

Rules for the lecture course “Neural Dynamics”

1. Exercises are the actual platform for learning. All exercise sheets and reading assignments need to be turned in at the agreed time, usually the week after they have been given out. You can deliver them on paper in the lecture or send them by email to `mathis.richter@ini.rub.de` that same day.
 - Late delivery is accepted only if announced ahead of time with an excuse. Send an email to `mathis.richter@ini.rub.de`.
2. The solutions to exercises and assignments should be written in English or German, using complete sentences.
 - Structure your answers intelligently, first explaining assumptions and conventions.
 - Make drawings whenever useful.
 - If you use mathematical formalism, define your variables.
3. There will be one *essay* assignment, in which you will be asked to produce a longer text (e.g., on the order of 10 pages) to discuss an issue based on a scientific article that you will have to read.
4. The exercises handed in are corrected and roughly graded (on a % scale). The grades multiply the Bonus points obtained for each exercise.
5. Bonus points for the essay exercise is tripled but only counted once to scale the final bonus (see below). So essays are particularly worthwhile in terms of bonus points.
6. There will be an oral exam at the end of the lecture course.
7. A prerequisite for a passing grade in the course is that the exam achieves a mark of at least 50%. Below that threshold, the mark will be a “fail”.
8. If the threshold is passed in the exam, the final grade for the course is computed from the mark of the exam to which a bonus from the exercises is added. The bonus from the exercises is scaled such that if you have done all exercises with a perfect mark, the final mark of the course is lifted by 10%, a full mark in the German system (e.g.,. from ”gut” to ”sehr gut”).
 - If you have done the essay, you might end up with an even bigger boost. For example, if there were a total of 6 exercises including the essay, on all of which you obtained a perfect score, you would end up with a boost of $10 * (6/6 + 2/6) = 13.3\%$.