

Developmental Neurobiology 3270.03

Fall 2008

Instructor: Professor K.R. Duffy
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Office 2338
Department of Psychology
Office hours: Wednesday 10am-12pm

Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:05pm – 2:25pm
RM 4263 LSC-Psychology

This class will outline principles of neural development starting with the early events of life and extending through to the formation of the adult nervous system. We will explore factors that influence neural development at a single cell level as well as at the level of neuron assemblies. Where appropriate, focus will be placed on the functional consequences of neural development.

Suggested Text:

Development of the Nervous System. Dan Sanes, Thomas Reh, and William Harris. To save money, I encourage you to buy the text second hand, if possible. There is only one edition of this book so don't worry about having an up-to-date copy.

Other texts:

Principles of Neural Development. Dale Purves and Jeff W. Lichtman.

The Developing Brain. Michael Brown, Roger Keynes, and Andrew Lumsden.

Tentative Schedule:

Topics discussed in class will follow the material covered in Chapters 1 thru 10 of the Sanes textbook, and in approximately the same order. There may also be a small amount of supplemental material in the library that will extend beyond information in any of the above textbooks.

Students with disabilities

Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who would like to discuss classroom or exam accommodations are asked to come and see me as soon as possible. Such students are also encouraged to register as quickly as possible at Student Accessibility Services if they want to receive academic accommodations. To do so please phone 494-2836, e-mail access@dal.ca, go to Killam room G28, or visit the website at: www.studentaccessibility.dal.ca .

Grades:

There will be a mid-term exam, a term paper, a critique, and a final exam. All exams will test knowledge of material covered up to and including the lecture before the exam. Exams will comprise a mixture of multiple-choice questions, short definitions, fill in the

blanks, and essay questions. There may also be diagrams and graphs that have to be drawn or labeled.

Make-up examinations will be allowed for medical reasons only and may be of an essay type format.

Evaluations:

Mid-Term - 30% of final grade – February 14

Term Paper - 25% of final grade – due March 18
The term paper should be 8 double-spaced pages (not including references, diagrams, or title page). Guidelines for the paper will be discussed in class.

Critique - 5% of final grade – due March 27
The critique will be an evaluation of another student's term paper. It will be 2 double-spaced pages.

Final Exam - 40% of final grade – Based on material from the entire semester.

90-100	A+
85-89	A
80-84	A-
75-79	B+
70-74	B
65-69	B-
60-64	C+
55-59	C
50-54	D
0-49	F