



**PSY 0817–Brain Matters**  
**Fall 2023**

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Office Hours	Monday & Wednesday 20:30-21:30 JST Tuesday & Thursday 19:00-20:00 JST

Official Course Title	Brain Matters
Course Number	PSY 817
Section Number	801 (in-person)
CRN	52444 (in-person)
Class Schedule	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 18:00-19:00 JST
Class Room	Rm 401 (in-person)

Course Features	<p>Brain Matters meets the GenEd requirement for Science &amp; Technology and has three (3) credit hours.</p> <p>This course fulfills a Science &amp; Technology (GS) requirement for students under GenEd and Science &amp; Technology Second Level (SB) for students under Core. Students cannot receive credit for this course if they have successfully completed Neuroscience 0817.</p> <p><u>GenEd Competencies</u> Program Competencies: Critical Thinking, Contextualized Learning, Communication Skills, and Lifelong Learning.</p> <p>Science and Technology Area Competencies: Understand and describe the scientific process; Understand the sequential nature of science and technology; Recognize, use and appreciate scientific or technological thinking for solving problems that are part of everyday life; and Retrieve, organize, and analyze data associated with a scientific or technological model.</p>
Optional Textbook(s)	<p>1. The Human Brain by Rita Carter (Penguin Random House) 2. The Human Brain: An Introduction to its functional anatomy by John Nolte (Mosby Elsevier)</p> <p>*Note 1: New material could be provided during the duration of the course. *Note 2: NO NEED TO BUY A BOOK *Note 3: All course material will be provided and available through Canvas.</p>

## **1. Course Description and Objectives**

One of the last frontiers in science is the brain. We know a great deal about the structure and function of the brain and nervous system, but it is challenging to comprehend fully the complexity of a system made up of 100 billion components that are interacting with one another using tens of trillions of connections that can change and rewire during development and aging. Neuroscience is the multidisciplinary field in which brain research falls. Neuroscience is one of the fastest growing domains in all of science - and good bet for a future career path. Neuroscientists investigate brain function from the level of molecular genetics, to cellular dynamics, to brain anatomy and physiology, to relations between brain, behavior, and cognition, to brain development and aging, to diseases of the brain. In this course, we will touch on knowledge about the brain at all these levels, and more. We will also discuss case studies of brain impairment.

## **2. Course Learning Goals**

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to have a basic knowledge (identify, distinguish, and know the function) of each part of the brain.

At the conclusion of the course, students will have hands-on experience on the basics of how to design a brain map network and conduct a brain neural network analyses.

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to associate the different parts of the brain with specific human characteristic and/or psychological disorders.

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to identify, explain, and thoroughly discuss which brain neural network combination could affect specific human characteristic and/or psychological disorders.

At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to have a general understanding and develop their own science-guided opinion with regards to the various human characteristic and/or psychological disorders.

## **3. Course Requirements**

Students are required to attend classes, do assigned homework, and take both quizzes and exams.

For on-campus classes, when students are required to write exams, quizzes and/or homework assignments it should be done using pencil, not ink. For on-line classes, these requirements will be done through Canvas.

Students will prepare for class by reading the course material and watching the assigned videos. In class we will work together to develop a deeper understanding of the material. You must come to class prepared to do exercises.

## **4. Assignments:**

Exercises and homework will be given regularly; its submission date will be properly indicated. There will be no extensions, even if a student is absent has to submit the assignment on time.

The purpose of homework is to practice the scientific concepts that are covered in lectures. It is imperative that students work and understand each point discussed to successfully complete the course.

## **5. Examinations:**

There will be five (5) lecture and 5 (five) laboratory exams. No final exam will be given. All exams will be closed book. All exams will be mandatory. You must take each and all exams at the time the exams are scheduled either on-campus or on-line.

There will also be regular quizzes sometimes at unspecified dates. Therefore, students should always be prepared. Students who are late to class and miss the quiz will not be given the opportunity for a make-up.

If a student is absent on the day of an exam or a quiz or an assignment due date without a valid excuse (illness, family emergency), then the corresponding score for that particular assessment would be recorded as zero. In the case of illness, list of symptoms, the date of medical examination and signature of a doctor is required. No make-up opportunity will be provided unless arrangements for a missed assessment are made prior to the assessment date.

## **6. Attendance**

Class attendance and participation is very important to your success in this class. Regular attendance is expected.

Educational research has consistently found a negative correlation between absence and grades. (Credé et al., 2010). I want you to do well, so please attend every class meeting!

*Credé, M., Roch, S. C., & Kieszczyńska, U. M.. (2010). A meta-analytic review of the relationship of class attendance and student characteristics. Review of Educational Research, 8(2), 272-295, <https://doi.org/10.3102/0034654310362998>*

## **7. Tutoring:**

The Teaching and Learning Center (TLC), offers free tutoring. Visit the TLC for details.

## **8. Policy on Electronic Devices**

For on-campus classes, all phones, tablets, and/or computers must be in a mode that will avoid any form of distraction that may affect the class and other students. Similarly, students are allowed to use phones, tablets, and/or computers in class provided neither the class nor other students would be affected by its use.

## **9. Course Evaluation**

Homework/Exercises	50% (25% per requirement)
Quizzes	10%
5 Lecture Exams	20 (4% per Exam)
5 Laboratory Exams	20% (4% per Exam)

## **10. Grading Scale**

A	93% to 100%
A -	90% to 92%
B +	87% to 89%
B	83% to 86%
B -	80% to 82%
C +	77% to 79%
C	73% to 76%
C-	70% to 72% (this is the minimum required grade for GS courses)
D +	67% to 69%
D	63% to 66%
D -	60% to 62%
F	0% to 59%

## **11. Accessing this Course**

### Logging In

We will be using the Temple University's Canvas learning management system for this course. You can log in to Canvas at <https://canvas.temple.edu>. You can also access Canvas from the [TUPortal](#).

To log into Canvas, enter your Temple University [AccessNet Username and Password](#). If you're having trouble with your username and password, contact [TUHelp](#) for assistance.

If you have never used Canvas before, watch this [Canvas Overview for Students](#) before class starts.

### Technology Requirements

You are required to have access to a computer and the internet to participate in this course. If you do not have access to a computer off campus, you can borrow a laptop daily from the [ITS Helpdesk](#) (5th floor, room 501). Laptops must be returned each day before the Helpdesk closes.

To take this class in Canvas, and/or to use Zoom, your computer will need to have an up-to-date browser and operating system, microphone, and webcam. As specific course requirement, the latest version of Cytoscape (<https://cytoscape.org/>) must be installed for use in the laboratory. Cytoscape is free to download and install.

### Technology Usage Policy

By entering your unique TU username and password to access the course in Canvas, you're affirming that you are the student registered for the course and completing the course material and assignments, and that you understand and agree to follow TU's policies regarding the [use of electronic resources](#).

### Technical Support

If you ever need technical assistance using Canvas, you can chat with their 24/7 Technical Support Center at <https://cases.canvaslms.com/liveagentchat?chattype=student>.

For support using Zoom, go to the [Temple University Zoom support web page](#).

## **12. University Course Policy**

### COVID-19 Statement

Temple University's motto is Perseverance Conquers, and we will meet the challenges of the COVID pandemic with flexibility and resilience. The university has made plans for multiple eventualities. Working together as a community to deliver a meaningful learning experience is a responsibility we all share: we're in this together so we can be together.

### Accessibility Statement

Temple University is committed to the inclusion of students with disabilities and provides accessible instruction, including accessible technology and instructional materials. If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an academic accommodation, you are encouraged to contact the DRS Coordinator at TUJ ([tujdrs@tuj.temple.edu](mailto:tujdrs@tuj.temple.edu)) as early as possible, before or at any point in the semester. Disability Resources and Services will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course. You are also encouraged to communicate directly with your professor at any point in this process. For more information, visit: <http://disabilityresources.temple.edu/>

### Statement on Academic Freedom

Freedom to teach and freedom to learn are inseparable facets of academic freedom. The University has adopted a policy on Student and Faculty Academic Rights and Responsibilities (Policy # 03.70.02) which can be accessed through the following link: [http://policies.temple.edu/getdoc.asp?policy\\_no=03.70.02](http://policies.temple.edu/getdoc.asp?policy_no=03.70.02).

### Taping and Recording of Classes Statement

Recording of this class is permitted with instructor's permission, but only for personal use. Dissemination, broadcast, or transmission for non-personal, non-academic use will result in disciplinary action taken under the Student Code of Conduct.

### Pronouns and Chosen Names

Please let your professors know the preferred name and pronouns by which you'd like to be referred. A student's chosen name and pronouns should be respected at all times.

### Policy on Religious Holidays

If you will be observing any religious holidays this semester which will prevent you from attending a regularly scheduled class or interfere with fulfilling any course requirement, your instructor will offer you an opportunity to make up the class or course requirement if you make arrangements by informing your instructor of the dates of your religious holidays within two weeks of the beginning of the semester (or three days before any holidays which fall within the first two weeks of class).

### Grade Appeal Statement

Students and faculty at Temple University have the right to a fair adjudication of grievances concerning academic matters. Students are encouraged to discuss any grading issues with their instructor or relevant Program Coordinator first. If the student and instructor cannot come to a mutually agreeable resolution, more information about the academic grievance process is available at: <https://www.tuj.ac.jp/policies/academic-grievance>

### Academic Honesty

Temple University believes strongly in academic honesty and integrity. Plagiarism and academic cheating are, therefore, prohibited.

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of another person's labor, another person's ideas, another person's words, or another person's assistance. Academic cheating is, generally, the thwarting or breaking of the general rules of academic work or the specific rules of the individual courses. It includes falsifying data; submitting, without the instructor's approval, work in one course which was done for another; helping others to plagiarize or cheat from one's own or another's work; or actually doing the work of another person.

The penalty for academic dishonesty can vary from receiving a reprimand and a failing grade for a particular assignment, to a failing grade in the course, to suspension or expulsion from the university. The penalty varies with the nature of the offense, the individual instructor, the department, and the school or college.

Refer to the following link for the full TU policy on plagiarism and academic cheating:

<http://bulletin.temple.edu/undergraduate/about-temple-university/student-responsibilities/#academichonesty>

Students must assume that all graded assignments, quizzes, and tests are to be completed individually unless otherwise noted. I reserve the right to refer any cases of suspected plagiarism or cheating to the University Disciplinary Committee; I also reserve the right to assign a grade of "F" for the given paper, quiz or test.

I look forward to contributing to your success in this course. Please feel free to e-mail me or drop by during my office hours if you have any questions.

## **13. Other notable information**

### Important Course Information

This course has been redesigned with support from the [Textbook Affordability Project](#) at [Temple University Libraries](#). The assignments and/or assessments for this course will rely on the principles of open pedagogy. Open pedagogy is the practice of engaging with students as creators of information rather than simply consumers of it. It's a form of experiential learning in which students demonstrate understanding through the act of creation. The products of open pedagogy are student-centered and openly-licensed so that they may live outside of the classroom in a way that has an impact on the greater community.

### TUJ Pantry

If you are experiencing food insecurity or financial struggles, Temple provides resources and support. Notably, the Temple University Japan Pantry (located in the 3rd floor) is in operation as well as a variety of resources from the Office of Student Affairs.

### Suggestions about Diversity

It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, culture, perspective, and other background characteristics. Your suggestions about how to improve the value of diversity in this course are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students or student groups.

### Conflicts with Religious Holidays

In addition, in scheduling exams, I have attempted to avoid conflicts with major religious holidays. If, however, I have inadvertently scheduled an exam or major deadline that creates a conflict with your religious observances, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can make other arrangements.

## **14. Semester Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Note</b>	
1	1	Sept4 (M)		Syllabus Discussion/ Critical Thinking Review/ Digital Laboratory
	2	Sept6 (W)		Brain and Body I: Brain and Nervous System (Lecture)
	3	Sept 8 (F)	In-class Exercise # 1/ Homework (HW) # 1/ Quiz 1	Brain and Body I: Brain and Nervous System (Lab)
2	4	Sept 11 (M)		Brain and Body II: Brain Evolution (Lecture)
	5	Sept 13 (W)	In-class Exercise # 2/ HW # 2/ Quiz 2	Brain and Body II: Brain Evolution (Lab)
	6	Sept 15 (F)		LECTURE EXAM 1
3		Sept 18 (M)	UG Holiday – No Classes	
	7	Sept 20 (W)		LAB EXAM 1a
	8	Sept 22(F)		LAB EXAM 1b
4	9	Sept 25 (M)		Brain Anatomy I: Brain Structure (Lecture)
	10	Sept 27 (W)	In-class Exercise # 3/ HW # 3/ Quiz 3	Brain Anatomy I: Brain Structure (Lab)
	11	Sept 29 (F)		Brain Anatomy II:

				Brain Zones and Partitions (Lecture)
5	12	Oct2 (M)	In-class Exercise # 4/ HW # 4/ Quiz 4	Brain Anatomy II: Brain Zones and Partitions (Lab)
	13	Oct4(W)		LECTURE EXAM 2
	14	Oct 6 (F)		LAB EXAM 2a
6		Oct 9 (M)	UG Holiday – No Classes	
	15	Oct 11 (W)		LAB EXAM 2b
	16	Oct 13 (F)		The Senses I: Different Senses (Lecture)
7	17	Oct 16 (M)	In-class Exercise # 5/ HW # 5/ Quiz 5	The Senses I: Different Senses (Lab)
	18	Oct 18(W)		The Senses II: Pain (Lecture)
	19	Oct 20 (F)	In-class Exercise # 6/ HW # 6/ Quiz 6	The Senses II: Pain (Lab)
8	20	Oct 23 (M)		LECTURE EXAM 3
		Oct 25(W)	UG Holiday – No Classes	
	21	Oct 27 (F)		LAB EXAM 3a
9	22	Oct 30 (M)		LAB EXAM 3b
	23	Nov1 (W)		Emotions and Feelings I: Emotional Brain (Lecture)
		Nov 3 (F)	UG Holiday – No Classes	
10	24	Nov 6 (M)	In-class Exercise # 7/ HW # 7/ Quiz 7	Emotions and Feelings I: Emotional Brain (Lab)
	25	Nov 8 (W)		Emotions and Feelings II: Social Brain (Lecture)
	26	Nov 10 (F)	In-class Exercise # 8/ HW # 8 Quiz 8	Emotions and Feelings II: Social Brain (Lab)
11	27	Nov 13 (M)		LECTURE EXAM 4
	28	Nov 15 (W)		LAB EXAM 4a
	29	Nov 17 (F)		LAB EXAM 4b
12	30	Nov 20 (M)		Self and Consciousness I: Attentive Brain (Lecture)
	31	Nov 22 (W)	In-class Exercise # 9/ HW # 9 Quiz 9	Self and Consciousness I: Attentive Brain (Lab)
	32	Nov 24 (F)		Self and Consciousness II: Idling Brain (Lecture)

13	33	Nov 27 (M)	In-class Exercise # 10/ HW # 10 Quiz 10	Self and Consciousness II: Idling Brain (Lab)
	34	Nov 29 (W)		LECTURE EXAM 5
	35	Dec 1 (F)		LAB EXAM 5
14	36	Dec 4(M)	Last day of UG classes	Wrap-up

\*This schedule is subject to change. Please check Canvas regularly for important updates.