

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA**  
**COLLEGE OF MEDICINE SYLLABUS**  
**NEUROSCIENCE**

**GMS6029-JC09(27923)**, Brain Journal Club: Hot Topics in Neuroscience (**credits: 1**)

Semester: Fall

Delivery Format: In person

**Course Hours:** Thurs, 10:00-11:30am

**Room Number:** L1-101c

**Instructor Name:** Matt Sarkisian, Ph.D.

**Phone Number:** 352-273-5534

**Email Address:** msarkisian@ufl.edu

**Instructor Name:** Karina Alviña, Ph.D.

**Phone Number:**

**Email Address:** kalvina@ufl.edu

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 12-1pm

**Graduate Assistant:** none

**Preferred Course Communications:** email

**Prerequisites:** none

**Purpose and Outcome:** To expose students to the breadth of neuroscience research and develop deeper understanding through the analysis of the primary literature.

**Course Overview:** A weekly journal club that discusses relevant papers to research seminars presented in the department of Neuroscience. The goal of journal club is to give participants a greater understanding of the research to be presented and to promote an appreciation for literature review. Topics covered will come from the breadth of research related to neuroscience providing a broad selection of topics. Students will meet to present the research, discuss results and interpretations as well as develop questions to discuss with the presenting author at seminar or in small group with the speaker. Each enrolled student will lead or co-lead at least one presentation during the semester and will be expected to contribute to discussion of papers. Speakers for the upcoming semester are listed for topic preview. In most cases, the guest speaker will attend the class after the journal discussion. Students are encouraged to ask questions about their science/career path etc. Attendance in class will be expected in-person, with a zoom option available upon discussion with course directors and/or as needed.

Open enrollment

**Relation to Program Outcomes:** This course is designed to expose students to journal club format, presentation of published literature, and thoughtful critique delivery.

**Course Objectives and/or Goals:**

By the end of each semester, students will be able to:

Present primary literature

Review and critique literature

**Instructional Methods:** Classes will largely be in person, seminar and discussion based.

*What is expected of you?*

You are expected to actively engage in the course throughout the semester. This means, 1: Attending class, 2: presenting at least one paper, (including an a) introduction to the first and senior authors, b) general background, and c) presentation of key methods used), and 3: reading the paper to prepare questions or critiques about the topic.

**Description of Course Content:**

**Topical Outline/Course Schedule**

Schedule: (see for an up-to-date list of speakers and seminar titles)

Date	Speaker
08/24/23	<b>Anita Disney, PhD</b> <b>Duke Univ.</b>
08/31/23	<b>Jianxiong Jiang, PhD</b> <b>Univ of Tennessee Health Science Center</b>
08/31/23	TBD
09/07/23	<b>TBD</b>
09/14/23	<b>Michelle Bedenbaugh</b>
09/21/23	<b>Jeremy Day</b>
09/28/23	<b>Alfonso Apicella</b>
10/05/23	<b>TBD</b>
10/12/23	<b>TBD</b>

10/19/23	<b>Ben Wolozin</b>
10/26/23	<b>Lisa Briand</b>
11/2/23	<b>TBD</b>
11/9/23	<b>TBD</b>
11/16/23	<b>TBD</b>
11/23/23	<b>No CLASS_ Thanksgiving Break</b>
11/30/23	<b>END</b>

**Course Materials and Technology:** Journal articles as assigned

For technical support for this class, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu)
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- [UF eLearning](#)

**Academic Requirements and Grading:**

**Assignments:** A minimum of 1 presentation

**Grading:** This is an S/U graded course.

Requirement	Due date	Points or % of final grade (% must sum to 100%)
Presentation		60%
Participation		40%

## **Point system used (i.e., how do course points translate into letter grades).**

Example:

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades>

**Exam Policy:** No exams

**Policy Related to Required Class Attendance:** You are expected to attend each lecture and actively participate in the student projects.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance>). Additional information can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

## **Student Expectations, Roles, and Opportunities for Input:**

### **Expectations Regarding Course Behavior**

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

**Communication Guidelines:** <http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

### **Academic Integrity:**

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity.

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

**“We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”**

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

**“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”**

It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For additional information regarding Academic Integrity, please see Student Conduct and Honor Code or the Graduate Student Website for additional details:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

<http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html>

**Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.**

### **Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process:**

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.ua.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### **Policy Related to Guests Attending Class**

### **Support Services:**

#### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

#### **Counseling and Student Health:**

Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- The Counseling and Wellness Center 352-392-1575 offers a variety of support services such as psychological assessment and intervention and assistance for math and test anxiety. Visit their web site for more information: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu>.

On line and in person assistance is available.

- You Matter We Care website: <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/>. If you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed, you can reach out for help through the You Matter We Care website, which is staffed by Dean of Students and Counseling Center personnel.
- The Student Health Care Center at UF Health is a satellite clinic of the main Student Health Care Center located on Fletcher Drive on campus. Student Health at UF Health offers a variety of clinical services. The clinic is located on the second floor of the Dental Tower in the Health Science Center. For more information, contact the clinic at 392-0627 or check out the web site at: <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- UF Health Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32698, [ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center](http://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center).
- University Police Department: Visit [police.ufl.edu/](http://police.ufl.edu/) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from:

Alachua County Crisis Center:

(352) 264-6789

<http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx>

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

## Academic Resources

**E-learning technical support:** Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

**Career Connections Center:** Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services [career.ufl.edu/](http://career.ufl.edu/).

**Library Support:** [cms.uflib.ufl.edu/](http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/) ask various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Teaching Center:** Broward Hall 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. [teachingcenter.ufl.edu/](http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/)

**Writing Studio:** 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. [writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/](http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/)

**Student Complaints On-Campus:** [sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/](http://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/)

**On-Line Students Complaints:** [distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process](http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process)