NJIT BIOLOGY

Course Syllabus

FALL 2014

BIOLOGY 448-H01: NEUROPATHOPHYSIOLOGY - HONORS

INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Darshan J. Desai	**EMAIL:**	darshan@njit.edu
OFFICE:	432 Colton Hall	**SKYPE ID:**	njitpha
COURSE SCHEDULE:	T, R: 5:45 – 7:15 pm in COLT 425	**COURSE WEBSITE:**	Moodle
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment: M: 11am-12pm & 1-2:30pm; W: 11:30am-2pm		

LEARNING GOALS & OBJECTIVE:

- This is a seminar style course where peer reviewed journals articles and the latest scientific advances will be identified, reviewed and assessed as a class.
- The instructor will only provide background and demonstration in the early portion of the Fall 2014 semester as indicated by the dates above.
- Only if necessary, will the course instructor add to the course materials – once the background/demonstration period is over, students will be solely be responsible for course progression.
- Students are required to utilize various medical, scientific and technology databases (PubMed, Google Scholar, Web of Science) to find articles.
- Students are required to organize presentations view PowerPoint (only) to present their finding to the class- the goal of which is to learn and master how to present these materials to scientific peers and professionals.
- Students will generate mini-reviews, as discussed below and based exclusively on the ALL materials used in their team or individual presentations.
- The course will be administered via Moodle – you must have access to NJIT MOODLE.

PREREQUISITES: BIOL 315 or BIOL 340 or R120:340 or BIOL 341 or R120:444 or BIOL 447 with a grade of C or better.

TEXTBOOKS:

- Neuroanatomy through Clinical Cases: 2nd Edition: Paper Text © 2010, Hal Blumenfeld; ISBN: 9780878930586.
- The Elements of Style; 4th Edition: Paper Text © 2000, Strunk & White; ISBN: 9780205309023.

GRADING POLICY:

- Groups will be graded by both students and the instructor.
- The Instructor will have 65% of value (power points and written mini-review works), with student's evaluation being 15% of complete grade.
- A cumulative final will be at the end of the semester during finals period 10%. You will also have quizzes every week for the topics covered for that week that will be 10%.

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GRADING POLICY, CONT.:

- Students will be assigned a unique and anonymous identifier (known only to the instructor) to allow for objective and un-restrictive assessment of the presentation and work effort of seminar speaker and teammates.
- 2 weeks after the student's presentation, student speakers will have the anonymous critiques from the class and the instructor to allow for use in improvement of successive preparation and presentation—this will be posted on Moodle.

A= 90% or higher	**GRADES ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE** **DO NOT ASK OR TRY!**
B= 80% or higher	
C= 70% or higher	
D= 60% or higher	*** THIS IS AN HONORS COURSE AND THERE IS ZERO TOLERANCE!!**
F= below 60%	

PRESENTATION:

- Teams of 2 (or 3, if not individuals) will prepare the power points with a lecture length of 45mins, followed by discussion time by audience and instructor.
- Teams or student presenters will have all PDFs of the journal articles and reference materials used to generate the seminar 1 week prior to the date of the seminar for upload to Moodle and proper review by fellow students and instructor, as well as a 1 page summary paper the student audience to utilize- Failure to provide materials on schedule will immediately result in a FULL LETTER grade reduction for the group. NO EXCEPTIONS
- Presentations should have a history of the pathology, epidemiology of the pathology, history of the disease, clinical diagnostic/biochemical characterization of the pathology, a detailed biochemical/molecular/ biological mechanism of the pathology, current therapeutic options and an emergent therapy.
- Student presenters will have to submit a 5-10 page mini-review of the topic covered, done individually & independently by each student 1 week after the student's presentation. Late submission of the critique will result in an automatic 25% reduction in the student's grade for each day it is late!
- These papers will be submitted to Turnitin.com via MOODLE for review and academic integrity validation. Any report that has over 25% or higher similarity reports will be characterized as plagiarized and will result in unconditional failure of the assignment, followed by immediate reporting of the incident to department, chairman and dean.
- As a Writing Intensive/Honors Course, Student presenters will have to submit a 5-10 page mini-review of the topic covered; this is done individually & independently by each student, and is due 1 week post the student's presentation (3 writing assignments in total). Late submission will not be accepted under any circumstances!!
- First drafts of these papers will be submitted to Turnitin.com via MOODLE for review, edit recommendations, and academic integrity validation. **Any report that has over 25% or higher similarity reports will be characterized as plagiarized and will result in unconditional failure of the assignment, followed by immediate reporting of the incident to Department, Chair and Dean.** Once students receive the corrected 1st drafts from the instructor, they will re-submit the 2nd edited draft for second review and comments. After 1 week and after a 2nd review, student will receive further comments and edits, students will resubmit a final version after 1 week to be graded.

***Plagiarism is defined as the act of using another person's words or ideas without giving credit to that person!**

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SCHEDULE AND COURSE OUTLINE:

WEEK/DATES		LECTURE TOPICS
Week 1	Tue, Sep 02	Intro to the Course/Objectives
	Thu, Sep 04	Intro to Brain & Nervous System
Week 2	Tue, Sep 09	Intro Cell Biology
	Thu, Sep 11	Intro Molecular Biology
Week 3	Tue, Sep 16	Intro to Pathology
	Thu, Sep 18	Continued Intro to Pathology
Week 4	Tue, Sep 23	TBD
	Thu, Sep 25	TBD
Week 5	Tue, Sep 30	TBD
	Thu, Oct 02	TBD
Week 6	Tue, Oct 07	TBD
	Thu, Oct 09	TBD
Week 7	Tue, Oct 14	TBD
	Thu, Oct 16	TBD
Week 8	Tue, Oct 21	TBD
	Thu, Oct 23	TBD
Week 9	Tue, Oct 28	Student Disease A-1 TBD
	Thu, Oct 30	Student Disease A-2 TBD
Week 10	Tue, Nov 04	Student Disease B-1 TBD
	Thu, Nov 06	Student Disease B-2 TBD
Week 11	Tue, Nov 11	Student Disease C-1 TBD
	Thu, Nov 13	Student Disease C-2 TBD
Week 12	Tue, Nov 18	Student Disease D-1 TBD
	Thu, Nov 20	Student Disease D-2 TBD
Week 13	Tue, Nov 25	Large Group Disease A-1 TBD
	Thu, Nov 27	**THANKSGIVIVING BREAK,** NO CLASS!
Week 14	Tue, Dec 02	Large Group Disease B-1 TBD
	Thu, Dec 04	Large Group Disease B-1 TBD
Week 15	Tue, Dec 09	Large Group Disease B-2 TBD
	Thu, Dec 11	**READING DAY,** NO CLASS
FINALS		**FINAL EXAM WEEK: DECEMBER 15-19, 2014**