

Our Brains: An Operator's Manual – Tuesdays at 2:00 PM, October 5 – November 9

In this series, a group of Vanderbilt's outstanding researchers will give you an insider's view of the topics they study. Weekly topics will include the anatomy of the brain, how neurons communicate, and the effects of our interactions with the world: technology, brain disorders, consciousness, and early life adversity.

DATE	SPEAKER(S)	TOPIC
5-Oct	Rebecca Ihrie	Tubes, Streams, and Arcs – How Stem Cells Build the Brain
12-Oct	Alex Maier	Neurobiology of Consciousness
19-Oct	Natali Chanaday and Natalie Guzikowski	How Neurons and Brain Regions communicate
26-Oct	Ariel Deutch	How do you define a disease: The evolving nature of Parkinsonism
2-Nov	Kate Humphreys	Early Adverse Experiences
9-Nov	Victoria Morgan	Brain Fingerprints with MRI

Course Organizer Lisa Monteggia, Ph.D., is the Barlow Family Director of the Vanderbilt Brain Institute and a Professor of Pharmacology, Psychiatry and Psychology. She specializes in the understanding of molecular mechanisms of psychiatric disorders and their treatment.

Rebecca Ihrie, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Cell & Developmental Biology and Neurological Surgery. She specializes in the understanding of stem cells in the brain and their relationship to brain tumors in children and adults.

Alexander Maier, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Psychological Sciences and Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences is an internationally recognized researcher in the neurobiological basis of vision.

Ariel Deutch, Ph.D., is the James C. Blakemore Chair in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. His long-standing research program focuses on understanding the role of dopamine in the brain and how it is critically involved in psychiatric disorders.

Kathryn Humphreys, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology & Human Development. Her ground-breaking research focuses on characterizing the early environment and examining links to later life outcomes.

Victoria Morgan, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Department of Radiology & Radiological Sciences. Her research is in clinical translational research to bring new imaging methods, such as MRI, to study brain activation in patients with specific disorders.

In addition, graduate student **Natalie Guzikowski** and postdoctoral scholar **Natali Chanday** will present their work in the context of the field.