




 <b>FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>NEW COURSE PROPOSAL</b> <b>Graduate Programs</b>		UGPC Approval _____ UFS Approval _____ SCNS Submittal _____ Confirmed _____ Banner _____ Catalog _____	
	<b>Department</b> Neuroscience PhD Program  <b>College</b> Science (To obtain a course number, contact <a href="mailto:erudolph@fau.edu">erudolph@fau.edu</a> )			
<b>Prefix</b> PSB  <b>Number</b> 7980	(L = Lab Course; C = Combined Lecture/Lab; add if appropriate) <b>Lab Code</b>	<b>Type of Course</b> Research	<b>Course Title</b> Dissertation	
<b>Credits</b> (Review <a href="#">Provost Memorandum</a> ) <b>1-9</b>	<b>Grading</b> (Select One Option)  <b>Regular</b>  <b>X Sat/UnSat</b>	<b>Course Description</b> (Syllabus must be attached; see <a href="#">Guidelines</a> ) Dissertation research leading to the Ph.D. in Neuroscience.		
<b>Effective Date</b> (TERM & YEAR) <b>Fall 2023</b>				
<b>Prerequisites</b>  <b>Admission to doctoral candidacy</b>  <i>Prerequisites, Corequisites and Registration Controls are enforced for all sections of course.</i>		<b>Academic Service Learning (ASL) course</b> Academic Service Learning statement must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form.		
		<b>Corequisites</b>	<b>Registration Controls</b> (For example, Major, College, Level)  <b>PhD candidates; program level</b>	
<b>Minimum qualifications needed to teach course:</b> Member of the FAU graduate faculty and has a terminal degree in the subject area (or a closely related field.)		<b>List textbook information in syllabus or here</b> NA		
<b>Faculty Contact/Email/Phone</b> Kate Guthrie, <a href="mailto:kguthrie@health.fau.edu">kguthrie@health.fau.edu</a> 561-297-0457		<b>List/Attach comments from departments affected by new course</b>  <b>See Attached</b>		

<b>Approved by</b> Department Chair/Program Director  College Curriculum Chair  College Dean  UGPC Chair _____ UGC Chair _____ Graduate College Dean UFS President _____ Provost _____	<b>Date</b> _____ 3/11/2022 03-14-22 _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
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Email this form and syllabus to [UGPC@fau.edu](mailto:UGPC@fau.edu) 10 days before the UGPC meeting.

**Kathleen Guthrie** 

February 24, 2022 at 3:44 PM

KG

New Dissertation course for Neuro PhD

To: Sarah Milton

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Hi Sarah,

I hope you are well and looking forward to some time off this summer when the semester ends.

With the approval of the PhD in Neuroscience, we've created course codes for Advanced Research and Dissertation for the program. These are distinct from all other Advanced Research and Dissertation codes used at FAU, according to the Registrar's office, although final course numbers will need to be approved by the Statewide Course Numbering System.

Please look over the descriptions to determine if these conflict with Biological Sciences Advanced Research and Dissertations courses. If all looks good to you, an email back to me stating this should be all that is needed.

Many thanks,

Kate



NewCourseAdva  
ncedR...rch.pdf



NewCourseDiss  
ertation.pdf

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**Sarah Milton**

February 25, 2022 at 10:39 AM

SM

Re: New Dissertation course for Neuro PhD

To: Kathleen Guthrie

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Hi Kate - Since these courses will be taken only by students in your program, there is no conflict with IB courses already in existence. We have no objection.

Regards,  
Sarah

Dr. Sarah L. Milton  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Biological Sciences  
FAU

**Course title:** Dissertation (PSB 7980)

**Credits:** 1-9

**Course Dates:** Fall, Spring, and Summer term

**Course Times:** TBD, but as required.

**Course Location:** Faculty mentor's laboratory

**Instructor:** Mentor

**Course Description:** The design and performance of original research leading to the Ph.D. in Neuroscience. The final grade for Dissertation, which determines if a Ph.D. is granted, is based on the candidate's written dissertation and public defense, as well as the private defense before the Dissertation Committee. A minimum of one peer-reviewed, first authorship publication, or a letter from a journal documenting an accepted manuscript in press, is also required for degree completion.

**Additional Course Info:** In consultation with the faculty advisor and members of the Advisory/Dissertation Committee, each student will formulate a research proposal with specific aims that address a testable hypothesis, and then conduct experiments to complete these aims. During performance of the research, aspects of the project may be modified in response to recommendations of the mentor and Committee members. When the research aims are completed, the candidate will write and defend the dissertation. It is required that a copy of the dissertation be submitted to the Committee members NO LESS than 2 weeks prior to the scheduled date of the publicized defense. Graduate College deadlines and requirements for the final, formatted dissertation apply.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:** The writing and public presentation of a dissertation proposal leading to successful advancement to Ph.D. candidacy. Additionally, the satisfactory completion of the 21 required course credits for the Neuroscience Ph.D. (not to include Advanced Research or elective credits) and a GPA of at least 3.0, which must be maintained. A minimum of 21 dissertation credits are required for completion of the Ph.D.

**Instructional Method:** Performance of the proposed research work, with input from the faculty mentor and Dissertation Committee members. It is expected that the candidate will meet regularly with the mentor, and at least once per year with the Committee to provide updates on research progress, changes in planned experiments, and/or problems encountered. This is provided to the Committee in the form of a written annual progress report.

**Course Objectives/Learning outcomes:** Through their dissertation work, candidates will acquire the knowledge and skills that will allow them to:

Design experiments to test hypotheses  
Acquire and perform technical skills necessary for the project

Collect, manage and analyze data  
Interpret experimental results  
Troubleshoot problems that arise  
Write a dissertation based on the completed project, including methods, results, and in-depth discussion of the findings, as well as their significance  
Deliver an oral presentation defending the project design, technical approaches, analytical methods and interpretation of results  
Write a research manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal

**Course evaluation method/Grading:** A candidate's progress is graded at least once annually as satisfactory or unsatisfactory by the Mentor, with input from the other members of the Dissertation Committee. If progress is evaluated as unsatisfactory (U), the candidate may be dismissed from the Ph.D. program. If the dissertation is assessed as unsatisfactory, the Dissertation Committee may recommend postponing the defense for a stipulated period of time to allow revisions or corrections. If the defense is graded as unsatisfactory, the Committee may allow another defense attempt, or dismiss the candidate from the program.

**Recommended Readings:** Publications relevant to the candidate's area of research.

### **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center**

*Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>*

### **Disability Policy**

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at [www.fau.edu/sas/](http://www.fau.edu/sas/).*

### **Code of Academic Integrity**

*Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high-quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see [University Regulation 4.001](#).*