

 <b>FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>NEW COURSE PROPOSAL</b> <b>Graduate Programs</b>		UGPC Approval _____ UFS Approval _____ SCNS Submittal _____ Confirmed _____ Banner Posted _____ Catalog _____
	<b>Department</b> Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences  <b>College</b> College of Science <i>(To obtain a course number, contact erudolph@fau.edu)</i>		
<b>Prefix</b> PCB  <b>Number</b> PCB 6977	<i>(L = Lab Course; C = Combined Lecture/Lab; add if appropriate)</i> <b>Lab Code</b> L	<b>Type of Course</b> Research	<b>Course Title</b> Gntp PhD Lab Rotation
<b>Credits</b> <i>(Review Provost Memorandum)</i>  1-2	<b>Grading</b> <i>(Select One Option)</i>  <b>Regular</b> <input type="radio"/> <b>Sat/UnSat</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/>	<b>Course Description</b> <i>(Syllabus must be attached; see Guidelines)</i>  PhD students admitted to the Graduate Neuroscience Training Program sponsored by the FAU Brain Institute will work for 8-12 weeks with a faculty research mentor to gain training and competence in graduate level research and inquiry in neuroscience. The work is typically laboratory-based, and students will engage in up to 3 rotations during their first 2 semesters to explore different research areas before selecting a laboratory for their dissertation work. Requirements for lab work and criteria for evaluation will be agreed upon by the mentor and the student at the start of each rotation.	
<b>Effective Date</b> <i>(TERM &amp; YEAR)</i>  Fall 2019	<b>Prerequisites</b>  Permission of the instructor of record and the mentor		<b>Corequisites</b>  None
		<b>Registration Controls</b> <i>(Major, College, Level)</i>  CCSBS, Psychology, Biological Sciences; COS, PhD degree	
<b>Prerequisites, Corequisites and Registration Controls are enforced for all sections of course</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>  Kathleen Guthrie, kguthrie@health.fau.edu, 561-297-0457		<b>List/Attach comments from departments affected by new course</b>  Three participating COS graduate programs: Biological Sciences, Psychology and the Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences. See attached memorandum	

<b>Approved by</b> Department Chair <u><i>Atkinson for Steven Bessler</i></u> College Curriculum Chair _____ College Dean <u><i>[Signature]</i></u> UGPC Chair _____ UGC Chair _____ Graduate College Dean _____ UFS President _____ Provost _____	<b>Date</b> <u>12/20/2018</u> <u>11/01/19</u> <u>1-14-19</u> _____ _____ _____ _____
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Email this form and syllabus to [UGPC@fau.edu](mailto:UGPC@fau.edu) one week before the UGPC meeting.

GRADUATE COLLEGE

JAN 15 2019

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## Memorandum

**To:** University Graduate Program Committee  
**From:** Kathleen Guthrie, PhD, Assistant Director, Graduate Neuroscience Training Program  
**Subject:** New course  
**Date:** November 29, 2018

This memo requests approval to create a new graduate course entitled “**GNTP PhD Lab Rotation**” (PCB 6977, 1-2 credits, S/U/I). This is needed as currently there are no doctoral level research rotation courses of this type in Complex Systems and Brain Sciences (CSBS), or Experimental Psychology, two of the programs participating in the FAU Brain Institute’s Graduate Neuroscience Training Program (GNTP). The third participating program, Integrative Biology and Neuroscience (IBN), already has a research rotation course in place for their direct admit PhD students (BSC 6977, Integrative Biology Laboratory Rotation, formerly under BSC 6905). PhD students accepted through the GNTP and admitted to their PhD program of interest (IBN, CSBS or Exp Psych) are required to take a common curriculum in their first year. During this time, they will engage in 2-3 research rotations (8-12 wks each) to explore their areas of interest and gain training and experience in different techniques, experimental models, and areas of research in neuroscience. A minimum of two rotations is required, with three recommended. Rotation research credit under the PCB code will apply toward the PhD degrees in all three programs.

Rotations are arranged by mutual agreement between the students and supervising faculty members and can be done in any of the laboratories across the three PhD programs. Required research work and criteria for evaluations (S/U/I) will be agreed upon by the supervising mentor and the student at the start of each rotation. The Assistant Director of Education for the Brain Institute will serve as the instructor of record for registration and grade submission purposes, with the latter based on written faculty evaluations of the students. By the end of the first spring semester, by agreement with a prospective mentor, students will identify the laboratory in which they will pursue their dissertation work. They will then follow the curriculum requirements for the program in which the mentor holds their major academic appointment.

This rotation structure is common to most multidisciplinary Neuroscience PhD programs in the US and has been widely adopted to provide students with breadth in early research experiences, and flexibility in making informed choices when selecting dissertation projects and PhD supervisors. Often it also leads to collaborative research work initiated by students developing projects that overlap the research areas of their rotation laboratories.

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