



**Course Proposal Submitted to the College of Science Curriculum Committee (COSCC)**

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**FOR ALL COURSES** (required)

Course Number and Title: Neur 603

Date of Departmental Approval: September 21, 2015

**FOR INACTIVATED/REINSTATED COURSES** (required if inactivating/reinstating a course)

- Reason for Inactivating/Reinstating:

**FOR MODIFIED COURSES** (required if modifying a course)

Summary of the Modification: Change in the course from 2 hours of lecture and 3 hours of lab to 3 hours of lecture. The course credit hours remain the same at 3 credits.

Text before Modification (title, repeat status, catalog description, etc.):

- Neur 603. Mammalian Neurobiology Credits: 3 (NR)

Functional anatomy of the brains of mammals, with emphasis on regional and systems neuroanatomy of humans. Anatomy is correlated with material from clinical neurology where possible. Laboratory component includes brain dissections and clinical correlations.

- Equivalent to PSYC 531; BIOL 515
- Prerequisite(s): NEUR 601

Text after Modification (title, repeat status, catalog description, etc.):

- Neur 603. Mammalian Neurobiology Credits: 3 (NR)

New Course Description: Focus on mammalian brain organization and function, emphasizing human neurobiology. Modern experimental and clinical tools explain: gross and microscopic brain organization; functional brain circuits for sensory and motor processing; higher brain organization and function; and development of selected brain areas. The knowledge gained is then used to explain the clinical symptoms occurring after specific brain insults.

- Equivalent to PSYC 531; BIOL 515
- Prerequisite(s): A course in neuroscience or permission of instructor

- Reasons for modification: The change in the course is to provide an additional hour of lecture and to eliminate the lab. The following are reasons for this change.

1. The lab provided an opportunity for: brain dissection (sheep brain); examination of brain tissue sections viewed under the microscope or macroscopically; and clinical cases to correlate brain lesions with brain

structures. With the exception of sheep brain dissection, both brain section slides and clinical material will be incorporated into the lecture format. Furthermore, sheep brains dissected by the instructor will be available for students' examination. In addition, CDs of human brain dissection will be available for the students to view at their leisure.

2. The advantage of replacing the 3 hour lab with one additional hour of lecture time is the following:

a. The pace of the lecture material and its explanation will be less hectic. During the past two offerings of the course several of the students have complained about the huge volume of information taught. The additional lecture hour will permit a more in depth discussion of topics and will give students a greater opportunity for interaction and answering of questions as well as more time for review of material.

b. Under the best of circumstances, complete correlation of lecture and lab proved challenging. With lectures only, continuity will be easier and pertinent "lab" material can be directly included at appropriate times.

c. The extra lecture hour will allow for a greater discussion of modern anatomy tools used in both experimental as well clinical neurosciences. This will expose the students to the types of methodology that are used to answer a variety of both basic science as well clinical questions which will be directly pertinent to their own respective research.

Modification to pre-requisites: Several years ago Neur 601 was modified and was no longer an introduction to the material in Neur 603. At that time we forgot to modify Neur 603 to eliminate Neur 601 as the pre-requisite.

**FOR NEW COURSES** (required if creating a new course)

- Reason for the New Course:
  
- Relationship to Existing Programs:
  
- Relationship to Existing Courses:
  
- Semester of Initial Offering:
  
- Proposed Instructors:
  
- Insert Tentative Syllabus Below