

SYLLABUS
APSY 723; Fall 2015
Behavior-Genetic Analysis

Professor: B. Dudek (Office Hours: Tues 1-2:30, Wed, 1-2)
Time: Wed 9AM-12PM
Place: SS118

Texts:

Required -

Plomin, et al. BEHAVIORAL GENETICS, 6th Edition. Worth, 2012.

Recommended -

A basic textbook in genetics to support lecture material on Mendelian and Molecular Genetics. Almost any basic college level undergraduate text of recent vintage will work. Some recommended online materials can suffice here, or the Schaum's outline text. Additional course readings will come from assigned articles, chapters and manuscripts. This reading list will be provided in parts during the semester.

Course Outline: The course will have three components. The first component is a set of lectures on basic principles in genetics. This is intended to move all students to the point where understanding basic concepts in quantitative genetics and modern methods in gene mapping/identification is feasible. The second is a series of lectures and discussion on a variety of topics in both human behavior genetics and animal models. This section will be split between lecture type presentations by BCD (majority) and discussion of readings by the class. The third section will be presentations by students on topics of their choice and on which they will write term papers - in lieu of a final exam, and probably at the final exam time.

A list of topics, textbook reading and additional topics will be assigned by use of a Dropbox folder that will be set up after the first class.

Exams, papers, and grading:

A take-home mid-term will be due sometime in mid Oct. This exam will be retaken until a passing grade is achieved (45% of the course point total)

A major review paper will be due at an exact time yet to be determined. This will be a review of some defined topic to be agreed upon with the instructor before the end of Oct. A rough draft/outline and partial reference section is due on Nov 11. I would like the due date to be late in exam week. Wed-only 9:20 classes don't have a UA-assigned final exam time, but I am thinking about the time that would be for a MWF 9:20 class: Dec 17 at 10:30 AM. We can discuss this as time goes forward. The paper worth 45% of course grade. I would like the remaining 10% of the course points total to come from a brief presentation of your paper to the class at this due date time (Dec 17?).

While other readings may be assigned, at this point I don't anticipate there to be any writing/summary to be done for them. But you will probably be asked to come to class ready to discuss a few of them.

Course Objectives:

1. Broad overview of the history, methods and current state of the field
2. Emphasis on methodology. How are modern genetic methods utilized in the study of neuro-behavioral phenotypes?
3. Acquaintance with current research findings in some areas of inquiry.
4. Enabling the student to read the modern literature in behavior genetics.
5. Distinguishing what we call behavior genetics from what we might call behavior genomics.

Comments:

Behavior Genetics is a multiple-origin hybrid field that covers virtually every area/topic in the disciplines of psychology and psychiatry, with an interface to the neurosciences. As such, it is a field that no single course can adequately cover. Our emphasis will be on methodology. It is crucial that we see how genetic methods are employed so that misunderstandings and misinterpretation in historically controversial topics can be evaluated and new research well-designed.

SYLLABUS
APSY 723; Fall 2015
Behavior-Genetic Analysis

Professor: B. Dudek (Office Hours: Tues 1-2:30, Wed, 1-2)
Time: Wed 9AM-12PM
Place: SS118

Texts:

Required -

Plomin, et al. BEHAVIORAL GENETICS, 6th Edition. Worth, 2012.

Recommended -

A basic textbook in genetics to support lecture material on Mendelian and Molecular Genetics. Almost any basic college level undergraduate text of recent vintage will work. Some recommended online materials can suffice here, or the Schaum's outline text. Additional course readings will come from assigned articles, chapters and manuscripts. This reading list will be provided in parts during the semester.

Course Outline: The course will have three components. The first component is a set of lectures on basic principles in genetics. This is intended to move all students to the point where understanding basic concepts in quantitative genetics and modern methods in gene mapping/identification is feasible. The second is a series of lectures and discussion on a variety of topics in both human behavior genetics and animal models. This section will be split between lecture type presentations by BCD (majority) and discussion of readings by the class. The third section will be presentations by students on topics of their choice and on which they will write term papers - in lieu of a final exam, and probably at the final exam time.

A list of topics, textbook reading and additional topics will be assigned by use of a Dropbox folder that will be set up after the first class.

Exams, papers, and grading:

A take-home mid-term will be due sometime in mid Oct. This exam will be retaken until a passing grade is achieved (45% of the course point total)

A major review paper will be due at an exact time yet to be determined. This will be a review of some defined topic to be agreed upon with the instructor before the end of Oct. A rough draft/outline and partial reference section is due on Nov 11. I would like the due date to be late in exam week. Wed-only 9:20 classes don't have a UA-assigned final exam time, but I am thinking about the time that would be for a MWF 9:20 class: Dec 17 at 10:30 AM. We can discuss this as time goes forward. The paper worth 45% of course grade. I would like the remaining 10% of the course points total to come from a brief presentation of your paper to the class at this due date time (Dec 17?).

While other readings may be assigned, at this point I don't anticipate there to be any writing/summary to be done for them. But you will probably be asked to come to class ready to discuss a few of them.

Course Objectives:

1. Broad overview of the history, methods and current state of the field
2. Emphasis on methodology. How are modern genetic methods utilized in the study of neuro-behavioral phenotypes?
3. Acquaintance with current research findings in some areas of inquiry.
4. Enabling the student to read the modern literature in behavior genetics.
5. Distinguishing what we call behavior genetics from what we might call behavior genomics.

Comments:

Behavior Genetics is a multiple-origin hybrid field that covers virtually every area/topic in the disciplines of psychology and psychiatry, with an interface to the neurosciences. As such, it is a field that no single course can adequately cover. Our emphasis will be on methodology. It is crucial that we see how genetic methods are employed so that misunderstandings and misinterpretation in historically controversial topics can be evaluated and new research well-designed.

SYLLABUS
APSY 723; Fall 2015
Behavior-Genetic Analysis

Professor: B. Dudek (Office Hours: Tues 1-2:30, Wed, 1-2)
Time: Wed 9AM-12PM
Place: SS118

Texts:

Required -

Plomin, et al. BEHAVIORAL GENETICS, 6th Edition. Worth, 2012.

Recommended -

A basic textbook in genetics to support lecture material on Mendelian and Molecular Genetics. Almost any basic college level undergraduate text of recent vintage will work. Some recommended online materials can suffice here, or the Schaum's outline text. Additional course readings will come from assigned articles, chapters and manuscripts. This reading list will be provided in parts during the semester.

Course Outline: The course will have three components. The first component is a set of lectures on basic principles in genetics. This is intended to move all students to the point where understanding basic concepts in quantitative genetics and modern methods in gene mapping/identification is feasible. The second is a series of lectures and discussion on a variety of topics in both human behavior genetics and animal models. This section will be split between lecture type presentations by BCD (majority) and discussion of readings by the class. The third section will be presentations by students on topics of their choice and on which they will write term papers - in lieu of a final exam, and probably at the final exam time.

A list of topics, textbook reading and additional topics will be assigned by use of a Dropbox folder that will be set up after the first class.

Exams, papers, and grading:

A take-home mid-term will be due sometime in mid Oct. This exam will be retaken until a passing grade is achieved (45% of the course point total)

A major review paper will be due at an exact time yet to be determined. This will be a review of some defined topic to be agreed upon with the instructor before the end of Oct. A rough draft/outline and partial reference section is due on Nov 11. I would like the due date to be late in exam week. Wed-only 9:20 classes don't have a UA-assigned final exam time, but I am thinking about the time that would be for a MWF 9:20 class: Dec 17 at 10:30 AM. We can discuss this as time goes forward. The paper worth 45% of course grade. I would like the remaining 10% of the course points total to come from a brief presentation of your paper to the class at this due date time (Dec 17?).

While other readings may be assigned, at this point I don't anticipate there to be any writing/summary to be done for them. But you will probably be asked to come to class ready to discuss a few of them.

Course Objectives:

1. Broad overview of the history, methods and current state of the field
2. Emphasis on methodology. How are modern genetic methods utilized in the study of neuro-behavioral phenotypes?
3. Acquaintance with current research findings in some areas of inquiry.
4. Enabling the student to read the modern literature in behavior genetics.
5. Distinguishing what we call behavior genetics from what we might call behavior genomics.

Comments:

Behavior Genetics is a multiple-origin hybrid field that covers virtually every area/topic in the disciplines of psychology and psychiatry, with an interface to the neurosciences. As such, it is a field that no single course can adequately cover. Our emphasis will be on methodology. It is crucial that we see how genetic methods are employed so that misunderstandings and misinterpretation in historically controversial topics can be evaluated and new research well-designed.

SYLLABUS
APSY 723; Fall 2015
Behavior-Genetic Analysis

Professor: B. Dudek (Office Hours: Tues 1-2:30, Wed, 1-2)
Time: Wed 9AM-12PM
Place: SS118

Texts:

Required -

Plomin, et al. BEHAVIORAL GENETICS, 6th Edition. Worth, 2012.

Recommended -

A basic textbook in genetics to support lecture material on Mendelian and Molecular Genetics. Almost any basic college level undergraduate text of recent vintage will work. Some recommended online materials can suffice here, or the Schaum's outline text. Additional course readings will come from assigned articles, chapters and manuscripts. This reading list will be provided in parts during the semester.

Course Outline: The course will have three components. The first component is a set of lectures on basic principles in genetics. This is intended to move all students to the point where understanding basic concepts in quantitative genetics and modern methods in gene mapping/identification is feasible. The second is a series of lectures and discussion on a variety of topics in both human behavior genetics and animal models. This section will be split between lecture type presentations by BCD (majority) and discussion of readings by the class. The third section will be presentations by students on topics of their choice and on which they will write term papers - in lieu of a final exam, and probably at the final exam time.

A list of topics, textbook reading and additional topics will be assigned by use of a Dropbox folder that will be set up after the first class.

Exams, papers, and grading:

A take-home mid-term will be due sometime in mid Oct. This exam will be retaken until a passing grade is achieved (45% of the course point total)

A major review paper will be due at an exact time yet to be determined. This will be a review of some defined topic to be agreed upon with the instructor before the end of Oct. A rough draft/outline and partial reference section is due on Nov 11. I would like the due date to be late in exam week. Wed-only 9:20 classes don't have a UA-assigned final exam time, but I am thinking about the time that would be for a MWF 9:20 class: Dec 17 at 10:30 AM. We can discuss this as time goes forward. The paper worth 45% of course grade. I would like the remaining 10% of the course points total to come from a brief presentation of your paper to the class at this due date time (Dec 17?).

While other readings may be assigned, at this point I don't anticipate there to be any writing/summary to be done for them. But you will probably be asked to come to class ready to discuss a few of them.

Course Objectives:

1. Broad overview of the history, methods and current state of the field
2. Emphasis on methodology. How are modern genetic methods utilized in the study of neuro-behavioral phenotypes?
3. Acquaintance with current research findings in some areas of inquiry.
4. Enabling the student to read the modern literature in behavior genetics.
5. Distinguishing what we call behavior genetics from what we might call behavior genomics.

Comments:

Behavior Genetics is a multiple-origin hybrid field that covers virtually every area/topic in the disciplines of psychology and psychiatry, with an interface to the neurosciences. As such, it is a field that no single course can adequately cover. Our emphasis will be on methodology. It is crucial that we see how genetic methods are employed so that misunderstandings and misinterpretation in historically controversial topics can be evaluated and new research well-designed.

SYLLABUS
APSY 723; Fall 2015
Behavior-Genetic Analysis

Professor: B. Dudek (Office Hours: Tues 1-2:30, Wed, 1-2)
Time: Wed 9AM-12PM
Place: SS118

Texts:

Required -

Plomin, et al. BEHAVIORAL GENETICS, 6th Edition. Worth, 2012.

Recommended -

A basic textbook in genetics to support lecture material on Mendelian and Molecular Genetics. Almost any basic college level undergraduate text of recent vintage will work. Some recommended online materials can suffice here, or the Schaum's outline text. Additional course readings will come from assigned articles, chapters and manuscripts. This reading list will be provided in parts during the semester.

Course Outline: The course will have three components. The first component is a set of lectures on basic principles in genetics. This is intended to move all students to the point where understanding basic concepts in quantitative genetics and modern methods in gene mapping/identification is feasible. The second is a series of lectures and discussion on a variety of topics in both human behavior genetics and animal models. This section will be split between lecture type presentations by BCD (majority) and discussion of readings by the class. The third section will be presentations by students on topics of their choice and on which they will write term papers - in lieu of a final exam, and probably at the final exam time.

A list of topics, textbook reading and additional topics will be assigned by use of a Dropbox folder that will be set up after the first class.

Exams, papers, and grading:

A take-home mid-term will be due sometime in mid Oct. This exam will be retaken until a passing grade is achieved (45% of the course point total)

A major review paper will be due at an exact time yet to be determined. This will be a review of some defined topic to be agreed upon with the instructor before the end of Oct. A rough draft/outline and partial reference section is due on Nov 11. I would like the due date to be late in exam week. Wed-only 9:20 classes don't have a UA-assigned final exam time, but I am thinking about the time that would be for a MWF 9:20 class: Dec 17 at 10:30 AM. We can discuss this as time goes forward. The paper worth 45% of course grade. I would like the remaining 10% of the course points total to come from a brief presentation of your paper to the class at this due date time (Dec 17?).

While other readings may be assigned, at this point I don't anticipate there to be any writing/summary to be done for them. But you will probably be asked to come to class ready to discuss a few of them.

Course Objectives:

1. Broad overview of the history, methods and current state of the field
2. Emphasis on methodology. How are modern genetic methods utilized in the study of neuro-behavioral phenotypes?
3. Acquaintance with current research findings in some areas of inquiry.
4. Enabling the student to read the modern literature in behavior genetics.
5. Distinguishing what we call behavior genetics from what we might call behavior genomics.

Comments:

Behavior Genetics is a multiple-origin hybrid field that covers virtually every area/topic in the disciplines of psychology and psychiatry, with an interface to the neurosciences. As such, it is a field that no single course can adequately cover. Our emphasis will be on methodology. It is crucial that we see how genetic methods are employed so that misunderstandings and misinterpretation in historically controversial topics can be evaluated and new research well-designed.

SYLLABUS
APSY 723; Fall 2015
Behavior-Genetic Analysis

Professor: B. Dudek (Office Hours: Tues 1-2:30, Wed, 1-2)
Time: Wed 9AM-12PM
Place: SS118

Texts:

Required -

Plomin, et al. BEHAVIORAL GENETICS, 6th Edition. Worth, 2012.

Recommended -

A basic textbook in genetics to support lecture material on Mendelian and Molecular Genetics. Almost any basic college level undergraduate text of recent vintage will work. Some recommended online materials can suffice here, or the Schaum's outline text. Additional course readings will come from assigned articles, chapters and manuscripts. This reading list will be provided in parts during the semester.

Course Outline: The course will have three components. The first component is a set of lectures on basic principles in genetics. This is intended to move all students to the point where understanding basic concepts in quantitative genetics and modern methods in gene mapping/identification is feasible. The second is a series of lectures and discussion on a variety of topics in both human behavior genetics and animal models. This section will be split between lecture type presentations by BCD (majority) and discussion of readings by the class. The third section will be presentations by students on topics of their choice and on which they will write term papers - in lieu of a final exam, and probably at the final exam time.

A list of topics, textbook reading and additional topics will be assigned by use of a Dropbox folder that will be set up after the first class.

Exams, papers, and grading:

A take-home mid-term will be due sometime in mid Oct. This exam will be retaken until a passing grade is achieved (45% of the course point total)

A major review paper will be due at an exact time yet to be determined. This will be a review of some defined topic to be agreed upon with the instructor before the end of Oct. A rough draft/outline and partial reference section is due on Nov 11. I would like the due date to be late in exam week. Wed-only 9:20 classes don't have a UA-assigned final exam time, but I am thinking about the time that would be for a MWF 9:20 class: Dec 17 at 10:30 AM. We can discuss this as time goes forward. The paper worth 45% of course grade. I would like the remaining 10% of the course points total to come from a brief presentation of your paper to the class at this due date time (Dec 17?).

While other readings may be assigned, at this point I don't anticipate there to be any writing/summary to be done for them. But you will probably be asked to come to class ready to discuss a few of them.

Course Objectives:

1. Broad overview of the history, methods and current state of the field
2. Emphasis on methodology. How are modern genetic methods utilized in the study of neuro-behavioral phenotypes?
3. Acquaintance with current research findings in some areas of inquiry.
4. Enabling the student to read the modern literature in behavior genetics.
5. Distinguishing what we call behavior genetics from what we might call behavior genomics.

Comments:

Behavior Genetics is a multiple-origin hybrid field that covers virtually every area/topic in the disciplines of psychology and psychiatry, with an interface to the neurosciences. As such, it is a field that no single course can adequately cover. Our emphasis will be on methodology. It is crucial that we see how genetic methods are employed so that misunderstandings and misinterpretation in historically controversial topics can be evaluated and new research well-designed.

SYLLABUS
APSY 723; Fall 2015
Behavior-Genetic Analysis

Professor: B. Dudek (Office Hours: Tues 1-2:30, Wed, 1-2)
Time: Wed 9AM-12PM
Place: SS118

Texts:

Required -

Plomin, et al. BEHAVIORAL GENETICS, 6th Edition. Worth, 2012.

Recommended -

A basic textbook in genetics to support lecture material on Mendelian and Molecular Genetics. Almost any basic college level undergraduate text of recent vintage will work. Some recommended online materials can suffice here, or the Schaum's outline text. Additional course readings will come from assigned articles, chapters and manuscripts. This reading list will be provided in parts during the semester.

Course Outline: The course will have three components. The first component is a set of lectures on basic principles in genetics. This is intended to move all students to the point where understanding basic concepts in quantitative genetics and modern methods in gene mapping/identification is feasible. The second is a series of lectures and discussion on a variety of topics in both human behavior genetics and animal models. This section will be split between lecture type presentations by BCD (majority) and discussion of readings by the class. The third section will be presentations by students on topics of their choice and on which they will write term papers - in lieu of a final exam, and probably at the final exam time.

A list of topics, textbook reading and additional topics will be assigned by use of a Dropbox folder that will be set up after the first class.

Exams, papers, and grading:

A take-home mid-term will be due sometime in mid Oct. This exam will be retaken until a passing grade is achieved (45% of the course point total)

A major review paper will be due at an exact time yet to be determined. This will be a review of some defined topic to be agreed upon with the instructor before the end of Oct. A rough draft/outline and partial reference section is due on Nov 11. I would like the due date to be late in exam week. Wed-only 9:20 classes don't have a UA-assigned final exam time, but I am thinking about the time that would be for a MWF 9:20 class: Dec 17 at 10:30 AM. We can discuss this as time goes forward. The paper worth 45% of course grade. I would like the remaining 10% of the course points total to come from a brief presentation of your paper to the class at this due date time (Dec 17?).

While other readings may be assigned, at this point I don't anticipate there to be any writing/summary to be done for them. But you will probably be asked to come to class ready to discuss a few of them.

Course Objectives:

1. Broad overview of the history, methods and current state of the field
2. Emphasis on methodology. How are modern genetic methods utilized in the study of neuro-behavioral phenotypes?
3. Acquaintance with current research findings in some areas of inquiry.
4. Enabling the student to read the modern literature in behavior genetics.
5. Distinguishing what we call behavior genetics from what we might call behavior genomics.

Comments:

Behavior Genetics is a multiple-origin hybrid field that covers virtually every area/topic in the disciplines of psychology and psychiatry, with an interface to the neurosciences. As such, it is a field that no single course can adequately cover. Our emphasis will be on methodology. It is crucial that we see how genetic methods are employed so that misunderstandings and misinterpretation in historically controversial topics can be evaluated and new research well-designed.

SYLLABUS
APSY 723; Fall 2015
Behavior-Genetic Analysis

Professor: B. Dudek (Office Hours: Tues 1-2:30, Wed, 1-2)
Time: Wed 9AM-12PM
Place: SS118

Texts:

Required -

Plomin, et al. BEHAVIORAL GENETICS, 6th Edition. Worth, 2012.

Recommended -

A basic textbook in genetics to support lecture material on Mendelian and Molecular Genetics. Almost any basic college level undergraduate text of recent vintage will work. Some recommended online materials can suffice here, or the Schaum's outline text. Additional course readings will come from assigned articles, chapters and manuscripts. This reading list will be provided in parts during the semester.

Course Outline: The course will have three components. The first component is a set of lectures on basic principles in genetics. This is intended to move all students to the point where understanding basic concepts in quantitative genetics and modern methods in gene mapping/identification is feasible. The second is a series of lectures and discussion on a variety of topics in both human behavior genetics and animal models. This section will be split between lecture type presentations by BCD (majority) and discussion of readings by the class. The third section will be presentations by students on topics of their choice and on which they will write term papers - in lieu of a final exam, and probably at the final exam time.

A list of topics, textbook reading and additional topics will be assigned by use of a Dropbox folder that will be set up after the first class.

Exams, papers, and grading:

A take-home mid-term will be due sometime in mid Oct. This exam will be retaken until a passing grade is achieved (45% of the course point total)

A major review paper will be due at an exact time yet to be determined. This will be a review of some defined topic to be agreed upon with the instructor before the end of Oct. A rough draft/outline and partial reference section is due on Nov 11. I would like the due date to be late in exam week. Wed-only 9:20 classes don't have a UA-assigned final exam time, but I am thinking about the time that would be for a MWF 9:20 class: Dec 17 at 10:30 AM. We can discuss this as time goes forward. The paper worth 45% of course grade. I would like the remaining 10% of the course points total to come from a brief presentation of your paper to the class at this due date time (Dec 17?).

While other readings may be assigned, at this point I don't anticipate there to be any writing/summary to be done for them. But you will probably be asked to come to class ready to discuss a few of them.

Course Objectives:

1. Broad overview of the history, methods and current state of the field
2. Emphasis on methodology. How are modern genetic methods utilized in the study of neuro-behavioral phenotypes?
3. Acquaintance with current research findings in some areas of inquiry.
4. Enabling the student to read the modern literature in behavior genetics.
5. Distinguishing what we call behavior genetics from what we might call behavior genomics.

Comments:

Behavior Genetics is a multiple-origin hybrid field that covers virtually every area/topic in the disciplines of psychology and psychiatry, with an interface to the neurosciences. As such, it is a field that no single course can adequately cover. Our emphasis will be on methodology. It is crucial that we see how genetic methods are employed so that misunderstandings and misinterpretation in historically controversial topics can be evaluated and new research well-designed.

SYLLABUS
APSY 723; Fall 2015
Behavior-Genetic Analysis

Professor: B. Dudek (Office Hours: Tues 1-2:30, Wed, 1-2)
Time: Wed 9AM-12PM
Place: SS118

Texts:

Required -

Plomin, et al. BEHAVIORAL GENETICS, 6th Edition. Worth, 2012.

Recommended -

A basic textbook in genetics to support lecture material on Mendelian and Molecular Genetics. Almost any basic college level undergraduate text of recent vintage will work. Some recommended online materials can suffice here, or the Schaum's outline text. Additional course readings will come from assigned articles, chapters and manuscripts. This reading list will be provided in parts during the semester.

Course Outline: The course will have three components. The first component is a set of lectures on basic principles in genetics. This is intended to move all students to the point where understanding basic concepts in quantitative genetics and modern methods in gene mapping/identification is feasible. The second is a series of lectures and discussion on a variety of topics in both human behavior genetics and animal models. This section will be split between lecture type presentations by BCD (majority) and discussion of readings by the class. The third section will be presentations by students on topics of their choice and on which they will write term papers - in lieu of a final exam, and probably at the final exam time.

A list of topics, textbook reading and additional topics will be assigned by use of a Dropbox folder that will be set up after the first class.

Exams, papers, and grading:

A take-home mid-term will be due sometime in mid Oct. This exam will be retaken until a passing grade is achieved (45% of the course point total)

A major review paper will be due at an exact time yet to be determined. This will be a review of some defined topic to be agreed upon with the instructor before the end of Oct. A rough draft/outline and partial reference section is due on Nov 11. I would like the due date to be late in exam week. Wed-only 9:20 classes don't have a UA-assigned final exam time, but I am thinking about the time that would be for a MWF 9:20 class: Dec 17 at 10:30 AM. We can discuss this as time goes forward. The paper worth 45% of course grade. I would like the remaining 10% of the course points total to come from a brief presentation of your paper to the class at this due date time (Dec 17?).

While other readings may be assigned, at this point I don't anticipate there to be any writing/summary to be done for them. But you will probably be asked to come to class ready to discuss a few of them.

Course Objectives:

1. Broad overview of the history, methods and current state of the field
2. Emphasis on methodology. How are modern genetic methods utilized in the study of neuro-behavioral phenotypes?
3. Acquaintance with current research findings in some areas of inquiry.
4. Enabling the student to read the modern literature in behavior genetics.
5. Distinguishing what we call behavior genetics from what we might call behavior genomics.

Comments:

Behavior Genetics is a multiple-origin hybrid field that covers virtually every area/topic in the disciplines of psychology and psychiatry, with an interface to the neurosciences. As such, it is a field that no single course can adequately cover. Our emphasis will be on methodology. It is crucial that we see how genetic methods are employed so that misunderstandings and misinterpretation in historically controversial topics can be evaluated and new research well-designed.

SYLLABUS
APSY 723; Fall 2015
Behavior-Genetic Analysis

Professor: B. Dudek (Office Hours: Tues 1-2:30, Wed, 1-2)
Time: Wed 9AM-12PM
Place: SS118

Texts:

Required -

Plomin, et al. BEHAVIORAL GENETICS, 6th Edition. Worth, 2012.

Recommended -

A basic textbook in genetics to support lecture material on Mendelian and Molecular Genetics. Almost any basic college level undergraduate text of recent vintage will work. Some recommended online materials can suffice here, or the Schaum's outline text. Additional course readings will come from assigned articles, chapters and manuscripts. This reading list will be provided in parts during the semester.

Course Outline: The course will have three components. The first component is a set of lectures on basic principles in genetics. This is intended to move all students to the point where understanding basic concepts in quantitative genetics and modern methods in gene mapping/identification is feasible. The second is a series of lectures and discussion on a variety of topics in both human behavior genetics and animal models. This section will be split between lecture type presentations by BCD (majority) and discussion of readings by the class. The third section will be presentations by students on topics of their choice and on which they will write term papers - in lieu of a final exam, and probably at the final exam time.

A list of topics, textbook reading and additional topics will be assigned by use of a Dropbox folder that will be set up after the first class.

Exams, papers, and grading:

A take-home mid-term will be due sometime in mid Oct. This exam will be retaken until a passing grade is achieved (45% of the course point total)

A major review paper will be due at an exact time yet to be determined. This will be a review of some defined topic to be agreed upon with the instructor before the end of Oct. A rough draft/outline and partial reference section is due on Nov 11. I would like the due date to be late in exam week. Wed-only 9:20 classes don't have a UA-assigned final exam time, but I am thinking about the time that would be for a MWF 9:20 class: Dec 17 at 10:30 AM. We can discuss this as time goes forward. The paper worth 45% of course grade. I would like the remaining 10% of the course points total to come from a brief presentation of your paper to the class at this due date time (Dec 17?).

While other readings may be assigned, at this point I don't anticipate there to be any writing/summary to be done for them. But you will probably be asked to come to class ready to discuss a few of them.

Course Objectives:

1. Broad overview of the history, methods and current state of the field
2. Emphasis on methodology. How are modern genetic methods utilized in the study of neuro-behavioral phenotypes?
3. Acquaintance with current research findings in some areas of inquiry.
4. Enabling the student to read the modern literature in behavior genetics.
5. Distinguishing what we call behavior genetics from what we might call behavior genomics.

Comments:

Behavior Genetics is a multiple-origin hybrid field that covers virtually every area/topic in the disciplines of psychology and psychiatry, with an interface to the neurosciences. As such, it is a field that no single course can adequately cover. Our emphasis will be on methodology. It is crucial that we see how genetic methods are employed so that misunderstandings and misinterpretation in historically controversial topics can be evaluated and new research well-designed.