

# UConn | COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

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## COMMITTEE ON CURRICULA AND COURSES

### Proposal to Add a New Graduate Course

Last revised: September 24, 2013

1. Date: Jan 2014
2. Department requesting this course: Psychology
3. Semester and year in which course will be first offered: Spring 2015

### Final Catalog Listing

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Assemble this after you have completed the components below. This listing should not contain any information that is not listed below!

PSYC 5150. Neurodevelopment and Plasticity  
3 credits. Seminar. Open to graduate students in Psychology, SLHS, PNB;  
others with consent of instructor.

Overview of brain development including: embryonic neurogenetics; evolution and evo-devo; how emergent behavioral capabilities reflect neural growth in neurobehavioral development; and how disruptions of neurodevelopment cause developmental disabilities. Also offered as COGS 5130. Offered bi-annually in Spring semester.

### Items Included in Catalog Listing

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#### Obligatory Items

1. [Abbreviation](#) for Department, Program or [Subject Area](#): PSYC
2. [Course Number](#): 5150
3. Course Title: Neurodevelopment and Plasticity
4. [Number of Credits](#) (use digits, "3" not "three"): 3
5. [Course Description](#) (second paragraph of catalog entry):

Overview of brain development including: embryonic neurogenetics; evolution and evo-devo; how emergent behavioral capabilities reflect neural growth in neurobehavioral development; and how disruptions of neurodevelopment cause developmental disabilities. Also offered as COGS 5130. Offered bi-annually in Spring semester.

6. [Course Type](#), if appropriate:  
\_\_ Lecture \_\_ Laboratory X Seminar \_\_ Practicum

## Optional Items

7. [Prerequisites](#), if applicable:
8. [Recommended Preparation](#), if applicable: COGS 5110 (Foundations I); PSYC 5140 (Foundations in Neuropsychology)
9. [Consent of Instructor](#), if applicable: Consent required
10. [Exclusions](#), if applicable:
11. [Repetition for credit](#), if applicable:
12. [S/U grading](#):

## Justification

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1. [Reasons for adding this course](#): No other graduate-level course at UConn integrates an in-depth treatment of developmental neurobiology (including genetic factors modulating neural proliferation, migration, etc.) with cognitive behavioral development and disability.
2. [Academic merit](#): The course will employ an optional text that bridges these domains (Brain Development and Cognition: A Reader), but will focus on topical peer-reviewed journal articles pertinent to weekly topics.
3. [Overlapping courses](#): PSYC 5420 Cognitive development (covers only behavioral aspects of development but *not* neurobiology); PNB 6147 Developmental neurobiology (covers only neurobiologic aspects of brain development but *not* behavior).
4. Number of students expected: 12
5. Number and size of sections: 1 section
6. [Effects on other departments](#): None (but available as resource)
7. [Staffing](#): Fitch
8. [Dates approved](#) by  
Department Curriculum Committee: Feb. 12, 2014  
  
Department Faculty:
9. Name, Phone Number, and e-mail address of principal contact person: R. Holly Fitch, 486-2554, roslyn.h.fitch@uconn.edu

## Syllabus

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A [syllabus](#) for the new course must be attached to your submission email.

## **Additional Approval**

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New graduate courses must also be approved by the Graduate Faculty Council.