Neuroscience

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Graduate Program in Neuroscience
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Program Codes:
20FS0323MS (MS)
20FS0323PHD (PhD)
20FS0323NDEN (Nondegree)

The Graduate Program in Neuroscience is primarily geared toward the pursuance of a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Neuroscience. A Master of Science degree in Neuroscience is also attainable by physician residents in Psychiatry (see note on MS page). As a multidisciplinary program, students have numerous research opportunities in several departments across the campus. Fields of study cluster around three areas of concentration: neural signal transduction and molecular biology; systems and integrative neuroscience; and human/therapeutic neuroscience, cognition, and neural imaging.

Admission and Degree Requirements

- MS in Neuroscience (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/graduate-college/neus/ms)
- PhD in Neuroscience (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/graduate-college/neus/phd)

NEUS 403. Human Neuroanatomy. 3 hours.
Morphological organization of the nervous system. Functional correlations of neural structures. Course Information: Same as ANAT 403. Meets eight weeks of the semester. Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing and consent of the instructor. Must be in a degree program. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Laboratory and one Lecture.

NEUS 444. Data Literacy in Neuroscience. 3 hours.
This course provides an overview of experimental design, statistics, data mining, modeling and informatics with an emphasis on the types of experiments pursued in neuroscience.

NEUS 483. Neuroanatomy. 4 hours.
Organization of the nervous system, with an emphasis on mammals. Course Information: Same as BIOS 483 and PSCH 483. Animals used in instruction. Prerequisite(s): BIOS 272 or BIOS 286 or BIOS 325 or PSCH 262; or consent of the instructor. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Laboratory and one Lecture.

NEUS 501. Foundations of Neuroscience I. 3 hours.
Provides a core understanding of modern neuroscience. Focuses on topics in cell and molecular neuroscience. Taught by faculty from multiple units. Course Information: Same as BIOS 584. Recommended background: Credit or concurrent registration in GCLS 503.

NEUS 502. Foundations of Neuroscience II. 3 hours.
A core understanding of modern neuroscience. Focus is on topics in systems, cognitive and behavioral neuroscience. Will be taught by faculty from multiple units. Continuation of NEUS 501. Course Information: Same as BIOS 585. Prerequisite(s): NEUS 501 or BIOS 584. Recommended background: Credit or concurrent registration in NEUS 403.

NEUS 506. Research Rotations in Neuroscience. 3-6 hours.
Research rotation course in which first year students from the Neuroscience program will undertake research projects in laboratories affiliated with this program. Course Information: May be repeated. Animals used in instruction. Prerequisite(s): Open only to Ph.D. degree students.

NEUS 511. Experimental Foundations of Psychopharmacology. 2 hours.
An introduction to the molecular mechanisms underlying synaptic transmission; review of the principal neurotransmitter systems and the biochemical, anatomical and behavioral methods used to study these systems. Course Information: Same as ANAT 511. Prerequisite(s): Grade of B or better or concurrent registration in NEUS 501 and Grade of B or better or concurrent registration in NEUS 502; or Grade of B or better or concurrent registration in BIOS 484 and Grade of B or better or concurrent registration in BIOS 485; or consent of the instructor.

NEUS 512. Biomedical Neuroscience II: Aspects of Brain Function in Health and Disease. 2 hours.
An integrated view of brain function in health and disease; the anatomical and functional pathophysiological aspects underpinning major neurological and psychiatric disorders. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NEUS 501; or consent of the instructor.

NEUS 513. Biomedical Neuroscience III: Introduction to Therapeutics and Psychopharmacology. 1 hour.
Basic principles of psychopharmacology, major classes of psychopharmacological agents and their properties, and the biochemistry and physiology crucial to understanding pharmacological therapies for psychiatric illnesses. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor. Recommended background: NEUS 501 and NEUS 502 and Credit or concurrent registration in NEUS 511.

NEUS 514. Biomedical Neuroscience IV: Intermediate Psychopharmacology. 2 hours.
Designed to build upon information presented in NEUS 513 and develop a more comprehensive knowledge of psychopharmacology and treatment strategies, as well as the relevant clinical neuroscience of the major neuropsychiatric disorders. Course Information: This is a College of Medicine course that does not follow the regular academic calendar. Contact the instructor in the Spring for more specific information regarding the scheduling and requirements for this course in the Fall. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor. Recommended background: NEUS 511 and Credit or concurrent registration in NEUS 512 and Credit or concurrent registration in NEUS 513.

NEUS 525. Molecular and Cellular Mechanisms of Neurodegenerative Diseases. 2 hours.
Molecular, cellular and physiological mechanisms underlying neuropathology in neurodegenerative diseases and trauma to the central and peripheral nervous system of humans. Course Information: Same as ANAT 525. Recommended background: A basic course in neuroscience.
NEUS 527. Cellular and Systems Neurobiology. 3 hours.
Molecular and cellular properties of ion channels in neurons and sensory cells and their relationship to brain and sensory systems. Course Information: Same as ANAT 527 and BIOS 527. Prerequisite(s): Credit in one neuroscience course or consent of the instructor.

NEUS 561. Current Topics in Visual Neuroscience. 2 hours.
Discussion of current research and theoretical issues in visual neuroscience by staff, students and guest lecturers. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

NEUS 582. Methods in Modern Neuroscience. 2 hours.
Underlying principles and applications of techniques used to analyze nervous system organization and function. Behavioral, electrophysiological, anatomical, and biochemical approaches are considered. Course Information: Same as BIOS 582. Animals used in instruction.

NEUS 588. Human Neuroscience: Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging. 3 hours.
Lectures and demonstrations present the principles of magnetic resonance imaging for understanding cognitive, sensory and motor function of the human brain in health and disease. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. Laboratory work required. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor. Recommended background: PHYS 142; and MATH 181 or equivalent classroom experience in college physics and math.

Lectures and demonstrations focus on investigations of sensory-motor and cognitive systems in the human brain using neuroimaging. Course Information: Extensive computer use required. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor. Recommended background: NEUS 588.

NEUS 595. Neuroscience Journal Club. 1 hour.
Oral presentations are made by students each session on timely journal articles, followed by in-depth discussions of the reported research. Presentation of research by invited lecturers. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated.

NEUS 596. Independent Study. 1-4 hours.
Independent study under the direction of a faculty member. Course Information: May be repeated. Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

NEUS 598. Master’s Thesis Research in Neuroscience. 0-16 hours.
Thesis research under the direction of a faculty member. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): NEUS 501 and NEUS 502 and NEUS 506; successful completion of first year core courses; and consent of the instructor. Open only to Master’s degree students in neuroscience.

NEUS 599. Doctoral Research in Neuroscience. 0-16 hours.
Independent research, directed by a faculty member. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): NEUS 501 and NEUS 502 and NEUS 506; successful completion of first year core courses; and consent of the instructor. Open only to PhD degree students in neuroscience.