

**Psychology 4130 Lab
Physiology and Comparative Psychology
Spring 2008**

Course Information

Tuesdays -- 12:30 – 1:45
Location: Psychology 309

Instructor Contact Information

Lab Instructor: Elizabeth Rahn
Office: Psychology 617
Office Hours: By appointment
E-mail: rahneli@uga.edu
Office Phone: 706-583-0542

Required Materials

One sheep brain, which is purchased at the UGA bookstore (art supply department). Cost: \$16.00. All other materials will be provided (e.g., dissection kit, gloves).

Course Objectives

This lab is conducted in two parts. The goal of the first half of the lab is to familiarize you with the structural and functional neuroanatomy of the brain. This will be achieved with four sheep brain dissection labs. The goal of the second half of the lab is to orient you to studying animal behavior in a variety of paradigms. During the animal behavior labs, you and your lab partners will observe and record rat behavior in ethograms, along with completing weekly lab assignments. If you have ethical concerns which will prohibit your participation in the rat behavior labs your best course of action is to drop this course as there will be NO alternative assignments.

Grading Procedure

Lab Assignments	100 points
Sheep Brain Practicum	200 points
<u>Rat Behavior Paper</u>	<u>100 points</u>
Total Number of Points	400 points

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory. Since the lab requires your hands-on participation it is absolutely essential that you attend every lab meeting. I will not provide individual sheep brain or rat lab sessions if you are absent. If your absence is excused then your lab assignment grade will be out of the number of assignments that you are able to complete. For example if you miss one lab and it is excused then your total grade would be out of 390 points instead of 400. Information pertaining to University approved excused absences can be found at <http://www.uga.edu/provost/polproc/aapm/gp/gp406.htm>.

Lab Assignments

Lab assignments comprise 25% of your lab grade. Lab assignments are to be completed in each respective lab and turned in before the end of each class period. Your lab assignments will consist of drawing and labeling sheep brains as well as completing the ethograms for the rat behavior and providing a brief write-up about what behaviors were exhibited during each rat behavior session. Remember I am not an artist and I don't expect you to be one either. The purpose of these drawings is to familiarize you with each brain structure. Again I will NOT provide makeup lab assignments.

Sheep Brain Exam

The sheep brain exam will be in practicum format and is worth 200 points, 50% of your final lab grade. You will be asked to identify pinned structures on several sheep brain sections. There will also be a section of the test where you are expected to describe the function of several brain structures that we will identify in lab. Everything that we learn is fair game for this exam.

Rat Behavior Paper

At the conclusion of the rat behavior labs you will be required to write a summary of your findings compared with those of other lab groups. This paper will be worth 100 points, 25% of your final lab grade. Details discussing the requirements for this paper will be discussed at the beginning of the rat behavior section.

Academic Honesty

You will have a lab partner/s for both portions of this lab; however work on lab assignments should be completed individually. Any form of academic dishonesty, be it plagiarism or cheating, will not be tolerated. It is your responsibility to abide by the Academic Honesty guidelines outlined in the UGA handbook and University Honor Code (<http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/ah.pdf>). All work is expected to be your own. The minimum penalty for academic dishonesty is failure of this lab.

University Policy

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty". Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

Syllabus Deviations

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course. Deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary. In the case of a major syllabus deviation I will send out an E-mail to the class. Students are responsible for checking their UGA mail accounts

Students with Disabilities

If any student has circumstances requiring special attention or accommodation, please contact me as soon as possible. Your information will be held confidential.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lab Schedule</u>
January 8	Introduction, syllabus
January 15	Anatomical Terms Surface Anatomy of the sheep brain Assignment 1
January 22	Cranial Nerves, Cerebellum dissection Assignment 2
January 29	Midsagittal Dissection Assignment 3
February 5	Coronal Dissection Assignment 4
February 12	Sheep Brain Review
February 19	**Sheep Brain Practicum**
February 26	Intro to rat labs Handling rats
March 4	Rat Lab One Assignment 5
March 11	No Lab- Spring Break!
March 18	Rat Lab Two Assignment 6
March 25	Rat Lab Three Assignment 7
April 1	Rat Lab Four Assignment 8
April 8	Rat Lab Five Assignment 9
April 15	Rat Lab Six Assignment 10 Paper Assignment is given
April 22	Paper Guidelines/Plagiarism
May 1	Rat Behavior Paper is due by 3:00 P.M.