WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THIS COURSE? Students will gain a solid understanding of 1) the basic mechanisms underlying the electrical and chemical activities of nervous system function; and 2) how nervous systems integrate information to produce behavior.

WHAT DOES THIS COURSE COVER? The course is divided into two sections. The first half is a self-contained unit covering basic cellular neurobiological principles with an emphasis on molecular mechanisms. The second half is an overview of systems neurobiology, emphasizing motor and sensory systems and integrating the cellular and molecular information learned in the first half. A brief overview of each lecture is presented in the course syllabus.

WHAT IS THE COURSE FORMAT?
A. Two 80 min lectures weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00-11:20.
B. Weekly, small group discussion sections.

In addition to the formal classroom periods, you will also be exposed to Neuroscience through:

C. Assigned readings from several textbooks;
D. Reading a primary scientific paper and writing a short report on its content;
E. Writing a paper on an unsolved problem in neurobiology;
F. Problem sets to be completed independently;
G. Reading “The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat”; &,
H. A film (to be announced).

WHAT IS YOUR STYLE OF INSTRUCTION? Lectures are informal with an emphasis on the acquisition of neurobiological information and the development of critical thinking skills through introduction of experimental evidence and design. The non-lecture parts of the course (discussions, texts, assignments, problem sets, film) are designed to reinforce ideas and concepts presented in lecture. The discussion sections provide time for an in-depth review on specific issues raised in lecture and solve practice exam questions. Questions are strongly and warmly encouraged during all parts of the course. I do not hold formal office hours however you are always welcomed to drop into my office without an appointment for questions and/or discussions, or make an appointment.

WHAT IS THE GRADING POLICY? Grades are based on your performance on the midterm and final exams, and the two papers.

Each exam will count 50% towards your final grade. There are no make-up exams. The class will choose whether the midterm will be open or closed book exam. The class will also vote on whether the final exam will be an open book, 24 hr take home exam handed out the final day of class or a closed book exam given during the regularly scheduled period in exam week. Exams are graded on a modified curve; everyone can receive an "A" if earned. Improvement between the midterm and final will be taken into account when assigning the course grade. You also have the option of not taking the final exam and
receiving your midterm grade for the course grade if you submit a 5 page paper on a neurobiological topic of your own choosing.

There are 2 papers (100 points total) in this course that contribute to your final grade. If you earn 90 points or better (≥ 90%), your final course grade will be raised by 1/3 of a letter grade. If you earn less than 70 points (< 70%), your final course grade will lowered by 1/3 of a letter grade. Assignments submitted late will have 5 points deducted from the final score.

WHAT DO THE TEACHING ASSISTANTS DO? The TAs are responsible for running the discussion sections each week and also assist with grading.

WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS SETS? The problem sets are found on the Bi 360 website. Problem sets are optional and not graded. You are strongly encouraged to work on the problem sets, because they will not only help you learn the material but give you some insight into they type and style of questions that may be on the exams. We recommend that you work on the problems first before looking at the answer key.

WHAT IS THE WEB ADDRESS FOR THE BI 360 WEBSITE? http://blogs.uoregon.edu/bi360/fall-2014/