

Teaching experience in APK: Movement Neuroscience

APK4943 | Class # 19720 | 1 Credits | Fall 2022

Connect with HHP



Course Info

INSTRUCTOR

Shahabeddin Vahdat, PhD
Office: 132-F
Office Phone: (352) 294-1618
Email: svahdat@ufl.edu
Preferred Method of Contact: **Message via Canvas**

OFFICE HOURS

There are no official office hours for this course, but students may email the instructor to set up a private zoom meeting at any point if needed.

MEETING TIME/LOCATION

Tuesday, Period 2 (8:30am) / FLG 132-F

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Experience teaching as an undergraduate assistant; responsibilities meet the needs of the Movement Neuroscience course and instructor, including, but not limited to, giving short lectures, holding study/discussion sections, grading, and helping with exam/quiz/assignment preparation and proctoring. Independent of the particular course or instructor, UGTAs will benefit intellectually by developing their communication and leadership skills and by gaining a better understanding of the ways in which people learn.

PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Movement Neuroscience APK4144

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

Students enrolled in this teaching experience are expected to obtain the same course materials required of the students they'll be helping to teach. UGTAs should coordinate with the course instructor to obtain the appropriate materials.

COURSE FORMAT

During the term, the UGTA will complete 45 hours of teaching experiences. UGTAs work under the supervision of a faculty or graduate student instructor to learn about college-level teaching in an APK course. Each UGTA experience is unique, tailored to both the student's skills and knowledge as well as the instructor's needs.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Each course instructor or graduate student supervisor will have course-specific duties and goals. By the end of the semester, regardless of the course, students participating in this teaching experience should at least be able to:

- Identify and discuss various methods of learning
- Identify and discuss various methods of teaching, including both recommended practices and those to be avoided
- Generate and present a lecture to a group of undergraduate students, including responding to questions
- Lead discussions about course material with undergraduates taking the course

Advise undergraduates enrolled in the course on best study practices and methods for successful completion of the course

Course & University Policies

ATTENDANCE POLICY

UGTAs are responsible for attending weekly meetings. If you are unable to attend the weekly meeting, then you must contact the course instructor immediately so that alternate arrangements can be made if needed. If a UGTA is unable to complete their duties at any point during the semester (for example, if they are ill and cannot give a presentation that they had planned), it is their responsibility to notify the course instructor within a reasonable amount of time so that alternate arrangements can be made. If you are unable to fulfill a weekly duty you signed up for, please try to switch with another UGTA as soon as possible.

Two unexcused absences to weekly meetings or required duties will result in a written reprimand. Three unexcused absences will result in an unsatisfactory grade and dismissal from the course. Tardiness is not appreciated, and chronic offenses will result in warnings, written reprimands, and potentially an unsatisfactory grade in the course as outlined above.

A student experiencing an illness should visit the UF Student Health Care Center or their preferred healthcare provider to seek medical advice and obtain documentation. If you have an illness, family emergency or death, please contact the Dean of Students Office (www.dso.ufl.edu) and follow the DSO Care Team procedures for documentation and submission of a request for make-up assignment (<https://care.dso.ufl.edu/instructor-notifications/>). The DSO will contact the instructor. Do not provide any documentation to the instructor regarding illness or family emergency. This is your personal and protected information. The DSO is qualified to receive and verify the documents you provide. The instructor will follow the recommendations from the DSO.

More information on UF attendance and absence policies can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

PERSONAL CONDUCT POLICY

UGTAs are expected to demonstrate the same level of professionalism and conduct expected of graduate TAs. UGTAs should correspond with students and faculty in a manner that portrays competence, maturity, and reliability. Any issues surrounding unprofessional behavior or conduct will be addressed immediately with a written or verbal warning. Further incidences of the same nature may result in assignment of a U grade (unsatisfactory) and immediate dismissal. As a part of the teaching team, you will have access to exams for the course. You are not permitted to share that content with anyone—period. Any intentional or unintentional leakage of the exam content will result in a U for the course as well as sanctions for violating the UF honor code.

Like all students at UF, UGTAs are expected to abide by UF's Honor Code:

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>. Suspected or known violations of

this honor code by fellow UGTAs or students registered in the primary course should be immediately reported to the instructor.

EXAM MAKE-UP POLICY

There are no exams for this course. 😊

ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

I am committed to creating a course that is inclusive in its design. If you encounter barriers, please let me know immediately so that we can determine if there is a design adjustment that can be made or if an accommodation might be needed to overcome the limitations of the design. I am always happy to consider creative solutions as long as they do not compromise the intent of the assessment or learning activity. You are also welcome to contact the Disability Resource Center's Getting Started page at <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/> to begin this conversation or to establish accommodations for this or other courses. I welcome feedback that will assist me in improving the usability and experience for all students.

It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

COURSE EVALUATIONS

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Getting Help

HEALTH & WELLNESS

- U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 352-392-1575
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS) - Student Health Care Center, 392-1161
- University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies) <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

- E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>
- Career Connections Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://career.ufl.edu/>
- Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>
- Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>
- Student Complaints On-Campus: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/> On-Line Students Complaints: <http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>

INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCES

For suggestions or concerns related to IDEA, please reach out to any of the following:

- Dr. Linda Nguyen, APK IDEA Liaison, linda.nguyen@hhp.ufl.edu
- Dr. Rachael Seidler, APK Graduate Coordinator, rachaelseidler@ufl.edu
- Dr. Joslyn Ahlgren, APK Undergraduate Coordinator, jahlgren@ufl.edu

COURSE DUTIES AND Grading

During the term, the UGTA will complete 45 hours of teaching experiences. This equates to 3 hours per week during Spring and Fall semesters, 3.75 hours per week during Summer C, and 7.5 hours per week during Summer A or Summer B. At the end of the semester, the instructor will assign the UGTA an S or U grade based on the hours completed and the satisfactory achievement of the course goals. The following table will be used to outline specific duties for the UGTA that correspond to each course goal.

| APK 4943 Course Goal | Course-specific duties that will allow the instructor to assess the student's mastery of this course goal | S/U? |
|--|---|------|
| Identify and discuss various methods of learning | <i>Interaction with students in various course activities</i> | |
| Identify and discuss various methods (including both recommended practices and those to be avoided) in teaching | <i>Review sessions for assignments, Question backs</i> | |
| Generate and present a lecture to a group of undergraduate students, including responding to questions | <i>Responding to Canvas questions/messages, Question backs</i> | |
| Lead discussions about course material with undergraduates taking the course | <i>Office hours, Question backs</i> | |
| Advise undergraduates enrolled in the course on best study practices and methods for successful completion of the course | <i>Review sessions for assignments, office hours</i> | |

Each course instructor or graduate student supervisor is responsible for evaluating the student serving as a UGTA throughout the semester and providing feedback for support, encouragement, and growth. UGTAs are expected to check-in and/or formally meet with their course instructor or supervisor on weekly basis, at minimum, throughout the semester. More information on current UF grading policies can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

SUCCESS AND STUDY TIPS

- Make sure you have brushed up on Movement Neuroscience. You are always welcome to attend lectures or watch the recordings that get posted. UGTAs should be reliable sources of information and assistance for our registered students.

- Do not provide students with faulty information. If you don't know something, just help them find the answer or direct them to a grad TA or the course instructor.
- Be familiar with the course syllabus for Movement Neuroscience – students will likely have questions about all of it.
- Be friendly, approachable, and exude positivity. You should aim to encourage students and help ease their anxiety about this rigorous course.
- Don't re-lecture to students. Feel comfortable telling them to go back to the reading or lectures if needed.
- Ask students a lot of questions. The Socratic method is fabulous! Get your students THINKING!