intended to allow you to have ample time to study for the examinations without having new material presented right before the exam. However, ***participation is required and your participation grade will be reduced if you are not present at either of these presentation days.***

***Discussion Leaders****:* Each student will be asked to select 2 days during which they will present to the class for discussion. You will be asked to read the assigned article and facilitate discussion at the beginning of class. The summary of the assigned article should be no longer than 3-5 minutes with the main goal of the discussion leader being to facilitate discussion and pose questions to the class. Students wishing to lead one of the movie nights may do so as long as they also lead a lecture discussion. Movie night and discussion topic leaders will be filled on a first-come first-serve basis.

***Discussion Questions***: It is expected that all students will be prepared to discuss the chosen article and will have 2-3 discussion questions PER ARTICLE ***emailed to Dr. Brinker*** prior to class to present during the discussion.

***Exams****:* Exams will consist of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and long answer questions. The midterm will be on October 19th and the final exam during Finals Week.

***Participation:*** Given that our class meets one time per week, missing any one class is significant. Your participation points will be reduced for each class missed (other than conference attendance, medical illness, etc.). In addition, given that this is a graduate level course, ***your active participation and involvement in discussions is expected***.

***MOVIE NIGHT:*** In lieu of class attendance on September 21st, you are asked to attend at least one movies based on the brain and clinical disorders of the brain. We’ll select a movie as a group, and you can watch it any time, but each student will independently come up with a few questions or interesting points about the movie, and then we’ll discuss it the September 28th. Some possible movies include: League of Denial (sport-related TBI), Glen Campbell, I’ll Be Me (Alzheimer’s), Alive Inside (Music & Memory). I’m also open to suggestions, but they must be neurologically-based, and more documentary-style.

**Grades:**

Midterm Exam: 50 points

Final Exam: 50 points

Paper: 50 points

Oral Presentation: 50 points

Participation/Discussion Leader: 50 points

Discussion Questions: 50 points

Total points available: 300  
Final grades will be determined using a standard scale (270-300 = A, 240-269 = B, 210-239 = C, etc.)

**Course Materials**

There is not one graduate-level textbook that provides an adequate overview of neuropsychology. I will be compiling reading packets on a week-to-week basis. Readings that are required for each week will be posted in the reading folders on Canvas. Optional background articles will be available for those who need additional background readings or if you have a particular interest in the topic. Required and optional readings will be clearly distinguished on the syllabus and you will NOT be tested on optional material.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Week** | **Topic** |
| **08/24** | **1** | **Course Outline, Neuropsych History, & Clinical Assessment** |
| **08/31** | **2** | **Functional Neuroanatomy** |
| **09/07** | **3** | **Developmental Neuropsychology ADHD, Autism** |
| **09/14** | **4** | **Neuropsychology of Chronic Mental Disorders (SZ) (OCD)** |
| **09/21** | **5** | **FREE DAY! In Exchange for Attendance at MOVIE NIGHT!** |
| **09/28** | **6** | **Memory, Memory Disorders & Dementias** |
| **10/05** | **7** | **Brain Imaging Tools & Surgical Procedures** |
| **10/12** | **8** | **Student Presentations – First Half Topics** |
| **10/19** | **9** | **Midterm** |
| **10/26** | **10** | **Language & Language Disorders** |
| **11/02** | **11** | **Motor System Disorders** |
| **11/09** | **12** | **Brain Injury** |
| **11/16** | **13** | **Mood & Personality Disorders (Depression, Bipolar & Personality Disorders)** |
| **11/23** | **14** | **Fall Break** |
| **11/30** | **15** | **Frontal Lobes & Executive Dysfunction** |
| **12/07** | **16** | **Student Presentations-Second Half Topics & Papers Due** |
| **Finals** |  | **Final Exam Date TBD** |