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| **Course title** | Current Topics in Brain and Behavior | | | | | |
| **Course code** | PSY313 | | | | | |
| **Course type** | Elective | | | | | |
| **Level** | Undergraduate | | | | | |
| **Year / Semester** | Year 3 | | | | | |
| **Teacher’s name** | Kyriaki Mikellidou | | | | | |
| **ECTS** | 7.5 | **Lectures / week** | 1 | **Laboratories / week** | | 0 |
| **Course purpose and objectives** | An in-depth examination of the nexus between neuroscience and psychology is what this course is all about. This course explores the most recent findings and developments in brain science as they apply to human behavior in an effort to close the knowledge gap between theory and practice. Students will gain a greater grasp of the neural foundations of psychological processes through engaging with cutting-edge issues, preparing them for further study or jobs in psychology, neuroscience, research, or related professions. | | | | | |
| **Learning outcomes** | The following learning outcomes are expected, where students will:   1. Understand recent concepts and empirical discoveries in neuroscience and their relationship to psychological processes. 2. Analyze and evaluate scientific publications and research methods in neurobiology and psychology. 3. Explain psychological processes using neuroscientific concepts. 4. Integrate knowledge from biology, cognitive science, and psychology to understand brain-behavior connections. 5. Discuss ethical issues in neuroscience research involving human subjects. | | | | | |
| **Prerequisites** | PSY202 & PSY209 | | **Required** | | No | |
| **Course content** | An in-depth examination of the nexus between neuroscience and psychology is what this course is all about. This course explores the most recent findings and developments in brain science as they apply to human behavior in an effort to close the knowledge gap between theory and practice. Students will gain a greater grasp of the neural foundations of psychological processes through engaging with cutting-edge issues, preparing them for further study or jobs in psychology, neuroscience, research, or related professions.  Week 1: Introduction to Neuroscience and Psychology Integration  Week 2: Neural Basis of Cognitive Processes  Week 3: Emotion, Motivation, and Reward  Week 4: Brain Development and Plasticity  Week 5: Neurobiology of Psychopathology  Week 6: Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience Techniques  Week 7: Neural Basis of Personality and Individual Differences  Week 8: Future Directions and Emerging Trends  Week 9 – Week 13: Student Research Projects and Presentations | | | | | |
| **Teaching methodology** | Lecture | | | | | |
| **Bibliography** | The latest peer-reviewed journal articles, reviews, and reputable online resources will be distributed by the lecturer throughout the course. | | | | | |
| **Assessment** | 1. Midterm & Final Exam (30% & 30%): Mid-term and final exams will be conducted covering the entire course. Both exams will include multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions. 2. Group assignment and presentation (20%): Assign group projects that involve in-depth research on a particular brain-behavior relationship, requiring students to work together to analyze, synthesize, and present their findings. 3. Individual assignments (10%): (i) Assign research papers that require students to critically analyze recent research papers, evaluate methodology, results, and implications for psychology (5%). (ii) Scenarios of ethical dilemmas related to neuroscientific research or interventions, requiring students to analyze the situation and propose ethical solutions (5%). 4. Presence & Participation (10%): Students should be present and actively participate in in-class discussions. | | | | | |
| **Language** | English | | | | | |