DESCRIPTION
Students majoring in brain and cognitive sciences aspire to answer fundamental questions concerning intelligent processes, brain organization, and the neural and computational processes that underlie behavior. MIT’s department focuses on four themes: molecular and cellular neuroscience, systems neuroscience, cognitive science, and computation. Several members of the department’s faculty are affiliated with two major research centers: the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory and the McGovern Institute for Brain Research. Individuals majoring in brain and cognitive sciences will often pursue careers in the sciences, computer fields, health professions, law, and education.

SKILLS
Data analysis, often utilizing computer software
Strong interpersonal and communication abilities
Technical writing and research proposal abilities
Ability to work in interdisciplinary teams

POSSIBLE FUTURE POSITIONS
□ Clinical psychology researcher: Conduct research projects involving human and animal subjects to gain insight on many different things related to behavior
□ Laboratory research assistant: Help biological and medical scientists conduct laboratory tests and experiments, maintain laboratory instruments and equipment, and analyze experimental data and interpret results

CAREER INDUSTRY EXAMPLES
Education Consumer manufacturing Industrial manufacturing
Computer software Health and medicine Pharmaceuticals
Consulting Human factors engineering Research

SAMPLE EMPLOYERS
5am Solutions Goldin Associates Northeast Dermatology Associates
Athenahealth Google Shamanuti Skincare
Brain Power LLC Journal of Medical Insights Teach for America
Gavornik Lab Navigant
INSIDE COURSE 9

9     Brain and Cognitive Sciences     Undergraduates: 20
6-9   Computation and Cognition       Undergraduates: 20

DEPARTMENT FAVORITES

9.00  Introduction to Psychological Science
A survey of the scientific study of human nature, including how the mind works, and how the brain supports the mind. Topics include the mental and neural bases of perception, emotion, learning, memory, cognition, child development, personality, psychopathology, and social interaction. Consideration of how such knowledge relates to debates about nature and nurture, free will, consciousness, human differences, self, and society.

9.01  Introduction to Neuroscience
Introduction to the mammalian nervous system, with emphasis on the structure and function of the human brain. Topics include the function of nerve cells, sensory systems, control of movement, learning and memory, and diseases of the brain.

9.46  Neuroscience of Morality
Advanced seminar that covers both classic and cutting-edge primary literature from psychology and the neuroscience of morality. Addresses questions about how the human brain decides which actions are morally right or wrong (including neural mechanisms of empathy and self-control), how such brain systems develop over childhood and differ across individuals and cultures, and how they are affected by brain diseases (such as psychopathy, autism, tumors, or addiction). Instruction and practice in written and oral communication provided.

COURSE 9-FRIENDLY LABS

McGovern Institute for Brain Research
Center for Brains, Minds, and Machines
Institute for Medical Engineering and Science (IMES)
Center for Neurobiological Engineering

GET INVOLVED WITH COURSE 9

Brain and Cognitive Sciences Society
Brain Trust

Sources: MIT Global Education & Career Development, Graduating Student Survey 2015 - 2017. Collegeboard.org. University of Minnesota Center for Academic Planning. UPOP is here to help you! Come talk to us in 1-123 or email us at upopstudentprogram@mit.edu