



COGS1000

Introduction to Neuroscience 1

Session 1, Special circumstances 2021

Department of Cognitive Science

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Disclaimer

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor and Lecturer

David Kaplan

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Contact via email

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Wed 2-3 PM

Lecturer

Anina Rich

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Lecturer

Paul Sowman

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit forms a 2-unit sequence with COGS1005 and provides an intensive introduction to the fundamentals of modern neuroscience, with a focus on the structure and function of the human brain. Topics include neuroanatomy, neural signalling, sensory processing, neural control of movement, and higher cognitive functions. Tutorials include hands-on research activities in which students will have the opportunity to act as both researchers and experimental participants.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Explain key terminology and basic principles of neuroscience.

ULO2: Describe the basic structure and function of the central nervous system with an emphasis on the human brain.

ULO3: Understand the core methods employed in neuroscience.

ULO4: Analyse and interpret scientific information and research in neuroscience.

ULO5: Demonstrate and apply basic experimental research skills to test hypotheses in neuroscience.

Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Hurdle | Due |
|--|-----------|--------|---------------------------|
| Mid-Term Exam | 25% | No | Week 5 |
| In-Class Lab Activity Sheets | 15% | No | Various weeks |
| Weekly Online Quizzes | 10% | No | Weekly (before lecture) |
| Final Exam | 50% | No | Formal Examination Period |

Mid-Term Exam

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **Week 5**

Weighting: **25%**

1 hr multiple choice exam.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key terminology and basic principles of neuroscience.
- Describe the basic structure and function of the central nervous system with an emphasis on the human brain.

In-Class Lab Activity Sheets

Assessment Type ¹: Lab report

Indicative Time on Task ²: 6 hours

Due: **Various weeks**

Weighting: **15%**

Short (1-2 page), highly structured lab activity sheets. 1 activity sheet per lab. Graded on C/NC basis. Students may miss 1 lab activity without penalty.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key terminology and basic principles of neuroscience.
- Describe the basic structure and function of the central nervous system with an emphasis on the human brain.
- Understand the core methods employed in neuroscience.
- Analyse and interpret scientific information and research in neuroscience.
- Demonstrate and apply basic experimental research skills to test hypotheses in neuroscience.

Weekly Online Quizzes

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 5 hours

Due: **Weekly (before lecture)**

Weighting: **10%**

Short online multiple quizzes covering basic content completed before each class lecture. Designed to provide routine assessment and feedback. Graded on C/NC basis with 50% correct threshold for C. 10 quizzes in total; 10-20 MC questions; no make-up quizzes; students may drop 2 lowest quizzes without penalty.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key terminology and basic principles of neuroscience.
- Describe the basic structure and function of the central nervous system with an emphasis on the human brain.

Final Exam

Assessment Type ¹: Examination

Indicative Time on Task ²: 50 hours

Due: **Formal Examination Period**

Weighting: **50%**

2 hr exam, conducted during the official exam period. Combination of multiple choice and short answer questions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key terminology and basic principles of neuroscience.
- Describe the basic structure and function of the central nervous system with an emphasis on the human brain.
- Understand the core methods employed in neuroscience.
- Analyse and interpret scientific information and research in neuroscience.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Learning Skills Unit](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Textbook

Purves D. et al. (Eds.) (2017) NEUROSCIENCE, 6th edition. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press. The hardcover version is available for purchase through [Booktopia](#) or you can rent the digital eBook from [Oxford University Press](#). In addition, a number of copies of the hardcover textbook will be on reserve at the Macquarie University Library.

iLearn

You will need access to the internet to access the COGS1000 iLearn page. Through iLearn you will be able to access the lecture recordings (Echo360), additional readings, and feedback and marks for the assessment tasks. Please allow time to familiarise yourself with how to access [iLearn](#). Further information about iLearn can be found at: <https://help.ilearn.mq.edu.au/>

Lectures

All lectures will be delivered online, starting in Week 1. The officially scheduled lecture time is **Thursday 9:00 - 11:00 AM**. Depending on the lecturer, lectures will either be pre-recorded and uploaded through Echo360 prior to the officially scheduled lecture time or the lecture will be live-streamed via Zoom/Echo360 during the officially scheduled time. **The Zoom meeting link and password will be provided securely through the COGS1000 iLearn page.** All lectures, regardless of initial delivery mode, will be recorded and made available for asynchronous viewing through Echo360. Lecture slides will be uploaded to iLearn just before the lecture time under the lecture link in the relevant week below.

Tutorials

Face-to-face tutorials and lab sessions are an essential part of COGS1000 and these cannot be delivered online. All students are therefore required to come to campus to participate in these sessions and complete the associated in-class assessment tasks. If you are unable to attend a lab session in person due to unavoidable reasons (quarantine, illness, etc.), you should apply for Special Consideration through [AskMQ](#). Reasonable adjustments will be made for students with approved special consideration.

If you are an offshore international student or have other exceptional circumstances that prevent you from coming to campus for the entire semester, you will have the option to enrol in an online Zoom-based tutorial. If this applies to you, please send an email request directly to the unit convenor (david.kaplan@mq.edu.au). The online tutorial option is not available for students who simply prefer to study online.

Weekly online quizzes

This unit has weekly online quizzes designed to keep you on track during the fast-paced semester. Quizzes will be graded either as full credit or no credit; no partial credit will be given. To receive full credit on a quiz, you must correctly answer at least 50% of the multiple-choice questions. If you correctly answer less than 50% of the questions, you will receive no credit for that quiz. No make-up quizzes will be permitted (with the exception of officially approved [Disruption to Studies](#) requests). However, your 2 lowest quizzes will be dropped at the end of the semester.

As indicated above, quizzes must be completed online each week **prior to the lecture**. Each quiz will be open until **12:00 midnight Tuesday night**, the night before the relevant lecture. Only quizzes completed before this deadline will be recorded. These quizzes are open book, and you may take each quiz multiple times before the deadline, but only the first submitted attempt for each quiz will be counted. You will receive feedback as to your correct and incorrect answers at the completion of each quiz. There are no quizzes during the week of the Mid-term Exam (Week 5), the mid-semester break, and the final wrap-up discussion (Week 13).

The quizzes are delivered through iLearn, so you need to have access to a reliable computer with connection to the Internet. Technical difficulties will not be accepted as a reason for special consideration.

To access the online quizzes:

1. Navigate to the appropriate week in iLearn (e.g., Week 2) and click on that week's quiz (e.g., Week 2 Quiz).
2. Read the information provided about what Chapters or page numbers that quiz will cover (it's open book!), and note the date and time the quiz will close.
3. Click "Attempt quiz now" to begin. After answering each multiple-choice question, click "Save and review".
4. Next, ensure you have answered each question (i.e., "Answer saved"). If you have not answered a question (i.e., "Not yet answered"), click "Return to attempt".
5. Once you are satisfied that you have answered every question, click "Submit all and

finish”. This will submit your quiz for scoring and log your grade.

6. Finally, you can carefully review your feedback to note which questions you did and did not answer correctly. The correct answer for each question will be given.
7. Click “Finish review” to exit. Remember, you can attempt the quiz again by selecting “Re-attempt quiz”, but only your first attempt will count towards your grade.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Enquiry Service

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Changes since First Published

| Date | Description |
|------------|--|
| 16/02/2021 | Modification of Resources and Delivery section to include detailed information about the availability of online tutorials for offshore international students. |