

Neuropsychology

PSY/NSC/CGS 4385

Fall 2025

Modality of Instruction: In person

Instructor: Kristen Kennedy, PhD

Office: GR 4.126

Class Meets: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 am-12:45 pm

email: Kristen.kennedy1@utdallas.edu

Office Hours: Thurs 2:30-3:30 or by appointment

Class Location: ECSS 2.410

Teaching Assistant: None

TA Office: N/A

TA Office Hrs: N/A

Course Description: This undergraduate course will be a comprehensive introduction to human neuropsychology structured to provide students with a basic understanding of the relationship between brain and behavior. Topics covered will include foundations of neuropsychology, structure of the nervous system, functional specialization of the brain, cognitive functions, assessments and presentations of brain disorders.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions: Behavioral Neuroscience (NSC 3361) is a pre-requisite. Students are expected to have background knowledge of basic neuroscience concepts before the course begins.

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize the organization of the nervous system;
2. Identify the structure of major brain systems and their associated cognitive functions;
3. Integrate principles toward the understanding of brain disorders.

***Required Textbooks*:**

Kolb & Wishaw, (2021) *Fundamentals of Human Neuropsychology*, 8th Edition (with [Achieve access](#)), McMillan Publishers. ISBN: 9781319511906. **The link above will instruct you how to connect Achieve with Blackboard.** Textbooks and some other bookstore materials can be ordered online or purchased at the [UT Dallas Bookstore](#).

Technical Requirements

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage.

Communication

This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Course Access and Navigation

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning](#) website. Please see the course access and navigation section of the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage for more information. To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage. UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The [eLearning Support Center](#) includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

Distance Learning Student Resources

Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising, The Office of Student AccessAbility, and many others. Please see the [eLearning Current Students](#) webpage for more information.

Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online [eLearning Help Desk](#). The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Proposed Class Schedule and Topic Covered	
Aug 26	Course and Syllabus overview, student introductions, Presentation topic and date sign-ups
Aug 28	Neuropsychological Assessments (Chapter 28)
Sept 2	Development of Neuropsychology (Chapter 1)
Sept 4	Origins of Brain and Behavior (Chapter 2)
Sept 9	Organization of the Nervous System (Chapter 3)
Sept 11	Brain Imaging (Chapter 7)
Sept 16	Principles of Neocortical Function (Chapter 10)
Sept 18	EXAM 1 (Chapters 28, 1, 2, 3, 7, 10)
Sept 23	Cerebral Asymmetry and Its Variations (Chapters 11 & 12)
Sept 25	Occipital Lobes and Networks (Chapter 13)
Sept 30	Parietal Lobes and Networks (Chapter 14)
Oct 2	Temporal Lobes and Networks (Chapter 15)
Oct 7	Frontal Lobes and Networks (Chapter 16)
Oct 9	EXAM 2 (Chapters 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16)
Oct 14	Learning and Memory (Chapter 18)
Oct 16	Language (Chapter 19)
Oct 21	Emotion and the Social Brain (Chapter 20)
Oct 23	Spatial Behavior (Chapter 21)
Oct 28	Attention and Consciousness (Chapter 22)
Oct 30	EXAM 3 (Chapters 18, 19, 20, 21, 22)
Nov 4	Cortical Networks and Disconnection Syndromes (Chapter 17)
Nov 6	Brain Development and Plasticity (Chapter 23)
Nov 11	Neurodevelopmental Disorders (Chapter 24)
Nov 13	Assessments of Developmental Disorders (Chapter 24 cont'd)
Nov 18	Plasticity, Recovery, and Rehabilitation of the Adult Brain (Chapter 25)
Nov 20	Neurological Disorders (Chapter 26)
Nov 25	----- Thanksgiving Week – No Class-----
Nov 27	----- Thanksgiving Week – No Class-----
Dec 2	Assessments of Neurological Disorders (Chapter 26 cont'd)
Dec 4	Psychiatric Disorders (Chapter 27)
Dec 9	Assessments of Psychiatric Disorders (Chapter 27 cont'd)
Dec 11 or 16*	Final EXAM 4 (Chapters 17, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27)

*Date and time to be announced by university

Grading Policy and Expectations:

90 – 100 = A

80 – 89.4 = B

70 – 79.4 = C

60 – 69.4 = D

50 – 59.4 = F

There will be four exams worth 90% of the final grade. In lieu of extra credit, you will be allowed to drop the lowest exam score, thus your grade is based on the average of your three highest exam scores. The other 10% of the course grade is based on presentation of an article from covered chapters of the textbook reference section (e.g., a patient case report) (5 min presentation). Class attendance is expected and encouraged. You are responsible for obtaining all course content and being prepared for exams and your presentation. Students are expected to join on time, participate, and to respect the classroom atmosphere by turning off electronic communication devices (no texting, cell phones or video gaming in class!).

Do not miss exam days! Make-up exams will only be allowed in pre-approved situations. A missed exam will be counted as the lowest grade and thus the score to be dropped.

Academic Calendar: Important dates

Sep 10 Last Day to drop without a "W"

Nov 10 Withdrawal period ends

Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected regardless of course modality. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#). The instructor may record meetings of this course. Any recordings will be available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Materials

The Instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course, however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University's academic support resources for all students. Please go to [Academic Support Resources](#) webpage for these policies.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please go to [UT Dallas Syllabus Policies](#) webpage for these policies.

Comet Creed:

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

"As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do."

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.