NEUROSCIENCE (BI-CO)

Department Website: https://www.haverford.edu/neuroscience

The desire to understand human and animal behavior in terms of nervous system structure and function is longstanding. Historically, researchers and scholars have approached this task from a variety of disciplines, including medicine, biology, psychology, philosophy, and physiology. The field of neuroscience emerged as an interdisciplinary approach, combining techniques and perspectives from these disciplines, as well as emerging fields such as computation and cognitive science, to yield new insights into the workings of the nervous system and behavior.

The minor in Neuroscience allows students with any major to pursue interests in behavior and the nervous system across disciplines. Students should consult with the faculty coordinator or any member of the advisory committee in order to declare the minor.

Learning Goals

The goals of the minor include enabling students to gain:

• a basic understanding of the organization of the nervous system and its relation to categories of behavior such as motor control, sensation and perception, motivational states, and higher cognition.

• an appreciation of and fluency with the many levels at which the nervous system can be studied, including molecular, cellular, systems, behavioral and cognitive neuroscience levels.

• an appreciation of the interdisciplinary nature of neuroscience and the allied disciplines that inform the study of mind, brain, and behavior.

• an ability to closely examine and critically evaluate primary research on specialized, advanced neuroscience topics.

Haverford’s Institutional Learning Goals are available on the President’s website, at http://hav.to/learninggoals.

Minor Requirements

• HC PSYC H217 (Behavioral Neuroscience) or BMC PSYC B218 (Behavioral Neuroscience) or BIOL B202 (Introduction to Neuroscience).

• Five credits from the list of approved courses, with these constraints:
  • The five credits must sample from three different disciplines.

  • At least three of the five credits must come from List A: Primary Neuroscience courses
  • At least one of the credits must be at the 300-level or higher.
  • One of the five credits may come from supervised senior research in neuroscience.
  • No more than two of the six minor credits may come from institutions outside of the Bi-Co.

A current list of approved courses, divided into List A: Primary Neuroscience and List B: Allied Disciplines, is linked from the Neuroscience Minor website.

Faculty at Haverford
Laura Been
Assistant Professor of Psychology; Coordinator of Neuroscience

Rebecca Compton
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Robert Fairman
Professor and Chair of Biology

Roshan Jain
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Mary Ellen Kelly
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Faculty at Bryn Mawr
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