

GMS 6029: Brain Journal Club: Neurobiology of Psychiatric Disorders

Fall, 2017; Tuesday, 9:00-10:00, Room L1-101

Course Coordinators: Drake Morgan (drakem@ufl.edu) and Barry Setlow (setlow@ufl.edu)

Course objective: This is a 1-credit course primarily directed towards graduate students in the College of Medicine, but graduate students in other programs and colleges (e.g., Psychology, Clinical and Health Psychology, Pharmacy) as well as advanced undergraduates may be interested as well. The primary course objective is to critically review and discuss current literature concerning the neural basis of psychiatric disorders, including substance use disorder, attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder, depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, Tourette syndrome, etc. See below for a list of journals in which you would be likely to find appropriate papers on this topic.

Expectations and grading: Students are expected to read the assigned papers, attend all classes, and fully participate in class discussions. Grades will be based on preparedness and participation in class discussion, including the quality of presentations. In practice, this means that all students are required to participate (i.e. speak, ask questions, make comments) during every class.

Satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading procedures will be used. For more information about UF grading policies see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Attendance and make-up policy: Students are expected to attend and participate in all class sessions. Personal issues with respect to class attendance or fulfillment of course requirements will be handled on an individual basis. Absences due to illness, professional travel, etc. will be excused per UF policy. If a class is missed, the student will be required to provide a written “summary” on the paper that was discussed – this summary will consist of a description of the background and rationale, methods and results, the implications of the findings, and questions or problems that the student has regarding the study.

Accommodations for students with disabilities: to request classroom accommodation because of a disability, students must first register with the Deans of Students Office (DSO). The DSO will provide documentation to you, which you then give to the instructor when requesting accommodation. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in the coursework.

List of journals that may contain appropriate papers (not exclusive, but a good bet). These journals tend to publish papers that address questions using a variety of approaches/techniques, and are comprehensive enough to both move the field forward and to sustain an hour of presentation/discussion. That doesn't mean that such papers are not published elsewhere, but these are the places we would start. Also, note that (roughly), the further up the list, the more likely it is that the papers will meet these criteria. Finally, many of these journals publish papers with supplementary online materials in addition to the paper itself. Make sure you read these materials and make them available to the class for reading as well.

Science
Nature
Cell
Nature Neuroscience
Neuron
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences
Neuropsychopharmacology
Biological Psychiatry
Molecular Psychiatry
The Journal of Neuroscience