Government of Russian Federation

Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution of High Professional Education

«National Research University Higher School of Economics»

Institute of cognitive neurosciences

Syllabus for the course

«Introduction to Neuroimaging techniques»

(Введение в методы нейрокартирования)

37.04.01 «Cognitive sciences and technologies: from neuron to cognition», Master of Science

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Approved by Academic Council:
«29» августа 2017 г., № 51

Academic supervisor of the «Cognitive sciences and technologies: from neuron to cognition»

Dr. Anna Shestakova __________________________

Moscow, 2017

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1. Teachers

Author, lecturer:

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Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Psychology, Center for cognition and decision making, senior scientist.

Seminars will be held by:

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Mr. Mario Martinez-Saito, MSci (CDM-Centre) (fMRI)

Teaching assistant and the course coordinator: Marco Colosio mcolosio@hse.ru

2. Scope of Use

The present program establishes minimum demands of students’ knowledge and skills, and determines content of the course. The present syllabus is aimed at department teaching the course, their teaching assistants, and students of the Master of Science program 37.04.01 «Cognitive sciences and technologies: from neuron to cognition».

This syllabus meets the standards required by:

- Educational standards of National Research University Higher School of Economics;
- Educational program «Psychology» of Master’s Degree Program 37.04.01, 2014;
- University curriculum of the Master’s program «Cognitive sciences and technologies: from neuron to cognition» in psychology (37.04.01) for 2017.

3. Summary

Methods such as functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), positron emission topography (PET), transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS) and Transcranial Alternating Current Stimulation (tACS), near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS), also called optical imaging (OI), and optical provide us with new insights into the structure and function of the human brain along with more widely used electroencephalography (EEG). Recently, with the advent of superconductivity, a multichannel magnetoencephalography (MEG), the method that allow to record the activity of the same neural population as EEG does, came about and have been successfully applied for localizing sources in the brain. Nature and origin of electric, magnetic, NIRS, and blood-oxygen-level-dependent (BOLD) responses will be discussed throughout the course.

4. Learning Objectives

This course aims at familiarizing students of our program with contemporary neuroimaging methods to study brain activity non-invasively with a particular emphasis on fMRI, MEG, multichannel EEG, TMS, tDCS, tACS, and NIRS (OI). Prior to the seminars and/or hands-on sessions on each methodology, an overview of basic principles and physics of the above-
mentioned techniques and methods will be provided. The course is structured such that it will start with the lectures on essentials and basic principles of core methodologies and continues with the advanced topics of the neuroimaging techniques. World leading experts in the a.m. and other methodologies such as e.g. newly developed ontogenetic or brain-machine interfaces will be invited as well. Biomedical applications of neuroimaging will be discussed throughout the lectures with the particular focus on the brain-machine interfaces which are developed at the HSE at the CDM Centre equipped with the brain-navigated TMS and multichannel EEG.

5. **Learning outcomes**

After completing the study of the “Neuroimaging Techniques” the student should: be aware of the main spectrum of the neuroimaging techniques to non-invasively study the human brain function, understand their basic physical principles, biology, and mathematical computations underlying implementation of each of the core methodologies including electro- and magnetoencephalography (EEG/MEG), transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), transcranial alternating current stimulation (tACS), direct current stimulation (tDCS), near-infrared-spectroscopy (NIRS), functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI).

After completing the study of the discipline «Neuroimaging techniques» the student should have the following competences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competence</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Code (UC)</th>
<th>Descriptors (indicators of achievement of the result)</th>
<th>Educative forms and methods aimed at generation and development of the competence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The ability to reflect developed methods of activity.</td>
<td>SC-1</td>
<td>SC-M1</td>
<td>The student is able to reflect developed methods of activity based on main concepts and approaches of the Neuroimaging Techniques.</td>
<td>Lectures and tutorials, group discussions, presentations, tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to propose a model to invent and test methods and tools of professional activity.</td>
<td>SC-2</td>
<td>SC-M2</td>
<td>The student is able to propose a model to invent and test methods of the non-invasive whole-brain neuroimaging.</td>
<td>Lectures and tutorials, group discussions, seminars, tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to independently become acquainted with new research methods, to change scientific profile of activity.</td>
<td>SC-3</td>
<td>SC-M3</td>
<td>The student is able to independently become acquainted with new methods of the whole brain Neuroimaging Techniques.</td>
<td>Tutorials, group discussions, hands-on-training, seminars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to improve and develop intelligent and cultural level, to build track of professional development and career.</td>
<td>SC-4</td>
<td>SC-M4</td>
<td>The student is able to improve and develop intelligent and cultural level, to build track of professional development and career based on the knowledge of cutting-edge non-invasive Neuroimaging Techniques</td>
<td>Lectures, group discussions, tests, discussions of recommended literature, hands-on-training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competence</td>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Code (UC)</td>
<td>Descriptors (indicators of achievement of the result)</td>
<td>Educative forms and methods aimed at generation and development of the competence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to analyze, verify and assess the completeness of information during professional activity and work under ambiguity.</td>
<td>SC-6</td>
<td>SC-M6</td>
<td>The student is able to analyze, verify and assess the completeness of information about neuroimaging methods and work under ambiguity.</td>
<td>Lectures, group discussions, tests, discussions of recommended literature, hands-on-training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to conduct professional (including research) activity in international environment.</td>
<td>SC-8</td>
<td>SC-M8</td>
<td>The student is able to conduct professional (including research) activity in international environment regarding main concepts of noninvasive Neuroimaging Techniques.</td>
<td>Lectures, group discussions, colloquium, projects in mini-groups, discussions of essays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capability to organize independent scientific, research, consulting and applied activity on the basis of juridical and professional standards and duties.</td>
<td>PC-1</td>
<td>IK-M1.2p/n /i/k/pr_6.1</td>
<td>The student is able to organize independent scientific, research, consulting and applied activity on the basis of juridical and professional standards and duties.</td>
<td>Lectures, group discussions, colloquium, projects in mini-groups, discussions of essays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to communicate orally and in written form in English in the frame of professional and scientific intercourse.</td>
<td>PC-2</td>
<td>IC-M2.1_2. 2.4.1_2.4.2</td>
<td>The student is able to discuss problems of cognitive science both orally and in written form.</td>
<td>group discussions, tests, quizzes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to use modern IT technologies for search and processing of information, work with professional databases and net communication.</td>
<td>PC-4</td>
<td>IC-M4.1_4. 3_4.4</td>
<td>The student is able to use modern IT technologies for search and processing of information, work with professional databases and net communication to solve the Neuroimaging Techniques problems.</td>
<td>Tutorials, hands-on training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ability to describe problems and situations of professional activity in terms of humanitarian, economic and social sciences to solve problems which occur across sciences, in allied professional</td>
<td>PC-5</td>
<td>IC-M5.3_5. 4_5_6_2. 4.1</td>
<td>The student is able to describe problems and situations of professional activity in terms of Neuroimaging Techniques.</td>
<td>Lectures, group discussions, tests, examinations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Place of the discipline in the Master’s program structure

The “Neuroimaging Techniques” course is one of the core introductory courses of the Programme that give and overview of the methodologies currently at place to study Cognition and Brain Function. The course is based on the previous Programme courses and is a prerequisite of acquiring knowledge in the successive courses. This course could be absolutely essential for the choice and understanding of the research methodology for one’s own experiments.

The “Neuroimaging techniques” course is an attempt to give to Master’s students with non-biological/mathematical/physical/background an overview of the methodologies currently used to uncover the mystery of the Human Mind. It is recommended for students of the Master’s program who are using or going to use the advanced neuroimaging methodologies in their experimental work.

Prerequisites

The following knowledge and competence are needed to study the discipline:

- A good command of the English language.
- A basic/school-level knowledge in biology, physics and mathematics.

Some basics of Calculus and Linear Algebra fundamentals, as well as knowledge obtained from the Neuroscience course of this Programme may be a plus.

Main competences developed after completing the study this course can be used to learn the following disciplines:

- Cognitive Neuroscience
- Neuroeconomics
- Memory, Learning and Cognitive Development
- Neurobiology of Language and others

Comparison with the other courses at HSE

This class is unique in both the scope and the level of delivery that assumes only very basic physical, biological, and mathematical background. The main stress is on acquiring knowledge of what are the most frequently used methodologies to non-invasively study the human brain function, what are the fundamental physical, mathematical and biological principles behind them, what are the essences of engineering solutions, and, the last but not the least, how these methods can be used to better understand the Brain and Mind problem. Throughout the course, students are given excursions to the HSE Centre for Cognition & Decision Making (CDM-Centre) to observe how multichannel EEG and TMS,
as well as the tDCS and tACS work. Lectures are complemented by hands-on training sessions where students learn how to analyze prerecorded data provided by the lecturers e.g., data from multichannel EEG, MEG, MRI, fMRI experiments. Some classes are given by the world-leading experts in the Neuroimaging Techniques, both working and visiting HSE.

The knowledge obtained by the students of this course should greatly facilitate their ability to read and understand the cutting-edge methodologies with which experiments of other scientists are conducted as well as open new horizons for them to plan their own studies.

7. **Schedule**

One pair consists of 2 academic hours for lecture or 2 academic hours of practical session (seminar) Please, see the Course description section for assignment of lectures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Units</th>
<th>Approx. number of academic hours</th>
<th>Lectures</th>
<th>Seminars</th>
<th>Independent work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module 4 (April-May)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to Contemporary Neuroimaging Techniques</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Essentials of electroencephalography, EEG/ Principles of EEG signal analysis/ Analyzing EEG signal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Essentials of magnetoencephalography, MEG/principles of MEG signal analysis/Analyzing MEG signal</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation to MidTerm Exam 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MidTerm Exam 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Essentials of transcranial magnetic stimulation, transcranial/principles of TMS signal analysis</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Essentials of transcranial direct-current stimulation/principles of tDCS signal analysis</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Essentials of functional magnetic resonance tomography (fMRI) / Principles of fRMI signal analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Essentials of Brain-Computer Interfaces</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. Essentials and Applications of Near Infrared Spectroscopy 1 10
Preparation to the MidTerm Exam 2 8
Mid Term Exam 2
Preparation to the Final Exam 10
Final exam
Total course time 114

8. Requirements and Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of grading</th>
<th>Type of work</th>
<th>Characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation in lectures (12)/seminar performance (20) (P)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm test 1 (MT1)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Written test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm test 2 (MT2)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Written test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam (FE)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Written exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading course materials/seminar performance/presentations etc. (δ)</td>
<td></td>
<td>will be evaluated separately.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Grade formula, M-mark | \[ M_{\text{cumulative}} = 0.3M_p + 0.3M_{\text{mte1}} + 0.3M_{\text{mte2}} + 0.1\delta \]
| \[ M_{\text{final}} = 0.7M_{\text{cumulative}} + 0.3M_{\text{FE}} \] |

9. Assessment

*Overall assessment* consists of classwork and homework. Students have to demonstrate their knowledge in each lecture topic concerning its fundamental aspects: from biological to mathematical, from psychological to physical. The topics are connected through the discipline and have increasing complexity.

*Intermediate assessment* is given in the form of two midterm exams in written. Students have to demonstrate knowledge of the main concepts and facts taught during the corresponding module. The facts for answers can be retrieved from the class materials as well as from the recommended literature. The examples of the questions are provided before the examination.

*Final assessment* is in the form of the final exam in written. Students have to demonstrate an ability to integrate the knowledge obtained in both modules: from essentials of the Neuroimaging techniques till the advances. A short assay of how the obtained knowledge on methodologies could help to conduct their master’s work could be an advantage.
The grade formula:

Midterm and Final exams ($M_{TE}$; $M_{FE}$) will be held in written and may be organized in the form of a quiz with a unique set of (from 10 to 20) questions for each participant, the average mark will be given for each exam.

Participation ($M_p$) estimated based on the Number of attended lectures and seminars

Reading course materials/seminar performance/presentations etc. ($\delta$) will be evaluated separately.

Final course mark ($M_{final}$) is obtained from the following formula:

$$M_{cumulative} = 0.3 * M_p + 0.3 * M_{mte1} + 0.3 * M_{mte2} + 0.1 * \delta$$

$$M_{final} = 0.7 * M_{cumulative} + 0.3 * M_{FE}$$

The grades are rounded in favour of examiner/lecturer with respect to regularity of class and home works. All grades, having a fractional part greater than 0.5, are rounded up.

### Table of Grade Accordance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ten-point Grading Scale</th>
<th>Five-point Grading Scale</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - very bad</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory - 2</td>
<td>FAIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - bad</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - no pass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - pass</td>
<td>Satisfactory – 3</td>
<td>PASS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - highly pass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - good</td>
<td>Good – 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 – very good</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 – almost excellent</td>
<td>Excellent – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 – excellent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 – perfect</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10. Course Description

Methods such as functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), positron emission tomography (PET), transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), and, very recently, near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS), also called optical imaging (OI) and diffusion-tensor imaging (DTI), provide us with new insights into the structure and function of the human brain along with more widely used electroencephalography (EEG). Recently, with the advent of superconductivity, a multichannel magnetoencephalography (MEG), the method that allow to record the activity of the same neural population as EEG does, came about and have been successfully applied for localizing sources in the brain. This course aims at familiarizing students of our program with contemporary methods and to study brain activity non-invasively with a particular emphasis on fMRI, multichannel MEEG, as well as TMS and NIRS (OI). Prior to the seminars and/or hands-on sessions, an overview of basic principles and physics of the above-mentioned techniques and methods will be provided. Nature and origin of electric, magnetic, NIRS, and blood-oxygen-level-dependent (BOLD) responses will be discussed throughout the course. The students will start with understanding study designs of recent neuroimaging publications and continue with carrying out experiments (e.g. TMS and or EEG), analyzing fMRI and MEEG data. The course will be structured such that it will include lectures on essentials and basic principles of core methodologies including the hands-on training.

Overview of main topics offered in the course

Essentials of electroencephalography, EEG

This part of the course is dedicated to the Basics of electroencephalography, Main methods of EEG data analysis: coherence, ERD/ERS, ERPs and Many more Principles of EEG signal analysis.
Introduction: Why EEG is used, pros and cons of electroencephalography
History: Important people in EEG research
Origin of EEG Signals: Neural activity, action potential, EEG rhythms, alpha activity
Measurement of EEG: Electrodes, subject preparation, electrode locations, electrode montages, reference, spatial / time resolution, artefacts and noise, EEG amplifiers
Applications of EEG: Epilepsy, brain computer interfaces, detection of the level of anesthesia, sleep analysis... etc.

Recommended reading


For this EEG chapter, hands-on seminars are planned: Its goal is to introduce an idea of a Toolbox for EEG data analysis, e.g. EEGLAB, Brain Analyzer, etc. The knowledge of Matlab could be an advantage for this, but not necessary.

Examples of questions:

What is Electroencephalogram (EEG)?
When was EEG discovered?
What is the origin of brain activity?
What are the basic EEG rhythms?
How can we measure EEG?
How can we process EEG signals?
What are the application areas of EEG?

Essentials of magnetoencephalography, MEG
With its absolute noninvasiveness, good accuracy in source location, and millisecond-scale time resolution, the MEG (in combination with other brain imaging methods, e.g., MRI) has become a powerful tool for studying cerebral activity in humans. Minute changes in the magnetic field can be recorded using superconducting quantum interference devices (SQUIDs). An MEG signal can carry important information about sensory as well as higher-level information processing in the brain. Because the MEG method is only sensitive to tangentially-oriented currents, and does not detect sources with an absolute radial orientation (Hämäläinen et al., 1993), it is most sensitive to activity in the fissural cortex and thus has great potential in terms of studying the auditory function in humans. Indeed, pyramidal cells — the largest cortical neurons in the auditory cortex — are oriented so that the primary current generated by them has a tangential orientation to the surface of the brain. The evoked magnetic fields are considered to be counterparts of the corresponding event-related potentials (Romani et al., 1982; Pantev et al., 1988; Hari, 1990; Tiitinen et al., 1993; Huotilainen et al., 1995; Huotilainen et al., 1998). Moreover, the auditory event-related magnetic fields (ERFs), obtained by averaging MEG signals time locked to the auditory stimulation, have proved to be very useful for studying the anatomical and functional organization of the auditory cortex in humans (Pantev et al., 1988; Hämäläinen et al., 1993; Huotilainen et al., 1995; Huotilainen et al., 1998).

Recommended reading


Examples of questions

Why are pyramidal cells considered the main source of MEG signal. Why it is not recommended to enter the MEG room with a metal spoon in a cup of tea? Earth geomagnetic field? 10⁻⁴ (av. Milli and micro) – What is the magnetic field amplitude that is measured with the SQUID? What is the MEG signal units? Where is Josephson junction used? In which methodology? What is the differences between gradiometers and magnetometers? What is the course of Primary currents Jp. What is the source of Volume currents Jv? What is electromagnetic induction? Which laws are included in the system of Maxwell equations?

Essentials of transcranial magnetic stimulation, TMS & principles of TMS signal analysis

This part will be devoted to the basic principles of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation, a powerful tool for stimulation and non-invasive probing of cortical excitability and connectivity of the human brain. Magnetic brain stimulation follows the fundamental physical principles of electromagnetic induction such that physics of TMS is converse to MEG. We shall follow the progress of TMS research from which it is evident that TMS has become an efficient instrument to study cognitive functions such as language, memory and a powerful method for cortical mapping of perception and motor functions to name a few.
Through reading experimental article, we shall learn that clinical applications of TMS are ample. The Lecture will be complemented with the Laboratory demonstrations of the TMS ongoing research in Cognition and Decision Making.

**Recommended reading**


**Examples of questions**

What does r in rTMS stand for? What is n in nTMS stand for?

What does EMG stand for? How is it different from MEG? What is the difference between ERP and MEP?

Why is the TMS theory is converse to MEG?

How to calculate the Flux of magnetometer coil?

Why a 3D focusing is not possible for TMS?

What does Lenz’s low define?

What happens at the axon membrane when the brain is noninvasively stimulated by the TMS?

**Essentials of functional magnetic resonance tomography (fMRI)**

This lecture introduces students to basics of functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI). We start from an overview of the physical phenomenon such as nuclear resonance imaging (NRI) and its relevance for MRI of the brain. The principle idea behind a modern MR scanner and its basic working principles will be outlined. We then continue with different ways to scan the brain, particularly echo-planar imaging. The main issues are addressed to neurophysiological meaning of BOLD signal. A large spectrum of fMRI designs to study brain functions and standard approaches to analyze fMRI data. In order to give an idea of how the fMRI data analysis work, a linear systems framework of FMRI, i.e. GLM notion will be discusses throughout this section of the course. This part is likely to be complemented with the demonstration of fRMI data analysis.

**Recommended reading**

- Huettel, Song, McCarthy (eds) Functional magnetic resonance imaging. Sinauer 2004

**Examples of questions**

1. Basic concepts of BOLD-fMRI
2. Neurophysiology of BOLD response: neurovascular coupling
3. Limitations of BOLD-fMRI for cognitive studies

**Essentials of Near-infrared spectroscopy, NIRS or optical imaging, OI**

This part of the course will be devoted to outlining a very promising yet not fully developed methodology of the so-called near-infrared spectroscopy, a subclass of optical imagin
techniques for studying the whole brain function in humans. Using near-infrared light that can penetrate biological tissue reasonably well, it has become possible to assess brain activity in human subjects through the intact skull non-invasively. After early studies employing single-site near-infrared spectroscopy, first near-infrared imaging devices are being applied successfully for low-resolution functional brain imaging. Advantages of the optical methods include biochemical specificity, a temporal resolution in the millisecond range, the potential of measuring intracellular and intravascular events simultaneously and the portability of the devices enabling bedside examinations.

**Recommended literature**


Minagawa-Kawai, Yasuyo et al. 'Optical Imaging Of Infants' Neurocognitive Development: Recent Advances And Perspectives'. Devel Neurobio 68.6 (2008): 712-728.


11. **Educational Technology**

The following educational technologies are used in the study process:

- Lectures involving continuous use of multimedia presentations, demonstrations and movies.
- Self-study of required readings
- Hands-on trainings and presentation of practical aspects of applying methodologies
- Discussion and analysis of topics in the group;
- Essays involve critical thought and presentation of a selected topic

12. **Recommendations for course lecturer**

Course lecturers are advised to use interactive learning methods, which allow participation of the majority of students, such as slide presentations, combined with writing materials on board, and usage of interdisciplinary papers to present multidisciplinary nature of the current research methodologies to study human brain function.
13. Recommendations for students
The course is interactive. Lectures are combined with classes. Students are invited to ask questions and actively participate in group discussions. There will be special office hours for students, which would like to get more precise understanding of each topic. Teaching assistant will also help you. All tutors are ready to answer your questions online by official e-mails that you can find in the “contacts” section.

14. Examples of Final exam questions
Name most powerful methodologies to study the whole brain function
What is the scope of methodologies you can have access to here at HSE?
Give an example of methodologies which can be characterized by high temporal/spatial resolution
What is the difference between functional MRI and structural MRI?
What does the peristimulus time histogram reflect? How is it different from the single spike?
Define action potential?
What is the main source of EEG signal?
What is the main source of the MEG signal?
What is the ERP and which forms of ERP signal representation do you know?
What is the difference between topographical and tomographic images?
What is the differences between electro- and magnetoencephalography?
What is SQUID abbreviation stands for?
What is the difference between electric and magnetic (Transcranial magnetic stimulation?)
How does the brain navigation system for nTMS works? Ascribe the engineering principle in brief.
What does BOLD abbreviation stand for?
Imaging you are back in 19th century when no fMRI would be available. What would be your BOLD experiment then?
What is the NIRS abbreviation stand for?
What is the difference between NIRS and fMRI? What is the similarity?
Can you recall other types of medical topographical imaging techniques other than fMRI and NIRS, that use electromagnetic waves as a working principle? Name a few.
Ascribe the idea of dipole fitting. What does the ECD abbreviation stand for?
What is the difference between the single and multiple source analysis?
What is the difference between the Evoked potential, EP and evoked field, EF
What is forward problem in electromagnetism? What is Inverse modeling in electromagnetism?
Please, give an example of a distributed model.
What is the Lead field concept. Lead field is a….

Why are pyramidal cells considered the main source of MEG signal.
Why it is not recommended to enter the MEG room with a metal spoon in a cup of tea?
Earth geomagnetic field? 10-4 (av. Milli and micro) – What is the magnetic field amplitude that is measured with the SQUID? What is the MEG signal units?
Where is Josephson junction used? In which methodology?
What is the differences between gradiometers and magnetometers?
What is the course of Primary currents Jp. What is the source of Volume currents Jv?
What is electromagnetic induction?
Which laws are included in the system of Maxwell equations?
Try to remember mathematical equation for an Ampere’s law, Faraday’s law, Hauss’s law If not, try to explain it either graphically or in words. Either way would do.
What does r in rTMS stand for? What is n in nTMS stand for?
What does EMG stand for? How is it different from MEG? What is the difference between ERP and MEP?
Why is the TMS theory is converse to MEG?
How to calculate the Flux of magnetometer coil?
Why a 3D focusing is not possible for TMS?
What does Lenz’s low define?
What happens at the axon membrane when the brain is noninvasively stimulated by the TMS?

15. Reading and Materials

This course is intended to provide students with the overview of the most powerful research methodologies to study the human brain function. For each methodology an ample amount of reading material is offered: both for the essentials and advances. Pdfs of lecture materials, reviews, research articles, and book chapters are provided as well as the reference to extracurriculum materials that can be of interest for the students.

16. Required Reading

The focus of this course is to better understand modern trends in developing research approaches to tackle the mind and brand problem. This demand skills to freely navigate through the broad range of methodologies. No single or uniformed book exists or may exist for the course on and consequently there is no such thing as required reading for this course. However, as examples of the questions are provided before the exams, the students may retrieve the information from the Recommended literature and the course materials which are properly annotated and put in order for each course topics.

17. Recommended Reading


Minagawa-Kawai, Yasuyo et al. 'Optical Imaging Of Infants' Neurocognitive Development: Recent Advances And Perspectives'. Devel Neurobio 68.6 (2008): 712-728.


Bass, Caroline E. et al. ‘Optogenetic Stimulation Of VTA Dopamine Neurons Reveals That Tonic But Not Phasic Patterns Of Dopamine Transmission Reduce Ethanol Self-Administration’. Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience 7 (2013):


18. Course telemaintenance

All materials of the discipline are posted in informational educational site at NRU HSE portal www.hse.ru. Students are provided with links on relevant papers, tests, electronic books, articles, etc.

19. Equipment

The course requires a laptop, projector, and acoustic systems to give lectures and the computer class with the MATLAB and SPM to give hands-on classes.

Course structure and the syllabus are prepared by Anna Shestakova, Ph.D.

Selected topics, lecture annotations and lecture materials are prepared by the co-teachers:

for example, ‘Essentials of electroencephalography’ is taught by Dr. Zafer Iscan, ‘Essentials of functional magnetic resonance tomography (fMRI) / Principles of fMRI signal analysis ‘ by Dr Mario Martinez-Saito, Dr. Olga Martynova, Functional Connectivity by V. Balayev, GLM framework by Mario Martinez-Saito, tDCS/tACS by Matteo Feurra, advances of TMS by Evgeny Blagoveshensky, Models of source analysis by Alex Ossadtchi, Advances of electroencephalography , EEG/ Neuronal oscillations in Neuroimaging (Vadim Nikulin Neurophysics Group, Department of Neurology, Campus Benjamin Franklin, Charité - University Medicine Berlin & the Centre for Cognition