GMS 7795 NEUROECONOMICS, FALL 2021

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

This course syllabus describes assignments that you will be completing for each module of this course by their due dates. The course is designed in 12 modules. It is critically important that you keep up with the material and establish your own work schedule so that you can meet the weekly deadlines. The course readings are available as pdf links in the Canvas module; the slides are in Voice Thread and should load automatically in Canvas. The course starts on August 23rd, 2021 and will be completed mid-November. **There are no breaks or days off!**

You can contact me (Neil Rowland) either by the Canvas e-mail system or by regular e-mail (nrowland@ufl.edu) and I'll try to answer within 24 hours. I'll also be more than happy to meet with you electronically (e.g., by Zoom) for office hours or other information: just send an e-mail with a couple of appointment times that would work for you.

Each Module has the same general format: (1) a Voice Thread slide with audio lecture and transcript by the instructor, (2) additional materials - mainly articles from scientific journals (typically 50-100 pages per week), and (3) a self-check quiz worth a few points that ensures you have reviewed and understood the material in (1) and (2). The self-check quizzes are due by Saturdays by 11:59 p.m. *NOTE THAT ALL OF THE TIMES AND DEADLINES ARE U.S. EASTERN TIME ZONE*

Each Module ends with a "Your Decision" assignment which is to write a paper on a topic relevant to the module. A global question or prompt is given in this segment; that doesn't mean you have to write exactly about that prompt, but your paper does have to be **clearly related to decision-making and the topic of the week**. Since one theme of the course is neuroscience, then your papers also **must include some aspect of or relevance to neurobiology** although I recognize that (1) the students in this course will have varying degrees of expertise in this realm and (2) not all topics lend themselves as well to this as others. The objective is that you get used to putting some original thoughts on paper each week, and using strict scientific format (e.g., APA, but other journal-style formats are OK) and terminology. That is, your papers need to have a statement of purpose, present data or argument in a logical way with citations, and a conclusion, and to use "tight" terminology [for example, "I think that...." is not acceptable, but "Smith (2016) has proposed that "....would be good]. Also, if you use popular media as a source for an idea, that is fine if it is done in a 'Mythbusters" type of way, but you must use credible scientific sources (usually journal articles) to make your arguments. Your paper also should include material that <u>teaches me</u> something: don't just parrot the slides or reading materials - there needs to be evidence of literature research. Bottom line: I'm looking for scientific style as well as content - will give annotated grading on your papers each week by way of help. Each module paper is due by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday of that module-week, and is worth 50 points graded from a rubric.

Additionally, once all the papers have been submitted in Canvas for a given module, you will be assigned (at about 8 a.m. Mondays) ONE of your classmate's papers to read, review and grade according to the same rubric that I will use. (Insofar as class size allows, you will get a different person's paper each week). What seems to work best is that I send you the paper to review as an e-mail attachment Word file, then you can perform your review using Word editing tools. These reviews (worth 10 points) should be returned to me by e-mail within 48 hours (due by Tuesday midnight). I then read the target papers and reviews, add my own comments and assign grades. So be fair, firm and professional! While your peer grades will not be used directly, these and your review comments inform my own grading and review.

The materials for the next module will not be released until you have submitted your self-check quizzes and paper for the previous module, but will not be dependent on the peer review being completed.

The total points for the class are (approximately) as follows:

12 papers @ 50 points = 600

12 peer reviews @ 10 points = 120

12 quizzes @ approx 12 points = 144 (depending on actual number, this adds to 864)

The estimated A/B/C grade scale (%) will be 92/84/76 with + and - divisions as appropriate. I will inform you later in the class whether I expect an adjustment to this.

The following links will take you to help pages on how to view these sections of the course: ModulesLinks to an external site., AssignmentsLinks to an external site., Grades. Links to an external site.If you have additional questions about the CANVAS platform, please see the Canvas Student GuideLinks to an external site.. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/ (Links to an external site.). You will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email you receive from GatorEvals, in the Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/ (Links to an external site.). Summaries of course evaluation results are available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/ (Links to an external site.)."