Course Syllabus (Tentative)  LWICHLIN (x4377)
Psychology 100
Brain, Mind, & Behavior  Class Mentor:  Ebuka (“E.B.”) Amaefuna
Larry Wichlinski
Fall Term, 2011

Texts:  

NOTE:  ALL OF THE ABOVE BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE ON CLOSED RESERVE IN THE LIBRARY

Office Hours:  
Tuesday, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Wednesday 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Thursday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

About the Course

Welcome to this introductory seminar on the relationships among the brain, mind, and behavior!  My goals for this course are:  (1) to provide an overview of the anatomy, physiology, and chemistry of the brain, (2) to examine how brain biology relates to attitudes, thoughts, and behaviors, and (3) to develop skills and background knowledge that apply not only to neuroscience and psychology, but to science more broadly (4) To view scientists at a human level, and (5) probe the culture of science, specifically neuroscience.  Toward goal #5, I want to give you all a sense of what’s not in the book---things that are important to know that you would otherwise discover on your own through trial and error.

We will use a variety of formats in this class:  lecture, discussion, film, and lab work.  You will write papers, learn how to access scientific information electronically, evaluate that information, and collaborate with your student colleagues, among other things.
Assessment

Because this is a seminar, its success depends upon class discussion and interaction. So attendance is extremely important. People who regularly miss class will be in danger of failing the course.

Legitimate excuses for missing a class include illness, accidents, and family crisis.

The breakdown for your grade in this class is as follows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment #1</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #2</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #3</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Assignment #4</td>
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<td>Assignment #5</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Discussion &amp; Participation</td>
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Most of the assignments above will be writing assignments of one sort or another.

Electronic Etiquette

Please turn off your cell phones during class. Computers in class are OK provided that you’re using them to type notes and not surf the internet or check Facebook.

We’ll have a five-minute break half way through class, around 2:15 or so.

Final Thoughts

Consider this course only a beginning toward answering fundamental questions that engage scientists and philosophers around the world: how does the brain work? What does the mind consist of? What is the relationship of the brain to the mind? How does consciousness occur? What makes us unique human beings?

What follows is a tentative syllabus for the course. The particular topics and the order of assignments may change as the course unfolds. Also, some days we will cover material that isn’t indicated on the syllabus.
There is quite a bit of reading in this course. You will have days when it seems impossible to finish the reading. Do the best you can.

Please see me if you have any questions/concerns/suggestions for this course. I am available at many other times besides the posted office hours. You can call my office phone or email me to make an appointment.

If you will be unable to attend class, please let me know.

I will send you emails from time to time regarding class assignments and any other course business, including interesting news releases that I come across.

Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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| 9-13 | Tues. | Introduction and Overview  
Assignment for Thurs.: Begley, Chapters 1 & 2 |
| 9-15 | Thurs. | (1) The Brain at a Macro Level (2) Discuss Begley  
Assignment for Tues.: Begley, Chapters 3 & 4 |
| 9-20 | Tues. | (1) The Brain at a Micro Level (2) Discuss Begley  
Assignment for Thurs.: Begley, Chapter 5 |
| 9-22 | Thurs. | (1) The Chemistry of the Brain  
Assignment for Tues.: Begley, Chapter 6; Reserve Reading: Schwartz & Begley |
| 9-23 | Fri. | Assignment #1 due by 4:30 p.m. |
| 9-27 | Tues. | (1) Finish Chemistry of the Brain (2) The Mind/Brain Relationship I  
Assignment for Thurs.: Burton, Chapters 1-4 |
| 9-29 | Thurs. | (1) The Mind/Brain Relationship II; Epistemology I: Discuss Burton  
Assignment for THURS, 10-6: Chapters 5-8 |
| 10-4 | Tues. | TBA |
| 10-6 | Thurs. | (1) The Mind/Brain Relationship III  
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>10-7</td>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>Assignment #2 due by 4:30 p.m.</td>
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| 10-11  | Tues.  | (1) Clinical Neuroscience  
Assignment for Thurs: Reserve Reading: 1. Carson 2. Firlik |
| 10-13  | Thurs. | (1) Neurosurgery and Neurosurgeons  
Assignment for Tues. McDermott, Chapters 1-3 |
| 10-18  | Tues.  | Sheep Brain Dissection (Hulings Basement, Room 04)  
Assignment for Thurs. McDermott, Chapters 4-6 |
| 10-20  | Thurs. | Fundamentals of Rat Brain Surgery (Hulings Basement, Room 04)  
Assignment for Tues.: McDermott, Chapters 7-10 |
| 10-21  | Fri.   | Assignment #3 due by 4:30 p.m. |
| 10-25  | Tues.  | The Neuroscience of Memory  
Assignment for Thurs: Burton, Chapters 12 & 13 |
| 10-27  | Thurs. | Faith & Reason  
Assignment for Tues.: Shermer, Chapters 1-4 |
| 11-1   | Tues.  | Science & Belief I  
Assignment for Thurs.: Shermer, Chapters 5 & 6 |
| 11-3   | Thurs. | Science & Belief II  
Assignment for Tues. Shermer, Chapters 11-13 |
| 11-4   | Fri.   | Assignment #4 due by 4:30 p.m. |
| 11-8   | Tues.  | Science & Belief III  
Assignment for Thurs: Begley, Chapters 9 & 10 |
| 11-10  | Thurs. | Synthesis:  
Assignment for Tuesday: None—work on final papers |
| 11-15  | Tues.  | TBA |

NO FINAL EXAM IN THIS COURSE

| 11-21  | Mon.   | Assignment #5 due by NOON |