

Short Methods Courses & Method Seminars; Extended Methods Course

Sep 2011 - Feb 2012 (B)

* Course has also been offered in the previous course announcement (Mar-Aug 2011)

Department/Group	Supervisor(s)	ID	* Title of Course	Credits	Date B
Biochemistry					
Feußner, Ivo	Herrfurth, Cornelia	A 16	Introduction to lipid analysis	1,0	End of Feb 2012
Höbartner, Claudia	Höbartner, Claudia	A 32	* Chemical synthesis and enzymatic ligation of RNA and DNA oligonucleotides	1,0	23-24 Nov 2011
Jahn, Reinhard	van den Bogaart, Geert / Park, Yongsoo	A 33	* Reconstitution of neuronal exocytosis	1,0	17-18 Oct 2011
Schmitt, Hans Dieter	Schröter, Saskia	A 34	* BiFC (bimolecular fluorescence complementation) in yeast	1,0	Nov 2011
Jahn, Reinhard	Chua, John / Binotti, Beyenech / Boyken, Janina	A 35	* Co-immunoprecipitation as a technique to study protein-protein interactions	1,0	12-14 Oct 2011
Jahn, Reinhard	Kühnel, Karin	A 36	* Protein purification and characterization	1,0	13-14 Oct 2011
Tittmann, Kai	Schneider, Stefan / Cindy Wechsler	A 64	* Principles and methods of protein purification by chromatography	1,0	28-29 Nov 2011
Urlaub, Henning	Atanassov, Ilian / Hofele, Romina / Karaca, Samir / Qamar, Saadia	A 65	* Sequence analysis of proteins and their post-translational modifications by MALDI-ToF and electrospray ionization (ESI) mass spectrometry	1,0	18-20 Oct 2011
Walter, Lutz	Walter, Lutz	A 66	* Isolation of recombinant proteins by affinity chromatography and binding studies	1,0	6-7 Oct 2011
Tittmann, Kai	Meyer, Danilo / Sitte, Astrid	A 71	* Thermodynamic characterization of biomolecular interactions by isothermal titration calorimetry	1,0	1-2 Dec 2011
Fischle, Wolfgang	Fischle, Wolfgang	A 74	Hydrodynamic analysis of proteins and protein complexes by analytical ultracentrifugation	1,0	10-11 Oct 2011
Fischle, Wolfgang	Winter, Stefan / Kost, Nils	A 75	* Chromatin Immunoprecipitation (ChIP)	1,0	6-8 Feb 2012
Görlich, Dirk	Frey, Steffen	A 80	* Advanced bacterial protein expression and purification	1,0	13-14 Oct 2011
Rodnina, Marina	Milon, Pohl	A 81	* Introduction to transient kinetic methods	1,0	31 Oct - 1 Nov 2011
Lührmann, Reinhard	Hartmuth, Klaus	A 82	* Affinity purification methods for the isolation of large heterogeneous macromolecular assemblies	1,0	6-8 Dec 2011

Rehling, Peter	Deckers, Markus	A 92	* Subcellular fractionation	0,5	between 7 and 11 Nov 2011
Lührmann, Reinhard	Hartmuth, Klaus	A 93	* The application of RNA structure determination methodology to the analysis of RNA-protein interactions in RNP complexes	1,5	11-13 Jan 2012
Molecular Biology & Genetics					
Dobbelstein, Matthias	Schulz, Ramona / Schmidt, Franziska	A 10	* Assessing promoter activity by luciferase assays	1,0	Oct 2011
Jakobs, Stefan	Grotjohann, Tim / Brakemann, Tanja	A 37	* PCR based mutagenesis strategies to evolve (photoswitchable) fluorescent proteins	1,0	11-12 Oct 2011
Walter, Lutz	Gruber, Jens	A 68	* Mechanisms of RNA silencing	1,0	Oct 2011
Görlich, Dirk	Frey, Steffen	A 77	* PCR: self-made enzymes, helpful additives and insights into the reactions	0,5	11 Oct 2011
Fischer, André	Stilling, Roman / Agbemenyah, Hope / Bahari Javan, Sanaz	A 84	* Chromatin-immunoprecipitation and epigenomic gene-profiling in the adult brain	1,0	21-23 Sep 2011
Stoykova, Anastassia	Tuoc, Tran Cong	A 88	Analysis of protein-DNA interaction <i>in vitro</i> by electrophoretic mobility shift assay (EMSA)	1,0	12-14 Dec 2011
Brenig, Bertram	Schütz, Ekkehard	A 113	NGS and HTP SNP typing	1,0	Nov/Dec 2011
Cell Biology & Microbiology, Imaging					
Cordes, Volker	Cordes, Volker	A 09	Preparation of <i>Xenopus laevis</i> nuclear envelopes and their analysis by field emission scanning electron microscopy	1,0	26-28 Oct 2011
Großhans, Jörg	Kanesaki, Takuma	A 23	Multi-color time-lapse imaging of cells and embryos	1,0	29-30 Sep 2011
Kehlenbach, Ralph	Kehlenbach, Ralph	A 39	* Analysis of nucleocytoplasmic transport by flow cytometry	0,5	Jan 2012
Nave, Klaus-Armin	Möbius, Wiebke	A 44	* Subcellular localization of proteins by immunoelectron microscopy of cryosections	1,0	7-8 Nov 2011
Olympus / Bodenschatz	Schmidt, Helge	A 46/I	Theory and basics of fluorescence microscopy and imaging / Introduction to life science research applications FRET, FRAP, FLIM, caging-uncaging, GFP, Fluorescence microscopy of living cells	1,0	Feb/Mar 2012
Olympus / Bodenschatz	Schmidt, Helge	A 46/II	Theory and basics of fluorescence microscopy and imaging / Introduction to life science research applications FRET, FRAP, FLIM, caging-uncaging, GFP, Fluorescence microscopy of living cells	1,0	Feb/Mar 2012
Simons, Mikael	Mitkovski, Miso	A 59	GFP proteins and their application (FRAP, FRET, photo activation)	1,0	13-14 Oct 2011

Developmental Biology, Anatomy & Histology

Eichele, Gregor	Miletic, Helena	A 13	* Mouse histology & <i>in situ</i> expression analyses	1,0	7-8 Nov 2011
Oster, Henrik	Oster, Henrik	A 47	* Real-time luminescence recording and imaging	1,0	7 & 11 Nov 2011
Pieler, Tomas	Henningfeld, Kristine	A 51	Gene regulation in <i>Xenopus</i>	1,0	6-8 Nov 2011
Stadelmann-Nessler, Christine	Stadelmann-Nessler, Christine / Reichl, Jasmin	A 60	* Non-radioactive <i>in situ</i> hybridization	1,0	16-18 Jan 2012
Wimmer, Ernst / Bucher, Gregor	Wimmer, Ernst / Bucher, Gregor	A 108	* Homologs and Paralogs – how they evolve and how to distinguish them	0,5	9 Sep 2011

Vertebrate Animal Models

Bähr, Mathias	Lingor, Paul	A 01	* Introduction to animal experiments	0,5	8 Nov 2011
Bayer, Thomas A.	Wirths, Oliver	A 02	* Alzheimer's disease: Behavioural and neuropathological analysis of transgenic mouse models	1,0	21-22 Nov 2011
Brembeck, Felix	Thiede, Nadine	A 05	* Basic anatomy of genetically engineered mouse models	0,5	Nov 11
Schraepfer, Anke	Schraepfer, Anke	A 101	Introduction to laboratory animal science	1,5	Feb 2012
Brembeck, Felix	Nadine Thiede	A 107	* Tissue processing and immunohistochemistry on tissue sections of genetically engineered mouse models	1,0	Nov 11

Molecular & Cellular Neuroscience, Electrophysiology

Nave, Klaus-Armin	Roßner, Moritz	A 45	* Microdissection combined with RNA analysis in the brain	1,0	22-24 Feb 2012
Stühmer, Walter	Pardo, Luis	A 63	* Patch clamp	1,0	23-25 Jan 2012
Fiala, André / Göpfert, Martin	Fiala, André / Göpfert, Martin	A 83	* <i>Drosophila</i> neurogenetics	1,0	5-7 Sep 2011
Rizzoli, Silvio	Kamin, Dirk / Denker, Annette	A 89	* High resolution microscopy in synapses	1,0	part of E 01
Rhee, JeongSeop	Rhee, JeongSeop	A 96	* Nerve cell culture and patch-clamp recordings from nerve cells	1,0	26-27 Sep 2011

Theoretical, Systems & Behavioral Neuroscience

Ehrenreich, Hannelore	Begemann, Martin / Bartels, Claudia	A 12	`	Translational Neuroscience: (A/Jun) Schizophrenia, (B/Nov) Multiple Sclerosis	2.0 / module*	4-6 Nov 2011
Fischer, Julia	T Price, P Maciej	A 17	*	Introduction to bioacoustic field methods: from recording to statistics	1,0	26-28 Oct 2011
Geisel, Theo / Timme, Marc / Wolf, Fred / Battaglia, Demian	Geisel, Theo / Timme, Marc / Wolf, Fred / Battaglia, Demian	A 21		Theoretical and Computational Neuroscience: Collective Dynamics Biological Neural Networks I	1,0	WS 2011/12
Moser, Tobias / Treue, Stefan / Göpfert, Martin / Fiala, André	Moser, Tobias / Treue, Stefan / Göpfert, Martin / Fiala, André	A 42		Fundamental principles of sensory processing	1,0	21-22 Sep 2011
Antal, Andrea	Paulus, Walter	A 48		Transcranial magnetic- and electrical stimulation	1,0	21-23 Feb 2012
Gail, Alexander	Gail, Alexander	A 73	*	Introduction to Matlab in Systems Neuroscience	1,0	21/28 Oct & 4 Nov 2011
Structural Biology						
Bennati, Marina	Türke, Maria Teresa / Tkach, Igor / Argirevic, Tomislav	A 03	*	EPR-Spectroscopy	1,5	26-28 Sep 2011
Grüne, Tim	Grüne, Tim	A 57		Macromolecular crystal structure determination	2,0	26-30 Sep 2011
Stark, Holger	Platzmann, Florian	A 61	*	3D structure determination of macromolecular complexes by single particle cryo-EM	1,0	between 7 and 11 Nov 2011
Pena, Vlad	Schmitzova, Jana / Steuerwald, Ulrich / De, Inessa / de Moura, Tales / Wawrzinek, Jürgen	A 102	*	Crystallization of biological macromolecules	1,0	23-24 Jan 2012
Biophysics, Bioinformatics and Statistics						
Grubmüller, Helmut / Schmidt, Christoph F.	Grubmüller, Helmut / Schmidt, Christoph F.	A 25	*	Current Topics in Biophysics – Lecture Series	1,0	WS 2011/12, Fri
Grubmüller, Helmut / de Groot, Bert / Groenhof, Gerrit	Grubmüller, Helmut / de Groot, Bert / Groenhof, Gerrit	A 26		Computational Biophysics I	1,5	WS 2011/12, Mon
Vink, Richard	Vink, Richard	A 43		Computer simulation methods in statistical physics	1,0	WS 2011/12, Thu
Steinem, Claudia / Janshoff, Andreas	Mey, Ingo / Saßen, Christoph	A 62	*	Scanning Ion Conductance Microscopy, a versatile tool to study surfaces and surface properties	1,0	10-11 Oct 2011
Walter, Lutz	Brameier, Markus	A 67	*	Introduction to Bioinformatics Methods	1,0	Oct 2011

Steinem, Claudia / Janshoff, Andreas	Behn, Daniela	A 72	* Using biosensors to study analyte-ligand interactions: basic principles and applications	1,0	19-20 Sep 2011
Hoff, Katharina	Hoff, Katharina	A 94	* Introductory biostatistics with R	1,0	16-18 Feb 2012
Lapp, Tobias / Boekhoff, Sven / Eric Stellamanns	Lapp, Tobias / Boekhoff, Sven / Eric Stellamanns	A 97	* Image Processing with ImageJ and MATLAB / Octave	0,5	15 Sep 2011
Mitkovski, Mišo	Mitkovski, Mišo	A 98	* Introduction to image processing in biology with ImageJ	0,5	10-11 Nov 2011
Friede, Tim	Konietsche, Frank / Lange, Katharina	A 100	* Basic statistics for graduate students in the life sciences	1,0	10/12/13/14 Oct 2011
Göpfert, Martin	Ovezmyradov, Guvanch	A 112	MySQL for biologists	1,0	17-18 Oct 2011
Extended Methods Courses					
Hell, Stephan / Egner, Alexander	Advanced Light Microscopy	E 01	Advanced Light Microscopy	3,0	25-30 Sep 2011

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Animal models are widely used in the life sciences, medical research and especially neuroscience. They are used to study the etiology of various diseases as well as experimental treatment methods. In this course we will give an overview on what is considered an animal experiment and why animal experiments are necessary. We will discuss the strict prerequisites preceding experiments on life animals and study the possibilities to reduce harm to research animals.

In the second part, students will have the possibility to follow a surgical intervention on animals within an ongoing research project depending on the current research activity in our lab. Special emphasis will be given to proper anaesthesia of the animal. We will demonstrate interventions on the optic nerve in Wistar rats, such as axotomy, optic nerve crush or intravitreal injections. Students will be able to watch brain injections according to stereotactic coordinates. We will also demonstrate behavioral tests, such as the rotarod examination.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Transgenic mouse models have been proven to be valuable research tools to facilitate our understanding of the pathological alterations in Alzheimer's disease (AD) and are indispensable in the development of new therapeutic treatment strategies.

Students will be introduced to different AD mouse models, will prepare brain tissue for histochemical analyses and will carry out immunostainings for relevant neuropathological markers. In addition, they will be introduced into mouse behavioural experiments and will learn to conduct simple motor and learning performance tasks.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Investigation of protein structure by EPR spectroscopy and site directed spin labeling.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Genetic mouse models are widely used to study gene function during development or in the initiation or progression of tumors. Our laboratory is analyzing different genetic tumor models to analyze early organ development and the development of intestinal and breast cancer.

Participants of this course will have the opportunity to perform a complete necropsy of genetically engineered mice. They will gain insight in the gross anatomy of internal organs and how to dissect, fix and prepare them for subsequent analysis.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Modern field emission in-lens scanning electron microscopes (FEISEMs) allow for three-dimensional analyses of biological structures at a resolution of less than a few nanometers, provided that the sites of interest can be made accessible for the scanning electron beam. The large-sized nuclei of amphibian oocytes and their nuclear envelopes (NEs) represent specimens well suitable for such high-resolution analysis.

On day 1 of this course, participants will manually isolate and dissect nuclei from the South African clawed frog *Xenopus laevis* in order to obtain NEs that they will further process for EM. After having completed all steps of the specimen preparation procedure by the end of day 2, the participants will then analyze their samples in a FEISEM on day 3 and visualize the distinct morphological features characteristic for the NE's cytoplasmic and nuclear side.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Reporter assays are commonly used to determine the activity of a promoter and in particular its response to specific transcription factors. Luciferase reporters provide a particularly wide linear range and can therefore be used to quantify the activity of weak and strong promoters with accuracy. The use of different luciferase species allows the determination of two different promoter activities simultaneously, e. g. to provide an internal control.

On the first day, we will discuss the opportunities and limitations of transient reporter assays, and we are going to transfect cells with combinations of reporter plasmids and expression plasmids for transcription activators. On the second day, we are going to determine luciferase activities (firefly and renilla) using a dual assay, by semi-automated luminometry. The results will be discussed and different modes of measurement will be explained. Participants are welcome to bring their own promoter constructs if desired, but a brief discussion in advance would be helpful.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.:	340042	Credits:	2.0 / module*	Date:	4-6 Nov 2011
Title of Course (Course ID):	Translational Neuroscience: Block B - Multiple Sclerosis (A 12)				
Group Leader / Supervisor(s):	Hannelore Ehrenreich, Martin Begemann, Claudia Bartels				
Place:	MPI for Experimental Medicine, Division of Clinical Neuroscience				
Participants:	min: 6	max: 18			
Duration:	2 x 3 d*	Time on Day 1:	08:00 h		
Preparatory Meeting:	No				

Course description:

Target Group: Interdisciplinary approach, addressing medical students in the clinical part of their studies as well as students of biology and psychology at a progressed state of their studies (at least semester 5); all lectures will be in English.

General Outline: A total of 78 hours will be provided, covering translational neuroscience, presented in 2 blocks á 26 hours. Each block comprises a large area of translational neuroscience under the umbrella of one specific disease, thereby delivering an exemplary guideline for teachers and students: (1) Schizophrenia as an example of diseases affecting higher brain functions; (2) Multiple Sclerosis as an example of an inflammatory degenerative disease of the nervous system.

Content Block 1: Schizophrenia: Introduction to the disease, historical aspects, epidemiology, patient presentation (including videos), DSM criteria for the diagnosis, frequent comorbidities, including drug abuse and associated problems, important differential diagnoses, neuroimaging, neuropsychology, psychopathology, instruments for clinical rating of disease severity and follow-up (PANSS etc), established treatments, dopamine hypothesis of schizophrenia, novel approaches targeting the glutamate system and neuroprotection, genetics of schizophrenia, environmental risk factors, animal models (previous, present and future), behavioral battery focusing on testing higher brain functions in mice, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), histology, and drug-challenge tests in experimental animals, long-term potentiation and short-term potentiation in the hippocampus, short-term plasticity, multi-electrode array (MEA) recordings, autaptic neuron preparation, multivariate covariance analysis as statistical means for evaluation of proof-of-concept trials.

Content Block 2: Multiple Sclerosis: Introduction to the disease, historical aspects, epidemiology, patient presentation (including videos), diagnostic criteria for disease classification including subtypes, imaging, neurophysiology, CSF diagnostics, neuropsychology, differential diagnoses and frequent comorbidities including psychopathology, pathophysiology including mediators of inflammation, mechanisms of axonal loss, demyelination, immunology including auto-immunity, basics of the functioning of the blood-brain-barrier and the brain immune system, genetics, environmental risk factors, animal models of multiple sclerosis and animal neuroimaging, mouse test battery for measuring motor function, fine motor performance and ataxia, therapeutic targets, established and experimental therapeutic approaches including symptomatic/supportive measures, the drug development process (clinical trials) and its challenges in multiple sclerosis.

Contact:	Prof. Dr. Dr. H. Ehrenreich	timner@em.mpg.de	Tel. 0551-3899 615
Comments:	* 2 blocks of 3 days each in June and November, Friday through Sunday Written test (multiple choice) at the end of each block. The lecture series comprises also <i>practical parts</i> (short lab visits), e.g. psychopathology rating, neuropsychology testing, imaging, diagnostics, cell culture work, behavioral studies etc.		

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The histological analysis of gene and protein expression in tissue sections has become a widely used tool for studying biological processes *in vivo*. In the course we will stage mouse embryos, prepare histological sections of embryo and adult brain tissues from mice and analyze histology using standard staining procedures. If students are interested, the second part of the course will focus on expression analyses on sections using immunohistochemistry and *in situ* hybridization approaches. Applied techniques will be: embryo preparation and staging, tissue sectioning, histological staining, chromogenic *in situ* hybridization and immunohistochemistry

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Beside nucleic acids, proteins and sugars, lipids form the fourth group of biomolecules. In general they can be divided into sterols, glycer- and sphingolipids. This practical course will cover basic methods of lipid analysis and is intended to students that do not regularly work with this class of molecules. Thus we will analyze lipid profiles of tissue extracts derived from different plant organs of different developmental stages.

Specifically the following experiments are planned:

- Extraction and fractionation procedures
- Separation of lipids by thin layer chromatography
- Analysis of fatty acids by gas chromatography
- Further characterization of fatty acid isomers by gas chromatography / mass spectrometry
- Structural analysis of lipids by liquid chromatography / mass spectrometry

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

This short methods course will provide a brief introduction into the basic steps of bioacoustic research.

We will begin with an introduction into the physics of sound, the mechanisms of sound production, and acoustic analyses. A mini-project will then be conducted with acoustic recordings in the field, selection of sounds for further analyses, and an overview of standard measures used in the analyses of animal and human sounds.

Research carried out within the German Primate Center will be presented to demonstrate the practical application of acoustic analyses including important statistical tools to answer relevant questions in the field of animal and human communication.

The course will last 2.5 days and will be held at the German Primate Center.

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.:
Credits:
Date:

Title of Course:

(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration:
Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

This lecture course offers an introduction to advanced modeling strategies for biological neural networks. After a short introduction to the biophysics of single cells and an overview of their basic firing patterns, we explain fundamental properties of networks models of neurons, starting from simple uniform connectivity and progressing to spatially extended and to arbitrarily complex interaction networks. These network models explain and predict key dynamical aspects of neural circuits, including irregular activity of cortical dynamics, feature selectivity, self-organization of neural maps, and the coordination of precisely timed spikes across networks.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The course will demonstrate the use of fluorescent proteins (GFP and variants) in Developmental cell biology. We will perform time-lapse recordings of cultured cells and Drosophila embryos that express fusion proteins with GFP, RFP or variants on a confocal microscope with spinning disc optics. Structures and processes to be analyzed include mitosis, nuclear envelope, microtubules, recycling endosome. On the second day students may bring and record their own samples.

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Rotation course that offers a broad overview of the methods actively used in the program "Physics of Biological and Complex Systems (from experimental to theoretical, from spectroscopy to whole-cell manipulations, from microscopy and nanoscopy to the simulation of complex systems). This "methods in a nutshell" course provides a unique opportunity to get acquainted with several techniques, both theoretical and experimental, as taught by the experts.

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.:
Credits:
Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration:
Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Combined lecture and hands-on computer tutorial. Theory and computer simulations of biomolecular systems, particularly proteins. Basic knowledge in Physics preferred.

No cell could live without the highly specialized “nano machines” – the proteins. Proteins enable virtually all tasks in our bodies, e.g. photosynthesis, motion, signal transmission and information processing, transport, sensor system, and detection. The perfection of proteins had already been highly developed two billion years ago and often surpasses the functions of organs. Computer simulations of the motion of any single atom in the proteins help us to understand how those nano marvels function. The course focuses on the basics of computational biophysics and deals with questions like “How can the particle dynamics of thousands of atoms be described precisely?” or “How does a sequence alignment algorithm function?”. Moreover, the lecture shows (by means of examples) how computers can be used in the modern biophysics, e.g. to simulate the dynamics of biological nano machines or to calculate or refine a protein structure. The aim of the lecture is to develop a physical understanding of those “nano machines” on an atomistic scale.

"Computational biophysics I"

Contents: protein structure, intra and intermolecular interactions, protein dynamics, molecular dynamics simulations, principal component analysis, normal mode analysis, functional dynamics of proteins, quantum mechanical approaches (Hartree-Fock, density functional theory), hands-on computer simulation.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The course covers methods for the automated solid-phase synthesis of chemically modified oligonucleotides by phosphoramidite chemistry, purification of synthetic RNA and DNA by anion exchange and reversed-phase HPLC and by preparative denaturing PAGE, and strategies for the enzymatic ligation of RNA fragments by protein enzymes and deoxyribozymes.

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

SNARE proteins are essential for membrane fusion in eukaryotic cells, in processes as diverse as ER to Golgi trafficking and neurotransmitter release. We are interested in understanding the mechanisms underlying secretion from neurons. We attempt to do this using a minimalistic assay, in which SNARE proteins are incorporated into artificial lipid vesicles. The SNARE protein interactions and mixing of the lipid bilayers, which occur upon fusion, are monitored using fluorescence methods.

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.:
Credits:
Date:

Title of Course: (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

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Duration:
Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Bimolecular fluorescence complementation (BiFC) is used to visualize protein-protein interactions *in vivo*, using protein tags on the putative interaction partners. For this, the two fragments of a “split up” fluorescent protein (in our case YFP) are introduced at N- or C-terminus of the proteins of interest. These fragments do not associate unless the proteins carrying the tag bind each other. Fluorescence is only emitted from the reconstituted YFP, not from its fragments.

This BiFC technique allows visualization of transient interactions since the assembly of GFP from its fragments is very likely irreversible. However, this may cause artefacts, as BiFC actually represents a “YFP fragment assembly trap”. In fact, some BiFC combinations have negative effects on growth probably due to this phenomenon.

The model organism used in this course is baker's yeast *S. cerevisiae*. In this organism, homologous recombination works with high fidelity, enabling the introduction of BiFC tags directly at the chromosomal gene site, thus keeping the cells as close as possible to wildtype behavior. Also, crossing of haploid strains with one BiFC tag each allow for easy and effective combination of two BiFC-tagged proteins in new strains.

Our group studies the interaction between vesicle coats and tethering complexes at the ER in yeast. In the course we will tag coat protein genes (involving PCR and transformation of cells), evaluate produced BiFC signals, and examine some examples where the BiFC signal correlates with effect on growth and viability.

Recommended reading:

Zink S, Wenzel D, Wurm C. and Schmitt HD. (2009). A link between ER tethering and COP-I vesicle uncoating. **Dev. Cell** 17:403-416.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Physical interactions between biological molecules are pivotal to the workings of many biological processes. Identification of molecules binding to an individual protein not only sheds light on its function but also provides valuable information on the cellular process or pathways with which it is associated.

While many approaches are available to identify or verify protein-protein interactions, co-immunoprecipitation remains a valuable *in vitro* method for this purpose. Nevertheless, the technique should be carefully implemented in order that the results may be reliably interpreted.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

This course is meant for students with little or no experiences in protein purification. We will purify proteins from *E.coli* extracts using high affinity, ion exchange and size exclusion chromatography with an Äkta-FPLC system. The purity of proteins will be analyzed by SDS-PAGE. We will also cover basic techniques in handling proteins, for example methods for determining protein concentrations, the dialysis of proteins and how to concentrate proteins through ultrafiltration.

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

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Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

GFP-like fluorescent proteins are powerful tools to study protein dynamics in living cells. The actual properties of the fluorescent proteins may be dramatically altered by slight changes in their amino acid sequences. This practical course will cover several basic methods for targeted and random mutagenesis based on PCR. We will use the coding sequences of switchable fluorescent proteins as templates. The mutagenized proteins will be screened for variants exhibiting different properties.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

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UniVZ No: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader /
Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

This course will provide a brief introduction into the concepts of nucleocytoplasmic transport and its analysis by flow cytometry. We will express a transport factor in bacteria, purify it and test its activity in permeabilized cells. Nuclear import and export of fluorescent reporter proteins can be analyzed in parallel by flow cytometry. The principles of flow cytometry and its applications will be discussed.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Symposium and methods workshop with prominent speakers in sensory neuroscience.

Topics:

- Transduction and amplification of mechanical stimuli (Martin Göpfert, Göttingen)
- Phototransduction (Gary Matthews, Stony Brook, NY)
- Chemotransduction (Benjamin U. Kaupp, Bonn)
- Sensory encoding at ribbon synapses (Tobias Moser, Göttingen)
- Central auditory processing (Georg Klump, Oldenburg)
- Central visual processing (David Fitzpatrick, Max Planck Florida Institute, Jupiter, FL, USA)

See <http://www.rss2011.uni-goettingen.de> for further details regarding the preceding "Ribbon Synapses Symposium 2011"

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The use of computers to solve problems in statistical physics is well established and extremely useful in cases where exact solutions are not available. In this course, the Monte Carlo simulation method will be presented, whose applications are widespread, and include the field of biology. Starting with the basic Metropolis algorithm for the Ising model, this course will gradually move on to consider more complex systems, and show how the Monte Carlo method can be used to extract thermodynamic limit properties with relative ease.

Literature:

- M. Newman and G. Barkema, Monte Carlo methods in statistical physics (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1999).
- D. Frenkel and B. Smit, Understanding Molecular Simulation (Academic Press, 2002).

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Immunoelectron microscopy (IEM) is an important method to study the intracellular distribution of a protein of interest at high resolution. By IEM, the precise localization of a protein can be studied directly in its cellular environment, which is identified by morphological criteria. Here, we use chemically fixed tissue for ultrathin cryosectioning that was cryoprotected with 2.3 M sucrose and frozen in liquid nitrogen. Sections are labelled with antibodies and protein-A coupled to colloidal gold and viewed in the electron microscope.

Day 1: Introduction and cryosectioning

Day 2: Immunolabeling and electron microscopy

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader /
Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Day 1: Introduction, Cryosectioning and staining of mouse brain on glass and membrane slides, microdissection, collection of samples

Day2: RNA preparation, Quality control using the Agilent Bioanalyzed, cDNA synthesis

Day3: qRT-PCR with cell-type specific primers to assess the purity of the samples

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.:
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Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration:
Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

This course will show how:

- to set up a microscope and camera for fluorescence observation with different illuminations settings and their correct alignment.
- to find the appropriate filter combination for a given fluorochrome and application.
- to describe the benefit of different possible filter combinations.
- to describe the benefit of different light sources.
- to create digital images of fluorescence specimen.
- to describe the special needs for microscope, camera and software according to main applications.

Furthermore the course gives an introduction to life science research applications:

- Principles of confocal microscopy; TIRF confocal microscopy
- FRET, FRAP, FLIM, caging – uncaging, GFP
- Fluorescence microscopy of living cells
- Types of applications (e.g. ion sensitive dyes, GFP)

Exact dates tba

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The transcriptional events that organize 24hr ("circadian") rhythms of physiology and behavior are controlled by a set of clock genes that are rhythmically expressed in many tissues of the mammalian body.

In the course we will prepare cultures from liver slices of PER2::LUC transgenic mice and of different reporter cell lines. We will monitor both circadian rhythms and acutely induced expression of luciferase using PMT and luciferase imaging techniques.

On the second day luminescence traces and images will be quantified and compared between different setups. Applied techniques will include: tissue isolation, preparation of slices and culturing, cell culture synchronisation, transfection, luminescence recordings and imaging.

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The course is aimed at introducing the theoretical background and practical applications of TMS and tDCS, tACS, tRNS to young researchers from all fields of neuroscience. Every effort will be taken to cover the broad spectrum of the areas involved in non-invasive brain stimulation, and to highlight recent developments in this field. Several invited lectures will be presented by world renowned scientists, followed by practical exercises in order to emphasize the technical backgrounds. The course consists of a mixture of lectures (first day, and in the morning of day 2 and 3) and practical exercises (afternoon of day 2 and 3).

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
 (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

There are several advantages why the amphibian, *Xenopus laevis*, continues to be widely used as a model system to study vertebrate embryonic development. This includes the relatively fast and external development allowing direct accessibility to the developing embryo and the ease of microinjection (mRNA, DNA, antisense oligos ...) into early cleavage stage embryos.

In this course the student will learn how to perform microinjection experiments of mRNA into *Xenopus* embryos. This includes obtaining eggs, *in vitro* fertilization, *in vitro* transcription of capped sense RNA and finally microinjection and cultivation of the embryos. The injected embryos will be evaluated for phenotype and influence of gene expression using luciferase reporter assays.

Our laboratory will supply the gene of interest or alternatively the student could prepare in advance their gene of interest in the appropriate expression vector (please discuss in advance).

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.:	340057	Credits:	2.0	Date:	26-30 Sep 2011
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Title of Course: (Course ID):	Macromolecular crystal structure determination (A 57)
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Group Leader / Supervisor(s):	Tim Grüne
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Place:	Hodgkin seminar room (MN26, Tammannstr. 4) Practicals: Computer room of AK Sheldrick (308)
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Participants:	min: 5	max:30
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Duration:	4 days lecture 5 days practical	Time on Day 1:	9:00 h
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Preparatory Meeting:	no
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Course description:**Content of Course:**

Symmetry and space groups. X-ray diffraction by single crystals. Solution and refinement of macromolecular structures. Crystallographic databases. Practical aspects, computer programs and synchrotron applications.

Recommended literature:

Rupp, Bernhard (2009) Biomolecular Crystallography: Principles, Practice and Application to Structural Biology. Garland Science, Taylor & Francis group, ISBN 978-0-8153-4081-2

Place and Time:

The lecture takes place at the Hodgkin Seminar room (MN26) at the inorganic chemistry department. Lectures are held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9-11am.

Practicals:

A one week practical is offered following the lecture with the aspect of better understanding the terms and contents of the lecture by hands-on exercises.

There are 10 students per practical, ideally working in groups of two; depending on demand we can offer up to three weeks, starting the week after the lecture.

Practicals will run from 1pm until 5pm every day.

Contact 1:	Dr. Tim Grüne	tg@shelx.uni-ac.gwdg.de	Tel. 0551-39 22149
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Contact 2:			
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Comments:	Due to changes in the personnel at the Inorganic Chemistry there is a mild chance of the practicals having to be cancelled, but students will be informed in time.
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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Fluorescent proteins such as green fluorescent protein (GFP) can be fused to any protein of interest to analyze protein dynamics in living cells.

The fluorescent proteins have provided an important new approach for understanding protein function and they have been used as tools in numerous applications, for example as probes to monitor protein-protein interactions, as photo-modulatable proteins to study the dynamics of specific protein populations, and as biosensors to monitor biological processes and signals.

We will discuss the possibilities of how to use GFP in experiments and demonstrate three examples of their application (acceptor-photobleaching FRET, FRAP and photoactivation of a fluorescent protein). Image analysis will be performed using open source software.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

- Non-radioactive *in situ* hybridization: The students will perform non-radioactive *in situ*-hybridization for myelin proteins on brain sections of mice and rats.
- Immunohistochemistry for light microscopy. The students will perform immunohistochemistry for myelin proteins on brain and spinal cord tissue from mice with experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The course covers sample preparation procedures for studying large macromolecular complexes by electron cryo-microscopy. Macromolecules will be imaged in the electron microscope. A set of noisy two-dimensional projection images is obtained which can be used to compute the 3D reconstruction of the macromolecular complex making use of advanced computational image processing strategies.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The basic principles of Scanning Ion Conductance Microscopy will be taught. The participants will have the chance to operate the instrument and, if they are interested, image samples they are bringing. In the end the participants will be able to operate a SICM by themselves.

Contact 1: Tel. 0551-39 3095

Contact 2: Tel: 0551-39 3208

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader /
Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

General introduction to the patch clamp technique with emphasis on whole cell recording of potassium voltage gated and ligand gated P2X ion channels.

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The purification of recombinant proteins or proteins from native sources is a routine technique in modern biochemistry. In this course, participants will be trained in operating the most-commonly utilized protein chromatography system Äkta with an emphasis on hardware operation and maintenance, software programming and data evaluation. General strategies and principles of gel filtration, ion exchange and affinity chromatography will be experimentally demonstrated.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Day 1: Theory: Mass spectrometry (MALDI vs. ESI) and Proteomics. Practical work: In-gel-digestion of phosphorylated and non-phosphorylated proteins.

Day 2: Extraction of peptides, Peptide mass fingerprint analysis in MALDI-ToF, Nano sequencing of peptides in ESI mass spectrometer.

Day 2 and 3: Nano sequencing of peptides in ESI mass spectrometer. Identification of phosphorylation sites in MALDI and ESI mass spectrometers.

The PhD students will not obtain any information what kind of protein they have to analyze and where the modification site is located. It will be their task to identify the protein and its modification site. SDS gels with already stained proteins will be provided.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader /
Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

We will prepare eukaryotic fusion proteins consisting of killer cell immunoglobulin-like receptors (KIR) of natural killer cells and the Fc portion of human IgG1. Fc-KIR fusion proteins will be collected from supernatant of transiently or stably transfected cells and isolated by affinity chromatography using protein A sepharose columns. Fc-KIR proteins are then multimerised and fluorescently labeled and will be used to test specific interactions with MHC class I molecules by FACS analysis.

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The course is designed for graduate or undergraduate students. The first part (on day 1) will introduce into basic computational methods and databases in bioinformatics with a focus on genome analysis. This will be communicated by practical exercises, besides seminar discussions. In the second part (on day 2) the participants will be introduced into basic script programming (in Perl).

There is no need to bring your own computer. There will be two desktop computers available so that two students each are supposed to share one computer and work together.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The course is designed for graduate students and addresses fundamental questions in the field of RNA interference (RNAi). RNA silencing will be discussed as (I) an endogenous mechanism for gene regulation via microRNAs and (II) as a tool for efficient functional gene characterization in reverse genetics approaches.

The practical part of the course will cover RNAi techniques such as siRNA transfection and gene knockdown detection as well as miRNA expression analysis via multi-reporter gene constructs.

After having completed the course the participants should be able to plan and perform simple RNAi experiments, including functional genetics and miRNA analysis

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC) has emerged as one of the most sensitive and powerful techniques for a rigorous thermodynamic characterization of biomolecular interactions such as protein-protein or protein-ligand interactions. Thus far, ITC is the only technique that determines directly the key thermodynamic parameters of a given interaction including the dissociation constant K_D , the Gibbs free energy of binding ΔG and its individual enthalpic (ΔH) and entropic contributions (ΔS), the stoichiometry n and the heat capacity Δc_p .

This course is aimed to provide the theoretical background of microcalorimetry as well as practical training for planning and performing ITC experiments. The binding interaction of trypsin and soybean trypsin inhibitor will be thermodynamically studied by the participants using the most advanced isothermal titration microcalorimeter iTC200 manufactured by Microcal.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The principles of the biosensor techniques surface plasmon resonance (SPR) and quartz crystal microbalance (QCM) will be presented. The response that is used in SPR and QCM based biosensors will be experimentally demonstrated with the spreading of lipid vesicles and protein binding on planar surfaces. Also the analysis and interpretation of the biosensor data will be discussed.

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UniVZ No:
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Title of Course:

(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

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Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

This course will provide a short introduction to the Matlab programming environment as a versatile tool in system neuroscience research. The course will be held on 3 days in consecutive weeks. You will be first introduced to the basic principles in Matlab programming, as introduced in the tutorial chapter of the course book. Course days will consist of a mixture of tutorial presentations and own practical exercises under supervision. During the exercises the new course material can be explored in small groups of two or three participants and discussed with the supervisor. Practical exercises will include analysis and graphical processing of test data. Exercises are chosen to address typical topics of system neuroscience, e.g. signal detection theory, neural encoding/curve fitting, correlation analysis, and spectral analysis.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Target group: Students with general interest in protein characterization and computational analysis.

Outline: During the course, two basic types of experiments will be conducted. First, a protein will be characterized by its sedimentation behavior in a sedimentation velocity experiment. Using state of the art analysis methods the students will determine the molecular weight as well as the shape factors of the protein. In a second experiment, the protein will be centrifuged until it is at equilibrium. From the resulting concentration gradient, the molecular weight will be determined, which is in this case independent on the shape of the protein. By combining these two experiments, the oligomerization state of the protein and the overall shape can be derived. Also, the purity of the protein preparation will be examined. By analyzing mixtures of the protein and a binding partner in the same way, the binding constant of the interaction will be calculated from the sedimentation behavior.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Chromatin immunoprecipitation is a widely used technique to identify the sites of specific histone modifications and/or the association of transcription factors with specific genomic regions. In its basic form (how it is performed in this course) the precise distribution of a histone modification or the position of a protein of interest in context of a known genomic locus can be monitored. The resolution of the method for histone modification ChIP is a single nucleosome (~200bp). The position of a given DNA binding protein can be determined with even higher accuracy.

In this course the phosphorylation status of H3S10 of the HDAC 1 gene promoter region in response to an environmental stimulus will be examined and compared to control cells that lack that stimulus. Goal of this course is the communication of basic cell culture techniques and of the single steps of a regular ChIP experiment. Typical pitfalls that corrupt ChIP experiments will be discussed. After this course each student should be capable of setting up her/his own ChIP experiment. In detail, the students will be shown how to treat eukaryotic cells prior to the preparation of nuclear extract. They will learn how to prepare the nuclear extract in order to perform the chromatin immunoprecipitation. The procedure of protein:DNA immunoprecipitation along with the recovery of the precipitated DNA will be taught. Polymerase Chain Reaction will be used to analyse the purified genomic DNA.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader /
Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Polymerase chain reactions (PCRs) require a thermostable DNA polymerase. In the first part of the course, we will discuss how helper enzymes and low molecular additives can greatly boost the efficiency of the reaction. Also, we will discuss how to arrive at a PCR reaction with a very low error rate (there is more to say than "use a proof-reading enzyme!"). The second (practical) part provides the opportunity of preparing a high-end PCR enzyme yourself. The preparation utilizes some nice protein purification tricks.

Note: This course is scheduled as an intense, one-day-programme. It assumes that you are already familiar with transforming and culturing *Escherichia coli*. For those, who lack this experience, the course can also be offered as an extended version.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

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Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Recombinant protein expression in *Escherichia coli* is a key technology for biochemistry and structural biology. Expression of eukaryotic proteins, however, often results in low yield and poor solubility. We will discuss strategies, such as codon optimization, usage of special *E.coli* strains and growth conditions and the use of tags to amend such problem.

In the practical part, we will purify a target protein via IMAC, gel filtration and ion-exchange chromatography. The course will also provide a hands-on experience for the use of cleavable affinity tags.

Note: This course is scheduled as an intense, two-day-program. It assumes that you are already familiar with transforming and culturing *Escherichia coli*. For those, who lack this experience, the course can also be offered as an extended version.

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UniVz No.:
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Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

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Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Biological events are rapid and often take place within msec-sec time range. These processes can be investigated by means of transient kinetics, which is an essential method to study the mechanisms of enzymes, protein-ligand and protein-protein interactions. Detailed transient kinetics complements high resolution structural studies and together the two methods can give a molecular explanation of biological function. In this course we will explain the basic principles of transient kinetics, make experiments using rapid kinetics instrumentations, and discuss the data analysis, including numerical integration and global fit. Each full day will consist of 2 hours of seminars 4 hours of hands-on practical work and finish with a 1 hour evaluation/feedback tutorial.

The following experiments are planned:
 Kinetics of enzyme-catalyzed reactions in msec range using quench-flow technique.
 Protein-ligand binding using stopped-flow technique.

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UniVZ No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

One of the most powerful methods in present-day biochemical purifications is affinity purification. The practical will introduce the students to procedures in which we employ a molecular tag on the pre-mRNA substrate to isolate spliceosomes.

We make use of a pre-mRNA tagged with three MS2 RNA aptamers. This is incubated with the MS2-MBP fusion protein, which interacts (i) with the pre-mRNA by binding strongly to the MS2 hairpins; and (ii) with an amylose affinity matrix through the MBP (maltose-binding protein) portion of the protein. The latter interaction is fully reversible, under mild conditions, by competition with maltose.

Experimentally, the introduction to our affinity purification procedure consists of (i) preparation of a tagged pre-mRNA, (ii) assembly of spliceosomes on the tagged pre-mRNA, (iii) size fractionation of the spliceosomes by gradient sedimentation, and finally (iv) affinity selection of the spliceosomes

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The fruit fly *Drosophila* represents a key model organism in modern neuroscience due to the genetic techniques by which neuronal circuits and genes can be manipulated. In this course a background in state-of-the-art genetic techniques used to investigate the function of neuronal circuits for behavior will be provided. Neuroanatomical, physiological, optogenetic and behavioral approaches will be exemplified both theoretically and in hands-on experiments. Topics include germ-line transformation, cell-type specific gene expression, optical calcium imaging, optogenetic manipulation of neuronal activity, genetic tools for neuronal silencing, behavioral and physiological studies.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
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Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

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Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

In addition the role of transcription factors it is now clear that gene-expression is also regulated via epigenetic mechanisms such as histone-modifications and DNA-methylation. In the last years new methods evolved to analyze epigenetic gene-expression and those methods can now also be applied to the adult brain.

The aim of this course is to give an overview on Chromatin-immunoprecipitation (ChIP) using two different experimental approaches. Participants will get hands on experience on how to perform ChIP analysis from the adult mouse brain followed by real time PCR analysis of gene promoter and coding regions of target genes.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

EMSA is a sensitive affinity electrophoresis technique to study protein-DNA or protein-RNA interactions *in vitro*. This procedure can determine if a protein or mixture of proteins is capable of binding to a given DNA or RNA. For the reason of the safety regulation to work with Radioactive reagents, we will provide theoretical introduction of the method with experimental observations.

During this course, the participants will learn and use following methods:

- Day 1: Radioactive labeling of DNA probe (observation), Preparation of polyacrylamide gel, *in vitro* protein synthesis
- Day 2: Protein-DNA binding reaction (observation)
- Day 3: Autoradiographic exposure and data discussion

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: **Credits:** **Date:**

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: **Time on Day 1:**

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

In this course we will isolate functional organelles from cultured cells via subcellular fractionation.

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UniVz No.:
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Title of Course:

(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

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Duration:
Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The course will provide an in depth presentation of current methods used in RNA structure determination. This will include a theoretical introduction to chemical RNA modification and hands-on introduction to the experimental procedures. These are: (i) handling of RNA; (ii) chemical modification of RNA using DMS and kethoxal; (iii) analysis of the modified RNA by primer extension.

In a second part, current procedures of RNA modification as applied to the analysis on RNA-protein interactions will be discussed. Experimentally, we will use hydroxyl radical footprinting and we will focus on the analysis of defined RNA-protein interactions from the field of spliceosome research.

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UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

R is a freely available programming language for statistics and graphics. This course covers the application of R on biostatistic problems. The following topics will be discussed and applied:

- descriptive statistics
- graphics
- t-test
- wilconxon test
- chi square test
- correlation analysis
- regression analysis
- ANOVA
- parametric and nonparametric multiple comparisons

Contact 1:

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Comments:

UniVz No.:
Credits:
Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration:
Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Keywords describing the course contents / lecture & exercises / target group

To study synaptic transmission mechanisms, my lab takes advantage of the single cell autaptic neuron culture system. This model system is ideally suitable for understanding the most important parameters underlying synaptic communication in a quantitative fashion. It is unique, as all synapses originate from a single axon. Thus different synaptic release modes can be quantified.

Step 1. Preparing autaptic neuron cultures

The autaptic preparation is defined by a single neuron that resides on an island of astrocytes with limited size, called a microisland culture. First, course participants will learn how the microisland astrocyte culture is made and developed. Second, course participants will learn how to grow single neurons on the astrocyte islands. The applicants will learn to dissociate neurons from target areas of the mouse brain and to culture them on the astrocyte feeder culture.

Step 2. Measuring evoked synaptic transmission in autaptic cultures

In autaptic neuron cultures, all synapses that contact the dendrite of the neuron are formed by a single axon of the same neuron. Thus, all synapses can be stimulated to release transmitter at once by brief somatic depolarization. To understand the evoked synaptic responses, my lab uses a basic application of the patch clamp technique. Course participants will learn the basics of the measurement and quantification of synaptic responses in autaptic neuron cultures.

This course is intended for students who want to explore projects concerned with synaptic function in neurons.

Contact 1:

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UniVZ No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Image processing has an increasing field of applications in science and industry. We explain basic steps of image preprocessing: Reducing of noise, deconvolution to reduce blurring of images, filtering inhomogeneities of the illumination and adapting the contrast. In a second step we show how to identify and separate objects in the images. The course will be based on examples of the work of the course supervisors. We will have presentations of the concepts and show how they are implemented in ImageJ and MATLAB / Octave. In a hands-on session the participants will have the chance to work with the image processing programs. We ask the participants to bring their own examples of images that they want to analyze.

Contact 1:

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UniVz No.:
Credits:
Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration:
Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

An ever-increasing amount of biological events can be quantified by means of microscopy. A well-designed experiment may yield spatiotemporal information with regard to events taking place at the cellular or molecular level. A proper evaluation thereof requires understanding of what an image is, how it is generated and what subsequent processing methods are available.

Therefore, the underlying motivation for the course is the quantification of biological events through analysis of images generated with a microscope. The freely available "ImageJ" (<http://rsbweb.nih.gov/ij/>) and its "Fiji" variant (<http://pacific.mpi-cbg.de/wiki/index.php/Fiji>) are some of the several open-source applications that will be introduced towards this goal.

In particular, the components of an image will be discussed, as well as frequently used image types within their appropriate context. Basic concepts such as "lookup tables", "image calibration" or the creation of multi-channel (overlay) images will be explained along with several standard situations that a microscope user is faced with on the road toward a publication.

More advanced topics will include the modification of ImageJ installs to suit the respective need. Moreover, examples of basic image arithmetic and further image processing related to image stacks (i.e. time series), 3D reconstruction and automated image processing will be discussed.

Students attending the course may suggest topics they wish to have covered.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

This course is an introduction to the fundamental statistical concepts used in design and analysis of experiments in the life sciences. The course covers the following topics:

- ❖ *A primer in data management*
 - *How to set up a suitable spreadsheet for my experiment?*
 - *Being aware of data quality: How to conduct effective quality checks?*
 - *How to import data to R?*
- ❖ *Basic statistics for the design and analysis of experiments*
 - *Descriptive statistics and data visualization*
 - *Fundamental concepts of statistical inference: hypothesis testing and confidence intervals*
 - *Comparing two groups (considering various types of endpoints)*
 - *Basic designs*
 - *one-way factorial designs*
 - *two-way factorial designs*
 - *split-plot designs*
 - *cross-over designs*
 - *Sample size calculation: How many subjects or replications do I need?*
- ❖ *Interpretation of results*
- ❖ *The course will include applications in the statistical software package R (www.r-project.org).*

Contact 1: Phone: 0551-39 4991

Contact 2: Phone: 0551-39 4989

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course:
(Course ID):

Group Leader /
Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

X-ray crystallography is the most powerful tool for the structure determination of macromolecules at atomic resolution. This practical course will provide a comprehensive introduction to state-of-the-art methodology applied in the field of macromolecular crystallography.

One part of the course will cover methods of sample preparation and characterization required prior to crystallization. Topics: bioinformatics for target selection, baculoviral recombinant expression, thermal shift assays and limited proteolysis.

The second part is dedicated to crystallographic methods themselves. Topics: high-throughput screening, storage and imaging of the plates, automated and manual optimization, crystals manipulation and cryo-protection.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Genetic mouse models are widely used to study gene function during development or in the initiation or progression of tumors. Our laboratory is analyzing different genetic tumor models to analyze early organ development and the development of intestinal and breast cancer.

Participants of this course will perform basic protocols, including hematoxylin-eosin stainings and immunohistochemistry. We will analyze and compare selected markers for differentiation and proliferation on tissue sections of our genetically engineered mouse models. The stainings will be evaluated for the morphology, the presence of (pre-)malignant transformations and the expression pattern of the selected markers.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

The comparison of gene function across species requires that the respective true orthologs are compared. These can be identified by sequence analysis.

- In the introductory lecture I will introduce to the evolution of genes and sequences with focus on the different origin of orthologs and paralogs.
- In the practical in silico work you will determine orthologs and paralogs of a given gene by performing blast searches, alignments and the calculation of phylogenetic trees.
- Subsequently, you are invited to identify orthologs of your favorite gene.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: Credits: Date:

Title of Course (Course ID):

Group Leader / Supervisor(s):

Place:

Participants:

Duration: Time on Day 1:

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

MySQL is a popular relational database management system. Many biological databases like ENSEMBL and Gene Ontology use MySQL to manage their data. Moreover, MySQL can be an excellent solution for storing experimental data. Therefore, many research labs established a way of storing their data locally using MySQL and related technologies.

In this course students will learn how to use MySQL to access, query and export biological data. During the hands-on training participants will learn how to perform various tasks on a database using MySQL commands. First day of the course will cover general concepts. On the second day participants will practice with exercises. These exercises will include installing and querying local databases as well as accessing and querying remote databases. For example, participants will learn how to save their own data as SQL tables in a local database or how to find information about their favorite gene inside a remote database (such as ENSEMBL and Gene Ontology). This knowledge will help to access and use biological databases more effectively.

No prior experience is required. Computers will be provided and you are welcome to bring yours.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.: **Credits:** **Date:**

**Title of Course:
(Course ID):**

**Group Leader /
Supervisor(s):**

Place:

Participants:

Duration: **Time on Day 1:**

Preparatory Meeting:

Course description:

Participants will be introduced to NGS and HTP SNP typing on the SOLiD4 and Illumina HiScan platforms.

Contact 1:

Contact 2:

Comments:

UniVz No.:	340125	Credits:	3.0	Date:	25-30 Sep 2011
Title of Course:	Advanced Light Microscopy (E 01)				
Group Leader / Supervisor(s):	Stefan Hell, Alexander Egner, Roman Schmidt				
Place:	Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry, Lectures: Prandtl Lecture Hall, Hand-on-Courses: Dept. of NanoBiophotonics and other hosting research groups				
Participants:	min: 10	max: 40			
Duration:	5 days	Time on Day 1:	15:00 h		
Preparatory Meeting:	No				

Course description:

The main course will take place in the Department of NanoBiophotonics at the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry under Prof. Dr. Stefan W. Hell, Dr. Alexander Egner and Dr. Roman Schmidt. It is divided into two parts, a first part of lectures and a second part of hands-on experiments.

Part I – Lectures (Sunday – Tuesday) For all participants!

The first part consists of lectures on the basics and theory of all topics covered in the different modules of the extended course. These lectures are given both by GGNB faculty members and external experts in the field of light microscopy. Venue: MPI-bpc, Prandtl Lecture Hall.

Part II – Hands-on courses (2 days between Wednesday and Friday) 3-5 students per course!

In the second part, hands-on advanced course units (3-5 students each) will be offered in the laboratories of the participating faculty members. Each of these course units will take two days (Wed/Thu or Thu/Fri). Each participant in the extended methods course will have the opportunity to participate in one of these course units.

Topics for 10 hands-on advanced course units:

- 2-3 * Confocal microscopy (Bodenschatz, Rehfeldt, Schu)
- 1 * FCS/FLIM (Eggeling)
- 1 * FRET (Wouters/Bunt)
- 1 * Calcium imaging (Moser)
- 2 * STED (Rizzoli, Egner)
- 1 * STED (Hell)
- 1 * Single molecule localization (Egner)

Contact 1:	Dr. Alexander Egner	Alexander.Egner@llg-ev.de	Tel. 0551-5035 35
Contact 2:	Dr. Roman Schmidt	roman.schmidt@mpi-bpc.mpg.de	Tel. 0551-201 2511 or 0551-201 2621
Comments:	Further details regarding the lecturers, lecture topics and hands-on courses will be announced separately		