Synopsis

A textbook for psychology, neuroscience, pre-medical students, and everybody interested in the neuroscience of cognition. A wave of new research is transforming our understanding of the human mind and brain. Many educational fields now require a basic understanding of the new topic of cognitive neuroscience. However, available textbooks are written more for biology audiences than for psychology and related majors. This text aims to bridge that gap. A background in biology of neuroscience is not required. The thematic approach builds on widely understood concepts in psychology, such as working memory, selective attention, and social cognition. Edited by two leading experts in the field, the book guides the reader along a clear path to understand the latest findings. A support website at http://textbooks.elsevier.com provides all figures in electronic format with export to Powerpoint, as well as supplementary material including movies and support material for teachers and students. (note: support website will be available after June 10, 2007)

FEATURES

- Written specifically for psychology, pre-medical, education and neuroscience undergraduate and graduate students
- The thematic approach builds on accepted concepts, not presuming a background in neuroscience or biology
- Ancillary material includes a companion website and Learning Guide for students
- Includes two Appendices on brain imaging and neural networks written by Thomas Ramsoy and Igor Aleksander
- Introduces the brain in a step-by-step, readable style, with gradually increasing sophistication
- Richly illustrated in full color with clear and detailed drawings that build the brain from top to bottom, simplifying the layout of the brain for students
- Pedagogy includes exercises and study questions at the end of each chapter, including drawing exercises

Book Information

Hardcover: 568 pages
Publisher: Academic Press; 1 edition (June 8, 2007)
I couldn't agree more with the editorial reviews of this book. It is excellent! I'm reading the book just out of interest in the subject matter and I'm not involved professionally with neurology. I have recently read several books on the topic though and that list would include: . Mapping the Mind - Rita Carter's excellent survey of brain functions (similar in some ways to this book and really excellent!). . Exploring Consciousness - Another very good Rita Carter text. . The Neuron - Cell and Molecular Biology - Irwin Levitan and Leonard K Kaczmarek's 500+ page non-light reading but fascinating book on neurons. . Quest for Consciousness - Christopher Koch's (and Francis Crick's) insightful search for the neural correlates of consciousness. . Wider Than The Sky - Gene Edelman's equally fascinating perspective on the same type of research. . In Search of Memory - Eric Kandel's part autobiography, part neurology book. . Etc. Each of those books were wonderful and I plan on going back and reading them again just to see how my perspective has changed from what I've learned since the last time. But, if I had to pick one book to provide a survey of how the brain is organized and functions I believe this is the book I would chose. It is actually the first textbook I can remember reading in the past 40 years but it didn't remind me of the textbooks of that era. Cognition, Brain, and Consciousness has the following assets: . It is well organized and well indexed. . The writing style seems to take advantage of the authors' understanding of the learning process. . It provides more than a casual introduction to each of the topics it covers. 

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