Certificate in Neuroscience

Overview

The undergraduate Certificate Program in Neuroscience is an interdisciplinary program requiring a total of 20 credit hours. Coursework is 17 hours chosen from courses related to neuroscience and 3 credit hours of research experience. The program is likely to be of particular interest to students who want to pursue graduate or professional training, but is available to any student interested in neuroscience.

Courses taken for the certificate in the lower division (1000 and 2000 level) may satisfy general education requirements (that is, breadth requirements), if they are approved general education courses. Courses in the upper division (3000 level and above) may satisfy requirements for the student's major. All required courses must be completed with a “B” average or higher. Pass/Fail grades do not count.

Most courses that meet the requirements for the certificate have prerequisites. Some students may satisfy prerequisites by virtue of their prior curriculum. When this is not the case, students are responsible for satisfying the prerequisites.

Requirements

1. Both entry level courses (8 credits):
   - BIOL 1811 – Introductory Biology: From Molecules To Organisms
   - PSYCH 2211 – Introduction to Biological Psychology
   Other biology courses can be substituted for the 5 hours of BIOL 1811 with written approval of the Coordinator of the Neuroscience Certificate program.

2. One statistics course selected from the NEUROSCIENCE CERTIFICATE COURSES list (3 credits).

3. Two elective courses (6 credits). At least one elective must be taken outside the student’s major.

4. At least 3 credits from two semesters of research experience. This requires completion of a Directed Research Assistantship with a Neuroscience faculty member within any of the participating departments. The research project must be approved in advance by the undergraduate advisor with the assistance of a committee of Neuroscience faculty. It is expected that this research will lead to a presentation at the UM – St. Louis Neuroscience seminar, the UMSL Undergraduate Research Symposium or other venue.

Worksheet

To apply and begin working on the Certificate Program in Neuroscience, you will need to complete a worksheet and turn it into the Psychological Sciences Department office. The worksheet has a section for your name, address and other information for us to stay in contact with you. Next is a section on coursework you have taken or plan to take. The last section is critical because it describes the research project and asks your research mentor for a signature agreeing to sponsor your project over two semesters.