The Emotional Brain
Dr. LeDoux

Structure:
Faculty Lectures will take place during the first 7 classes. Read the papers and participate in discussion.

Midterm Exam will consist of multiple-choice questions taken from the readings and lectures up to that point.

Student Presentations Each student will be responsible for one presentation during the semester. We will have 3 presentations each week. Each should last about 20 min, followed by discussion. Each student has been randomly assigned to papers (see below). If you don’t like your time or topic, find someone to swap with and let me know.

Class Participation All class members are required to read the assigned papers and participate in the discussion of the papers. Asking questions about what is in the paper indicates you did not read the paper. Ask questions that dig deeper.

Term Paper will be due the last day of class (or earlier). Papers should be 5 double-spaced pages, with Times Roman/Cambria 12 point-font. MORE DETAILS LATER.

Grading:
*Student Presentation 1/3
*Midterm (multiple-choice) 1/3
*Term Paper 1/3
*Class participation will be used to add or subtract from your final grade. Lots of good participation turns a course grade of B to a B+ while sparse participation turns a B into a B-

CLASS CALENDAR
Week 1  Introduction
Week 2  History of the Emotional Brain
Week 3  Fear and the Amygdala
Week 4  Rethinking the Emotional Brain
Week 5  A Philosophical Perspective on Emotional Consciousness
Week 6  Human Affective Neuroscience
Week 7  Mid-term exam (20 minutes); Deep History of Ourselves
Week 8  Memory and Emotion
Week 9  Stress
Week 10 Reward and Addiction - student presentations
Week 11 Eating Disorders - student presentations
Week 12 Depression - student presentations
Week 13 Anxiety - student presentations
Week 14 Term Paper Due
READINGS

Week 1  Introduction

Week 2  History of the Emotional Brain
Emotional Brain Chapter 3 – Blood, Sweat, and Tears
Emotional Brain Chapter 4 – The Holy Grail
Emotional Brain Chapter 5 – The Way Were, p. 104-125

Week 3  Fear and the Amygdala
Anxious Chapter 4 – The Defensive Brain

Week 4  Rethinking the Emotional Brain

Week 5  A Philosophical Perspective on Emotional Consciousness
Anxious Chapter 6 – Let’s Get Physical

Week 6  Human Affective Neuroscience

Week 7  Deep History of Ourselves
No readings

Week 8  Memory and Emotion

Week 9  Stress

Week 10  Reward and Addiction

Week 11  Eating Disorders
Week 12  Depression

Week 13  Anxiety