# FLORIDA ATLANTIC

# **COURSE CHANGE REQUEST Graduate Programs**

**Department** Neuroscience PhD Graduate Program

UGPC Approval
UFS Approval
SCNS Submittal
Confirmed
Banner Posted
Catalog

UNIVERSITY	College Science			Catalog	
Current Course		Current Co	urco Titlo	Ü	
Prefix and Number PCB 6910L		Current Course Title GNTP PhD Lab Rotation (GNTP PhD program phased out)			
Syllabus must be attached for <b>ANY</b> changes to current course details. See <u>Guidelines</u> . Please consult and list departments that may be affected by the changes; attach documentation.					
Change title to:			Change description to:		
Neuroscience PhD Lab Rotation  Change prefix			PhD students admitted to the Neuroscience PhD program complete 3 laboratory research rotations in year 1 (fall-spring semesters) with different faculty mentors to gain research experience in the area of Neuroscience.		
From: PCB To: PSB			Change prerequisites/minimum grades to:		
			NA		
Change course r	number		INA		
From:	To:				
			Change corequisi	ites to:	
Change credits*			NA		
From:	To: 2				
			Change registrati	ion controls to:	
Change grading From: To:			NA NA		
			Please list existing and new pre/corequisites, specify AND or OR and include minimum passing grade.		
*Review <u>Provost Memorandum</u>					
Effective Date (TERM & YEAR) Fall 2022			Terminate course: List final active term:		
Faculty Contact/Email/Phone Kathleen Guthrie kguthrie@health.fau.edu 297-0457					
Approved by				Date	
Department Chair/Program Director Cuchy 3 (a (a)				February 28, 2022	
College Curriculum		U	3/11/2022		
College Dean William Borid Kalie					
UGPC Chair					
UGC Chair					

Email this form and syllabus to <a href="https://www.uGPC@fau.edu">UGPC@fau.edu</a> one week before the UGPC meeting.

Graduate College Dean UFS President

Provost

SM

Re: Course change for PhD lab rotations

To: Kathleen Guthrie

Hi Kate - I see no conflict with our courses, go ahead.

thanks, Sarah

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

From: Kathleen Guthrie < KGUTHRIE@health.fau.edu>

Sent: Friday, December 10, 2021 5:21 PM

To: Sarah Milton < smilton@fau.edu>

Subject: Course change for PhD lab rotations

#### Dear Sarah,

With the final approval of the Ph.D in Neuroscience, a course used for the previous program (Graduate Neuroscience Training Program), will phase out (PCB 6910L). The GNTP program is sunsetting, and the new Neuroscience Graduate Program (abbreviated NGP) gets underway. For the new program, we will use a new title, NGP PhD Lab Rotation, with a course code change to **PSB** 6910L. No current course uses this prefix and number. As before, the class is a Ph.D. level laboratory course for first year Ph.D. students engaged in 3 research rotations, prior to selecting a final faculty mentor and lab for their dissertation work by the summer of year 1. Grading is Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory, based on written evalutions from the supervising faculty.

The proposed course description (for the catalog) is as follows:

Ph.D. students admitted to the Neuroscience Graduate Program (NGP) engage in 3 research rotations in different laboratories during year 1 over the fall and spring semesters. Each rotation period is 8 weeks long, and during this time students gain training and competence in graduate-level research. Requirements for lab work and criteria for evaluation are agreed upon by the faculty mentor and the student at the start of each rotation. Grading is based on written evaluations from the faculty mentors.

I know that the Department of Biological Sciences also has a Ph.D. level lab rotation course. Please let me know if you have concerns about this course conflicting with your Biological Sciences course. A response by email would be fine.

I hope you have wonderful and relaxing holiday break,

Stay safe,

#### Kate

Kathleen Guthrie, Ph.D.
Professor of Biomedical Science, College of Medicine
Assistant Director, FAU Neuroscience Graduate Program
FAU Stiles-Nicholson Brain Institute
Florida Atlantic University
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Email: kguthrie@health.fau.edu

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Date and time and location: Variable

Couse Description and Goals: Hands-on research laboratory rotations serve as a mechanism for first year Ph.D. students to ultimately identify the neuroscience faculty mentor and laboratory in which they will pursue their doctoral research. During the fall and spring semesters, students will engage in research rotations in three different laboratories under the supervision of the faculty investigators. It is expected that by the end of the spring semester, each student will have made their final match by mutual agreement with their chosen mentor. This experience gives students the opportunity to explore different research questions in the neurosciences, while gaining skills in the methodologies and research models used by different laboratories. Additionally, students will get to know different laboratory environments (personnel, lab meetings, overall organization) in order to evaluate compatibility, or their "best fit", before making a final decision. Similarly, during rotations, supervising faculty will be evaluating prospective students who later may wish to join their laboratories for their doctoral degree.

# There are no prerequisites.

**Instructional method and structure:** Live, in-person laboratory training under supervision. Each lab rotation lasts 8 weeks, with the last ending before the end of the spring semester. The experience should give the students a chance to learn about a specific research area of neuroscience while developing technical skills that may be useful for their later doctoral work. There is no expectation of a resulting student publication from any rotations.

**Learning Objectives:** Acquire research skills through participation in laboratory projects directed by faculty members, while learning about the research area under study.

Choosing Laboratories: Students choose laboratories based on their areas of interest, but are encouraged to use rotation opportunities to explore new areas of research as well. Students are expected to be proactive in contacting and meeting faculty members to discuss the possibility of doing lab rotations. Information on faculty research programs is available on the Styles-Nicholson Brain Institute Research section of the website, and on the Faculty Video section. Students are encouraged to read research papers published by faculty to gain additional information, and should reach out to prospective faculty members to arrange their

first rotation before the fall semester begins. The rotations to follow can be arranged during the fall semester.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend laboratories regularly, according to schedules designed in consultation with their faculty mentors. The effect of absences upon final evaluation is determined by the supervising faculty member, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. It is the student's responsibility to give the faculty mentor notice prior to any anticipated absence.

**Evaluation/Grading**: Grading is Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory, based on written evaluations from faculty supervising student rotations. For each rotation, students are required to complete a lab rotation report and evaluation. Both faculty and student evaluations are required to be submitted to the Assistant Director of the NGP program in order to receive a grade.

**Readings:** Faculty will assign readings in the form of research papers to those students rotating in their labs. Faculty also may require students attend lab meetings and/or journal clubs where they can participate in discussions.

# 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 <a href="http://www.fau.edu/counseling/">http://www.fau.edu/counseling/</a>

# **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/.

#### **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 <u>University Regulation 4.001</u>.