

## **VMFB43, Neuroscience and Critical Thinking, 5 credits**

*Neurovetenskap och kritiskt tänkande, 5 högskolepoäng*

**First Cycle / Grundnivå**

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by The Master's Programmes Board on 2025-02-07. The syllabus comes into effect 2025-02-07 and is valid from the autumn semester 2025.

### **General information**

This is a freestanding course with general entry requirements.

*Language of instruction:* English

<i>Main field of study</i>	<i>Specialisation</i>
Reproductive, Perinatal and Sexual Health	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements
Public Health Science	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements
Radiography	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements
Speech and Language Pathology	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements
Medicine	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements
Audiology	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements
Biomedicine	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements
Physiotherapy	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements
Nursing	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

Occupational Therapy	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements
Biomedical Laboratory Science	G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

## **Learning outcomes**

### **Knowledge and understanding**

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to:

- give a basic account of the structure of the nervous system and how it controls behaviour,
- give a basic account of the structure and function of the nerve cell,
- give a basic description of the methods that are used to obtain knowledge about the nervous system,
- give a basic account of how the brain takes in information from the surroundings via our senses,
- use their knowledge of the nervous system to evaluate media claims.

### **Competence and skills**

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to:

- search, review, and summarise information about the brain,
- give feedback on and evaluate texts and statements about the nervous system.

### **Judgement and approach**

On completion of the course, the student shall be able to:

- respectfully discuss issues of the brain based on their knowledge of the brain,
- reflect on ethical issues in neuroscience.

## **Course content**

The course is aimed at people who want to gain a basic understanding of how the nervous system works and, based on this knowledge, be able to understand and evaluate claims about the brain in the media. Throughout the course, students will learn about the structure and functions of the nervous system. Furthermore, the student learns about how the nervous system collects and processes information about the outside world via the senses and how the brain in turn can influence the environment through different behaviours. The student also learns to scrutinise and discuss what is written and said about the brain in the media with the support of the course literature and scientific articles.

## Course design

The course is based on active student participation, with support from lectures. Students are expected to read the course literature and attend lectures to be prepared for group work. In order to achieve the stated skills and to train their approach and judgement, students will work with an article, podcast, or other media during the course and examine claims or assumptions about the brain by comparing them with what is written in the course literature and published scientific articles.

## Assessment

The course is examined through two assessed components:

- Course portfolio, 3 credits, Pass/Fail
- Written tests, 2 credits, Pass/Fail

An individual written assignment and feedback on the assignment of a fellow student constitute the basis for assessing the course learning outcomes relating to skills, and judgement and approach, and are included in a course portfolio. The learning outcomes of the course are continuously assessed by multiple-choice questions that relate to the content.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

## Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass

A grade of Pass on all assessed components is required to achieve the grade of Pass as a final grade for the course.

## Entry requirements

General requirements