

Instructor:	Prof. Viara Mileva-Seitz
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Office hours:	by appointment
Lectures:	Humphrey Hall 223
	Tuesday 4.00 pm – 5.30 pm
	Thursday 2.30 pm – 4.00 pm

Animals engage in a wide range of behaviors aimed at fostering and strengthening inter-individual social relationships, including parent-offspring relationships, sibling relationships, and relationships between sexual partners. This seminar course will provide an opportunity to study some of the core neurobiological mechanisms proposed to regulate affiliative behavior across species ranging from voles through monkeys to humans. We will explore research examining genetic and epigenetic mechanisms, brain imaging, physiological mechanisms; and the role of experience, stress, and deprivation.

Weekly readings are mandatory and will normally consist of two to three peer-reviewed papers on the topic of the presentation/discussion for each week (normally one presentation per lecture, with 45 minutes of discussion). Background papers will also be assigned.

All course-related information can be found here: <https://moodle.queensu.ca/> (look for PSY 470 W Neurobiology of affiliative behavior)

<http://www.queensu.ca/its/moodle/studentfaqs.html>



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2000), although you are welcome to use older (e.g. foundational) original papers, books, and review papers as background. Articles on both human and non-human animals are permissible. Term papers will be graded for content (e.g., introduction, body, integration and conclusions) as well as style (e.g., overall readability, organization, grammar, spelling, punctuation and correct referencing style). More information about grading policies will be provided well ahead of time on Moodle. We will have one lecture dedicated to discussing topics and suitability, and you will be expected to write a 2-page (max) double spaced proposal about your review topic, which will serve as an abstract/mini review of your idea. I will provide you with feedback on the proposal which you should use to write the final term paper.

The term paper proposal is due March

11. Graham MD, Gardner Gregory J, Hussain D, Brake WG, Pfaus JG. Ovarian steroids alter dopamine receptor populations in the medial preoptic area of female rats: implications for sexual motivation, desire, and behaviour. *Eur J Neurosci* 2015;42:3138–48.
12. Aragona BJ, Liu Y, Curtis JT, Stephan FK, Wang Z. A critical role for nucleus accumbens dopamine in partner-preference formation in male prairie voles. *J Neurosci* 2003;23:3483–90.
13. Acevedo BP, Aron A, Fisher HE, Brown LL. Neural correlates of long-term intense romantic love. *Soc Cogn Affect Neurosci* 2012;7:145–59.
14. Chatel-Goldman J, Congedo M, Jutten C, Schwartz J-L. Touch increases autonomic coupling between romantic partners. *Front Behav Neurosci* 2014;8:1–12.
15. Tottenham N, Hare T a, Quinn BT, et al. Prolonged insitutional rearing is associated with atypically larger amygdala volume and difficulties in emotion regulation. *Dev Sci* 2010;13:1–26.
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