THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

HUMAN NEUROPSYCHOLOGY (PSYC3054)
Semester I, 2018/19

Instructor: Assawin Gongvatana
(assawin@hku.hk)
Rm. 603
The Jockey Club Tower
Consultation hour: Wednesday, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Tutor: Eric Ma
(mkyeric@hku.hk)
Rm. 613
The Jockey Club Tower
Consultation hour: By Appointment

Day/Time/Venue of Lectures: Wednesday, 12:30pm-2:20pm, CPD-G.02
Day/Time/Venue of Tutorials: Thursday, 12:30pm-1:30pm, CPD-3.06

Learning Outcomes
To acquire the basic principles of:
1. Brain-behavior connection via reviewing (1.1) the neuroanatomical and neuropsychological mechanisms underlying some cognitive processes and (1.2) how brain functions are dysregulated in some common brain disorders.
2. Research methods employed to understand brain-behavior relationships.

Textbook

Assessment
• Midterm exam, 20%
• Final exam, 25%
• Journal article critique, 20% (1000 words, APA format)
• Collaborative research proposal, 25% total
  • Proposal draft, 5% (<2 pages)
  • Final proposal, 20% (2000 words, APA format)
• Attendance and participation, 10%

Additional Requirement: Students are required to attend at least two departmental seminars in order to pass this course. Please make sure your attendance is officially recorded by the department administrator each time you attend.

Note: All assignments (hard copies) must be submitted by 5:30 p.m. on the due date. Late submission without a prior arrangement will not be marked.

Assignments
• Journal article critique (1000 words, 20% of the final mark): Students will be assigned a scientific journal article to review and critique based on the guideline covered during the September 19 tutorial session. The critique should include: 1) a concise summary of the study (what was done and why, how it was done, what was found, and what the findings mean); 2) a description of the strengths of the study; 3) a point-by-point description of your criticisms of the study, including your recommendation on how each point may be addressed; 4) additional comments/recommendation on the study as needed.
• **Collaborative research proposal (2000 words, 25% of the final mark):** The class will be divided into groups of 3-4 students. Each group is required to develop and submit a research proposal based on your in-depth review of a group of related scientific papers chosen by the class instructor. This assignment will be submitted in two stages:

1. You will be required to develop a brief first draft (about 2 pages, 5% of the final mark) summarizing the proposed research, which includes 1) the research questions and a description of why they are relevant given the existing literature, 2) the corresponding hypotheses, and 3) a brief description of the methods. You will be given feedback on this first draft by the course instructor/tutor within two weeks following the submission deadline (5:30pm, November 7).

2. Based on the feedback of your initial draft, the final proposal (2000 words, 20% of the final mark) will describe your study in detail, including 1) a background summary of the research topic, 2) relevant and novel research questions arising from your understanding of the literature, 3) specific aims and testable hypotheses of your proposed study, and 4) description of the methods (participant recruitment, assessment and other procedures, statistical analysis plan).

**Make-up exam policy:** For cases of absence in midterm or final exam due to medical reason, a make-up quiz will be arranged only if a valid medical proof is provided. Requests for a make-up exam should be sent by email to the course tutor within two days after the day of original exam.

**Feedback policy:** Student may expect to receive feedback within two weeks after the deadline of journal critique and draft of research proposal. Exam papers will not be returned to students while students could request for individual feedback for exam through meeting with course tutor.

**Academic honesty:** Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any student who engages in any form of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on exams, plagiarism, self-plagiarism, interfering with grading, falsification and fabrication of data in any academic exercise etc.) will receive a grade of F on the component(s) of assessment concerned or in this course and will be reported to the Department/Faculty Office/University Disciplinary Committee for further disciplinary action. There will be no exceptions. If you are not sure what constitutes the academic offense of plagiarism, checkout the webpage at http://www.hku.hk/plagiarism. Department of Psychology has formulated departmental polies/guidelines on student misconduct. Visit the website at [https://www.psychology.hku.hk/?page_id=1814](https://www.psychology.hku.hk/?page_id=1814) for more information.

**Plagiarism:** A hardcopy and a softcopy are required for all written assignments. The softcopy will be checked for plagiarism against a database of articles, books, webpages, and essays submitted by students at HKU and other universities. No credit will be given for an assignment that contains plagiarized materials. Further penalties will also be applied. These penalties include a zero mark for participation in course tutorials and a zero mark for the course. Plagiarism will also be reported to Department/Faculty Office/University Disciplinary Committee for consideration of possible disciplinary action."
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<td>Neuropsychology Overview</td>
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<td>Reading: Ch 1, 3</td>
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<td>Sep 12</td>
<td>Neurons Overview</td>
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<td>Sep 19</td>
<td>Sensory and Motor Systems</td>
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<td>Functional Neuroanatomy</td>
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<td>Neurocognitive Functions</td>
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| Oct 24   | Methods of Neuropsychology Research            | Writing a research proposal I   | Reading: Ch 7, 28
Journal article critique due Oct 24 |
| Oct 31   | Neurodevelopment and Neurodevelopmental Disorders | Writing a research proposal II | Reading: Ch 23, 24                               |
| Nov 7    | Brain Disorders I                              | Feedback on journal critique    | Reading: Ch 26
Draft of research proposal due Nov 7 |
| Nov 14   | Brain Disorders II                             | -                              | Reading: TBA                                     |
| Nov 21   | Neuropsychiatric Disorders and Psychopharmacology | -                            | Reading: Ch 6, 27                               |
| Nov 28   | Neuroplasticity and Rehabilitation             | Final exam preparation         | Reading: Ch 25                                   |
| Dec 5    | FINAL EXAM                                     | -                              |                                                  |
| Dec 10   | -                                             | -                              | Final research proposal due Dec 10               |