



Asignatura: Neurociencia
Código: 32683
Centro: Facultad de Ciencias
Titulación: Máster en Física de la Materia Condensada y de los
Sistemas Biológicos
Nivel: Máster
Tipo: Optativa
Nº de créditos: 4 ECTS

ASIGNATURA / COURSE TITLE

Neurociencia / [Neuroscience](#)

1.1. Código / Course number

32683

1.2. Materia / Content area

Módulo optativo de especialidad: Biofísica/ [Elective specialization module: Biophysics](#)

1.3. Tipo / Course type

Optativa

1.4. Nivel / Course level

Máster

1.5. Curso/ Year

1º / [1st](#)

1.6. Semestre / Semester

2º / [2nd](#) ([Spring semester](#))

1.7. Idioma / Language

Castellano o inglés / [spanish or english](#)

1.8. Requisitos previos / Prerequisites

Los alumnos deben haber aprobado al menos las asignaturas obligatorias de especialidad del primer semestre ('Métodos teóricos' y 'Métodos experimentales' en Biofísica), o demostrar conocimientos equivalentes por otros cursos de posgrado /

[The students should have attended and passed at least the specialization compulsory subjects of the first semester \(Theoretical and Experimental Methods in Biophysics\), or credit equivalent knowledge from other postgraduate courses.](#)



Curso 2018-2019
Asignatura: Neurociencia
Código: 32683
Centro: Facultad de Ciencias
Titulación: Máster en Física de la Materia Condensada y de los
Sistemas Biológicos
Nivel: Máster
Tipo: Optativa
Nº de créditos: 4 ECTS

1.9. Requisitos mínimos de asistencia a las sesiones presenciales / **Minimum attendance requirement**

La asistencia es obligatoria en un 80%.

Attendance is 80% compulsory.

1.10. Datos del equipo docente / **Faculty data**

Dr. Pablo Varona (Coordinator)

Departamento de Ingeniería Informática
Escuela Politécnica Superior
Office: B-330
Tel.: +34 914972263
e-mail: pablo.varona
Web: <http://www.eps.uam.es/~pvarona>

Dr. Eduardo Serrano

Departamento de Ingeniería Informática
Escuela Politécnica Superior
Office: B-304
Tel.: +34 914972238
e-mail: eduardo.serrano
Web: <http://www.eps.uam.es/~eserrano>

Dr. Francisco de Borja Rodríguez

Departamento de Ingeniería Informática
Escuela Politécnica Superior
Office: B-328
Tel.: +34 914972236
e-mail: f.rodiguez@uam.es
Web: <http://www.eps.uam.es/~gnb>

1.11. Objetivos del curso / **Course objectives**

En esta asignatura se describe el sistema nervioso desde el punto de vista de su funcionalidad: el procesamiento de información. Esta perspectiva complementa el estudio tradicional basado en una descripción morfológica y fisiológica. Para ello, se hace uso de modelos de neuronas y redes neuronales en distintas escalas de descripción: desde los modelos biofísicos de membrana conductiva a paradigmas de descripción abstracta que se utilizan para describir fenómenos en la actividad de grandes redes. En esta asignatura se enfatiza el papel de la dinámica intrínseca de las neuronas, de la conectividad, del aprendizaje, y de la dinámica colectiva de red. Se proponen también varios formalismos teóricos para la descripción de la codificación, aprendizaje y ejecución de información



neuronal, incluyendo la toma de decisiones y la actividad cognitiva en general. Esta perspectiva contribuye al entendimiento del funcionamiento del sistema nervioso y al estudio de varios tipos de enfermedades neurodegenerativas como la epilepsia, el Parkinson y la esclerosis.

This course describes the nervous system from the perspective of its functionality: information processing. This perspective complements traditional studies based on morphological and physiological descriptions. Models of neurons and neural networks are studied at different description levels: from conductance-based biophysical paradigms to abstract models used in large population networks. In this course we emphasize the role of intrinsic neuronal dynamics, the connectivity, the learning mechanisms and the overall network dynamics. Several theoretical formalisms to describe coding, learning and information execution are explained, including decision making and cognitive activity. The models are used to provide further insight on the nervous system and to study several types of neurodegenerative diseases such as epilepsy, Parkinson's disease and multiple sclerosis.

At the end of each unit, the student should be able to:

UNIT BY UNIT SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	
UNIT 1.- Introduction to Computational Neuroscience	
1.1.	Describe the fundamental morphological and physiological components of the nervous system
1.2.	Characterize different levels of neural information processing
1.3.	List the scales and strategies in neural modeling
UNIT 2.- Single neuron modeling	
2.1.	Characterize, implement and analyze conductance based models
2.2.	Characterize, implement and analyze simplified dynamical models and integrate & fire models
2.3.	Characterize, implement and analyze rate models
UNIT 3.- Dynamical analysis of neural models	
3.1.	Understand nonlinear Dynamical Systems in one and two dimensions: bifurcations and phase plane analysis
3.2.	Summarize the use of dynamical systems theory in modeling in neuroscience
3.3.	Reduce a Hodgkin-Huxley model to a one, two and three dimensional model
3.4.	Understand how different types of bifurcations determine the computational properties of neurons
3.5.	Discuss how such dynamical systems approaches can lead to the design and analysis of simple electro-physiological experiments
UNIT 3.- Connectivity models. Learning and plasticity	
4.1.	Implement chemical, graded and gap junction synapses.
4.2.	Characterize the different synaptic plasticity and learning paradigms.
4.3.	Distinguish between synaptic and subcellular learning paradigms.
UNIT 5.- Stochastic neural models	
5.1.	Understand the motivation for stochastic neural models
5.2.	Characterize and implement stochastic neural models
5.3.	Analyze stochastic network models



UNIT 6.- Neural network dynamics and codes	
6.1.	Characterize and use theoretical formalisms to describe neural network dynamics in sensory, motor and central nervous systems, including decision making and cognitive activity.
6.2.	Characterize the different neural codes for information processing

Estos resultados de aprendizaje contribuyen a la adquisición de las siguientes competencias del título:

BÁSICAS Y GENERALES: CG1, CG2, CG3, CG4, CG5, CB6, CB7, CB8, CB9, CB10.

ESPECÍFICAS: CE10, CE6, CE7, CE8, CE9.

1.12. Contenidos del programa / Course contents

1. Introduction to Computational Neuroscience
 - a. Fundamentals of Neuroscience
 - b. Introduction to neural information processing
 - c. Scales and strategies in neural modeling
2. Single neuron modeling
 - a. Conductance based-models
 - i. Hodgkin-Huxley models
 - ii. Multicompartmental models
 - b. Simplified dynamical models and Integrate & Fire models
 - c. Rate models
3. Dynamical analysis of neural models
 - a. Phase plane analysis
 - b. Bifurcations
 - c. Model dimension reduction
 - d. Neuronal excitability
4. Connectivity models. Learning and plasticity
 - a. Chemical synapses.
 - b. Graded synapses
 - c. Gap junctions.
 - d. Synaptic plasticity and learning.
 - e. Subcellular learning
5. Stochastic neural models
 - a. Motivation for stochasticity in neural models
 - b. How to include the stochasticity in neural models
 - c. Examples of stochastic neural models
6. Neural network dynamics and codes



Curso 2018-2019
Asignatura: Neurociencia
Código: 32683
Centro: Facultad de Ciencias
Titulación: Máster en Física de la Materia Condensada y de los
Sistemas Biológicos
Nivel: Máster
Tipo: Optativa
Nº de créditos: 4 ECTS

- a. Motor systems
- b. Sensory systems
- c. Central nervous system
- d. Decision making and cognitive activity

1.13. Referencias de consulta / Course bibliography

1. [Fundamentals of Computational Neuroscience](#), Thomas P. Trappenberg. Oxford University Press, 2nd edition, 2011.
2. [Principles of Computational Modelling in Neuroscience](#), David Sterratt, Cambridge, 2011. Pdf de prueba del autor.
3. [Methods in Neuronal Modeling: From Ions to Networks](#), edited by Christof Koch and Idan Segev 2-nd edition. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 2003.
4. [Biophysics of Computation. Information Processing in Single Neurons](#). C. Koch. Oxford University Press: New York, Oxford, 2004.
5. [Principles of Brain Dynamics: Global state interactions](#). M.I. Rabinovich, K.J. Friston, P. Varona. Eds. MIT Press, 2012
6. [Dynamical Systems in Neuroscience](#). E.M. Izhikevich. MIT Press, 2007.
7. [Spiking Neuron Models](#). W. Gerstner, WM. Kistler. Cambridge University Press, 2002.
8. [Theoretical Neuroscience Computational and Mathematical Modeling of Neural Systems](#). Peter Dayan and LF Abbott. MIT 2005.
9. [Spikes, decisions and actions. The dynamical foundations of neuroscience](#). H.R. Wilson. Oxford University Press, 1999.
10. [Bursting: The Genesis of Rhythm in the Nervous System](#). S Coombes and P.C. Bressloff. World Scientific, 2005.
11. [Diversity in the Neuronal Machine: Order and Variability in Interneuronal Microcircuits](#). I. Soltesz. Oxford University Press, 2005.
12. [Microcircuits: The Interface between Neurons and Global Brain Function](#). S. Grillner, A.M. Graybiel (Editors). The MIT Press, 2006.
13. [Problems in Systems Neuroscience](#). J. Leo van Hemmen, Terrence J. Sejnowski (Editors). Oxford University Press, 2005.
14. [E. R. Kandel, J. H. Schwartz, T. M. Jessel; Principles of Neural Science](#). 5th Edition, Prentice Hall, London, 2012.
15. [Hanspeter A Mallot Computational Neuroscience: A First Course](#), Springer, 2013.

2. Métodos docentes / Teaching methodology

Clases magistrales
Seminarios.
Discusión de artículos.



Preparación y presentación de trabajos.
Trabajo práctico de simulaciones numéricas.

Lectures.
Seminars.
Journal club.
Elaboration of a scientific project.
Work on numerical simulations.

3. Tiempo de trabajo del estudiante / **Student workload**

		Nº de horas	Porcentaje
Presencial	Clases teóricas	33 h	45%
	Seminarios	4 h	
	Realización del examen final	8 h	
	Tutorías	10 h	10 %
No presencial	Estudio semanal	25 h	25 %
	Preparación seminario		
	Preparación del examen	20 h	20 %
Carga total de horas de trabajo		100 h	

4. Métodos de evaluación y porcentaje en la calificación final / **Evaluation procedures and weight of components in the final grade**

The course involves lectures, weekly assignments, lab assignments, a seminar presentation and one exam.

In both the ordinary and the extraordinary exam period it is necessary to achieve a pass grade (≥ 5) in each of these assessments to pass the course.

- In the ordinary exam period, the evaluation will be made according to the following scheme
 - 20 % Exercises and class participation
 - 20 % Lab assignments



- 35 % Seminar presentation on a research topic in computational neuroscience
- 25 % Exam
- In case of a fail grade, the student has the opportunity to
 - Turn in all the exercises with corrections
 - Turn in all the lab assignments with corrections.

All assessments are mandatory both in in the ordinary and extraordinary evaluation periods.

5. Cronograma* / Course calendar

Semana	Temario
1-3	Introduction, single neuron modeling
4-5	Dynamical analysis of neural models
7-8	Connectivity models
9-10	Learning and plasticity
11-12	Stochastic neural models
13	Neural network dynamics and codes

*Este cronograma tiene carácter orientativo.