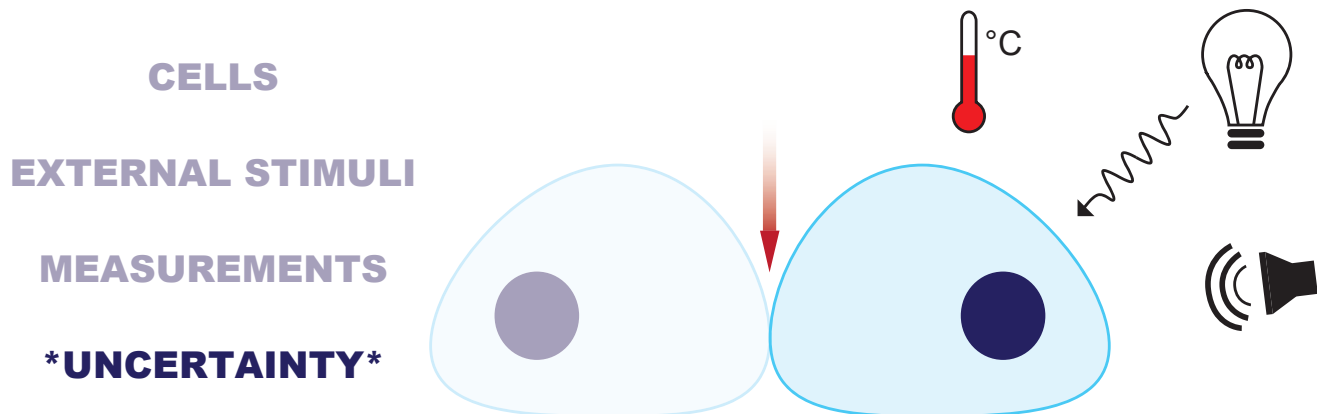


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Are There Inherent Limits to Our Understanding in Biology?

A Challenge and Exploration Based on Diseases of the Nervous System

Most common diseases have proved to be both heterogeneous in origin and mechanistically complex. Why is this the case, and what is preventing us from reaching an understanding of the pathologies of these disorders -- a scientific understanding that is not merely descriptive but rather founded on mechanism? This course aims to examine current challenges in the field of neuro-pathobiology. We will discuss, through analysis of the primary research literature, whether these challenges possess an underlying commonality. For example, have ultimate causes of many diseases remained elusive because of (i) limitations in experimental or computational methodology, (ii) limitations in our ability to interpret complex data, and/or (iii) some unknown facet of the diseases themselves? Can we identify a common thread in the answers to these questions for multiple diseases?

Spring 2016

Wed. 3-5 pm (day/time flexible) Rm. 68-150

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