

ACN 6372 & HCS 6372 NEUROSCIENCE OF PAIN Fall 2015

Instructor: Aage R. Møller PhD

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Office Hours by Appointment

Class room: CB3, 1.306

Class Schedule:

Monday-Wednesday 4:00 – 4:45 p.m.,

August 24, 2015

Class cancelled:

Labor day: September 7

Fall Break: 11/23-11/25

Thanksgiving holidays: 11/26-11/28

Class Text: Møller AR: *Pain, Its Anatomy, Physiology and Treatment*, 2nd Edition Aage R. Møller Publishing, 2013, revised 2014.

The Instructor will provide the book. A PDF version is uploaded on E-Learning
PDFs of all the slides I show in lectures and voice recordings of lectures will be available on E-Learning.

Supplementary Readings:

1. Møller AR.: *Neural Plasticity and Disorders of the Nervous System*, 2nd Edition
 2. Wall, PD.: *The Science of Suffering*. Columbia University Press, 2000. List price: \$23.50
- Melzack, R. and Wall PD: *The Challenge of Pain*, Penguin 1996
List price \$ 20.00

Grading:

Midterm Exam (Not obligatory):

Take home exam

Posted: October 2nd

Due: October 10th

Final Exam:

Take home exam

Posted: December 2nd

Due: December 11th

Course Purpose:

To develop an understanding of the anatomical and functional basis for pain. The course will include reading assignments from the textbook, class handouts and various journal articles that will be assigned throughout the course.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

1. Students will understand the basic mechanisms involved in the different kinds of pain.
2. Understand how noxious stimuli can activate pain circuits in the dorsal horn of the spinal cord and in the caudal part of the trigeminal nucleus.
3. Know the anatomy and basic physiology of sense organs for noxious stimuli.
4. Know the anatomy of the ascending pain pathways.
5. Know the anatomy of descending pain pathways.
6. Understand the difference between peripheral and central pain.
7. Know the difference between peripheral and central sensitization and understand the basic principles underlying these two forms of sensitization.
8. Understand the anatomical and functional basis for such phenomena as hyperalgesia, allodynia and “wind-up.”
9. Understand how hyperalgesia is related to sensitization.
10. Understand principles of neuropathy and central neuropathic pain.
11. Understand the difference between somatic pain and visceral pain.
12. Know many of the neural transmitter substances involved in different forms of pain.
13. Understand the basic principles of pain relief, using drugs, electrical stimulation of the peripheral and central nervous system.
14. Know about placebo effect and hypotheses surrounding this phenomenon.

Course Layout:

This is a systems-oriented course that covers the anatomical and physiologic basis for different forms of pain. This course emphasizes the similarities and differences between the different forms of pain and describes the basic features of neural processing of pain signals in the dorsal horn of the spinal cord and the brain.

Class lectures will discuss:

- The anatomy of both the classical and the non-classical ascending pathways;
- The transformation that occurs in the nuclei of the ascending neural pathways and the processing that occurs at different levels of the central nervous system;
- The anatomy and the function of the descending systems that can control transmission of pain signals;
- Peripheral and central sensitization and the basis for such phenomena as hyperalgesia, allodynia and the wind-up phenomena;
- The physiological and molecular basis for treatment of pain;
- Treatment of pain has a large placebo effect and its hypotheses; and
- The pathophysiology of some common disorders of sensory systems and the role of neural plasticity in creating symptoms and signs of disease.

Specific topics to be discussed:

- Pain caused by stimulation of pain receptors (physiological pain)
- General anatomy of pain receptors
- Pain pathways
- Physiology of the dorsal horn and brainstem
- Trauma
- Inflammation
- Viscera and referred pain
- Pain that is not caused by stimulation of pain receptors (pathological pain)
- Trauma to nerves
- Neuralgia
- Viral infections
- Reflex sympathetic dystrophy (or CRPS I & II)
- Modulation of pain at the dorsal horn
- Central neuropathic pain
- Phantom pain
- Central sensitization
- Relation between sensitization and secondary hyperalgesia
- The role of neural plasticity in central pain
- Central modulation of pain
- Role of NMDA receptors
- Role of COX1 & 2 enzymes
- NSAIDs, selective COX2 inhibitors, and SSRIs
- Cognitive and emotional aspects of pain

- Treatment of pain, including hypnosis, Transderm Electric Nerve Stimulation (TENS), and accupuncture
- Opioids in treatment of pain
- Addiction vs. tolerance
- Placebo effect
- Cognitive aspects on pain treatment
- Darwinian aspects on pain

Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any

other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). **This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.**

Email Use

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog.

Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education,

and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:

The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22

PO Box 830688

Richardson, Texas 75083-0688

(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an

accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

7/10/14