

NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

BUSH 162: TUESDAY/THURSDAY 6:00 – 9:10 P.M.



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Office hours
By appointment

ABOUT THE PROFESSOR

I have been teaching at Rollins College since 2006, but this is my first time teaching in the Hamilton Holt School. I have a Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Florida (1997). My specialty is physiological psychology and behavioral neuroscience, with active research interests in the sense of taste, feeding behavior, and central pattern generators, generally using rat, mouse, and human models. I will be on campus almost every day during the 6-week term, either in my office or my research lab, and I encourage you to make an appointment with me if you are having any difficulty in the course.

READINGS

Readings must be completed **before class** on the day assigned.

- Required: *Fractured Minds, 2nd Edition, Jenni Ogden* | ISBN 0-19-517136-5 | Retail: \$45
- Required: Several readings available on Blackboard
- Optional: you may wish to purchase (or borrow from a library) at least one of the following books to complete your Chapter Summary assignment:
 - Oliver Sacks, *An Anthropologist On Mars*
 - Oliver Sacks, *Musicophilia*
 - Oliver Sacks, *The Mind's Eye*
 - V.S. Ramachandran, *Phantoms In The Brain*

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course, you will understand:

- The relationship of neuropsychology to other subfields in psychology
- The ethical issues involved in neuropsychological practice and treatment and in laboratory research
- The variety of etiologies of particular syndromes and the considerable variation in the symptomatology, prognosis, and response to treatment of the various conditions discussed
- The methods used both in clinical assessment and in research studies designed to better understand neuropsychological syndromes
- The symptoms of the major neuropsychological syndromes such as aphasia, amnesia, agnosia, and the neurodegenerative disorder Parkinson's Disease

EVALUATION

1. **Notebook (12% of grade)** – You will keep a notebook of cases we read about in this class (example notebook page available on Blackboard.) I will collect and check off your work each class (except the first and last). Notebook pages will be returned to you at the end of class each day.

2. **Quizzes (14%)** – At the beginning of each class (except the first and exam days) we will have a short quiz covering: 1) the readings for the day and 2) the previous class. Your best 7 of 9 quiz scores count toward your final grade.
3. **Chapter Summary (8%)** – Turn in a 5-page paper summarizing and analyzing a chapter from Oliver Sacks' *An Anthropologist On Mars*, *Musicophilia*, or *The Mind's Eye*, V.S. Ramachandran's *Phantoms In The Brain*, or Jenni Ogden's *Fractured Minds* which was not assigned in class. Indicate clearly at the top of your paper which chapter you are writing about. (You should be able to find the Sacks and Ramachandran books easily at a library or local bookstore – they are great reading.) This paper is due on June 2, the day of the Midterm Exam. Part of your grade will be an oral presentation on your chapter. (“Presentation” is too formal a word; really we will just go around the room and let each person talk about his or her chapter, conveying the highlights and answering questions. So bring some notes with you; we will have the presentations after the exam is over.) Note: there are a few chapters in the Sacks books which are quite short; please select a chapter that is at least a dozen pages so that you will have enough material to write about.
4. **Preparedness/Contributions (6%)** – Your contributions are important to this class. We will discuss the readings and videos shown in class, and your questions and insights will drive part of the discussion each day. In addition, on some days we will have multiple readings assigned to different students, and you will be responsible, in small groups, for informing one another of the readings you were assigned. Useful contributions will be recorded; points will be deducted for failure to contribute or for being unprepared.
5. **Exams (60%)** – We will have 2 exams in the class in addition to the quizzes. The Midterm will take place on June 2 and the Final Exam will take place on June 23. On the day of the Midterm, we will spend the first 30 minutes in a “study session” in which you can look over your notes and ask me questions. We will then take the exam in class, allowing an hour for the test. Following the exam, we will discuss our chapter summaries. On the day of the Final Exam, we will spend the first hour in a study session and I will make some final comments about neuropsychology. The rest of the time will be available for the test. We may have one or two essay questions on the Final which ask you to reflect on the entire course, but the shorter problems will be based only on new material since the Midterm.
6. **Additional Credit** – You may earn up to 4% points toward your final grade by turning in a second 5-page paper identical to the Chapter Summary due at the Midterm. You may turn in this additional paper any time up until (and including) the last day of class.

COURSE POLICIES

1. **Disabilities and Academic Honesty** – My policies on Disabilities and Academic Honesty are available on my web page: <http://web65.rollins.edu/~sstjohn/policies.htm>.
2. **Attendance** – Come to class. There are no penalties except that you will miss critical material and quizzes. When writing exams, I draw heavily from material we covered in the classroom, and less heavily from material found only in the readings.
3. **Make up exams/deadlines** – All assignments and exam dates are provided on the syllabus. I understand that this course is not the only event in your life, but I trust that since all of the deadlines are posted, you will be able to prepare in advance and complete the work on time. If you wish any consideration for deadlines and exam dates, please let me know well ahead of time.

SCHEDULE

Each day we will have several chapters to read, and readings should be completed before class. As you read, be sure to fill out your Notebook assignment, and bring your notes to class. It will also be helpful to have a copy of the readings as well (bring your book, printouts, or a laptop).

Readings will either come from Ogden (your text), Sacks-A (*An Anthropologist On Mars*), Sacks-M (*Musicophilia*), Sacks-E (*The Mind's Eye*), Ramachandran (*Phantoms In The Brain*), or Damasio (*Descartes' Error*). Numbers in the table refer to chapter numbers. You will be expected to purchase the Ogden book, but chapters from the other authors, when assigned, will be found on Blackboard.

You will be assigned to either Group A or Group B (if you forget, assignments are listed on Blackboard). Each day there will be an assignment everyone must read (indicated as [AB] on the table below), and there may be readings that are only for Group A [A], Group B [B], or are optional [OPT]. At the start of class, group A and group B people will get together to fill each other in on the readings (quizzes will only cover material common to everyone). You may of course read everything if you have time; I am choosing this system to avoid overwhelming you with reading. I will, however, draw on all of the readings in class.

	Topics	Readings
Tue. May 17	What is neuropsychology? Assessment History of the field	Ogden-1 [AB] Ogden-2 [AB]
Thu. May 19	Amnesia Dementia	Ogden-3 [AB] Sacks-M15 [A], Sacks-M29 [B], Ogden-17 [OPT]
Tue. May 24	Charles Bonnet syndrome Phantom limbs Plasticity	Ramachandran-5 [AB] Ramachandran-2 [A], Ramachandran-3 [B]
Thu. May 26	Autotopagnosia Hemineglect	Ramachandran-6 [AB] Ogden-6 [A], Ogden-7 [B]
Tue. May 31	Visual agnosia Prosopagnosia Balint's syndrome	Ogden-8 [AB], Sacks-A4 [AB] Ramachandran-4 [A], Sacks-E4 [B]
Thu. June 2	<i>MIDTERM EXAM and Chapter Summary Presentations</i>	
Tue. June 7	Aphasia Alexia and Agraphia Amusia Music therapy	Ogden-5 [AB], Sacks-M16 [AB] Sacks-E1 [A], Sacks-E2 [B], Sacks-M8 [OPT]
Thu. June 9	Parkinson's Disease Huntington's Disease Apraxia	Ogden-15 [AB] Sacks-M12 [A], Ogden-16 [B]
Tue. June 14	Callosotomy Hemispherectomy	Ogden-18 [AB], Ogden-19 [AB]
Thu. June 16	Frontal syndrome Capgras syndrome	Damasio [AB], Ramachandran-8 [AB] Ogden-9 [OPT]
Tue. June 21	Synesthesia Savant syndrome Williams syndrome	Sacks-M14 [AB] Sacks-A1 [A], Sacks-M28 [B] Sacks-A6 [OPT: but look at the pictures]
Thu. June 23	<i>FINAL EXAM and Final Thoughts</i>	