Neuroscience
+ College of Arts and Sciences

Degree(s)
+ Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in neuroscience

About the Faculty
The neuroscience core faculty includes members of the biology and psychology departments. Drs. Judith Ogilvie, William Stark and Fenglian Xu are faculty members in the biology department. Drs. Michael Anch, Tony Buchanan, Brenda Kirchhoff and Jill Waring are faculty members in the psychology department.

Program Overview
Neuroscience is an interdisciplinary field of study that employs the tools and perspectives of biology, psychology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, philosophy and medicine to achieve a better understanding of brain structure, function and behavior.

A degree in neuroscience places students in an excellent position to address the basic science of brain function, along with a myriad of possibilities for applications within medicine, science and industry. The neuroscience major offers courses that further the understanding of psychiatric, neurological and developmental disorders, with a goal toward the development of innovative treatment options through basic and applied research.

Neuroscience is an appropriate major for students who want to pursue graduate studies or professional work in a number of scientific and professional fields.

Curriculum
Courses in the major include lectures, seminars and laboratory experiences. The curriculum includes three core neuroscience courses: Introduction to Neuroscience I, Introduction to Neuroscience II and a neuroscience lab course.

Additionally, students are required to take 18-22 credit hours from the biology department and 16 credit hours from the psychology department, as well as courses in chemistry, physics, mathematics and philosophy. Students must also complete the College of Arts and Sciences core requirements.

Students are also required to complete a capstone learning experience, consisting of either research, practica or advanced coursework, all of which are designed to give students exposure to the breadth of the field of neuroscience and the potential for understanding its applications in the real world.

Contact
Neuroscience program
314-977-9705
neuroscience@slu.edu

Graduate Programs
Students can obtain graduate training in neuroscience through existing graduate programs in the biology and psychology departments. For a full listing of graduate programs, visit graduate.slu.edu.

Learn More For course listings and more information about our faculty, visit slu.edu/neuroscience-program.

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Admission Requirements

Freshman: All applications are thoroughly and carefully reviewed. Solid academic performance in college preparatory course work is a primary criterion in reviewing a freshman applicant’s file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student’s ability to meet the University’s academic requirements and to qualify the student for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be approaching graduation from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer: Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours of college credit. Those having completed 24 college credit hours or more need only submit a transcript from previously attended college(s). In reviewing a transfer applicant’s file, the office of admission holistically examines the student’s academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student’s ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University.

In addition, students transferring as sophomores and intending to major in neuroscience must have transfer credits for PSY 1010, BIOL 1040, BIOL 1060, CHEM 1110/1115 and CHEM 1120/1125 with a grade of B- or better in each course. Students transferring as juniors must also have transfer credits for BIOL 3020 and BIOL 3040 with a 3.0 GPA in these courses.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:
+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

Internships and Careers

The program features opportunities for internships through existing collaborations with the biology and psychology departments, and there is a strong outlook for employment — both regionally and nationally — for students who graduate with a degree in neuroscience.

Coursework within the neuroscience major also serves as outstanding preparation for pre-medical students by incorporating behavioral, social and philosophical training, which are crucial in understanding states of health and disease. Further, the neuroscience major provides a solid foundation for students interested in attending graduate school or working in industry in fields related to psychology, biology, chemistry, physics, biomedical engineering, law and philosophy, among other interests.

For more information, visit the neuroscience program page on slu.edu.