COGS100: Introduction to Cognitive and Brain Sciences

Neuroanatomy (A) (B) Superior (above) Sagittal Longitudinal Coronal axis of the (frontal) forebrain Rostral -Ventral Anterior (in front of) Caudal Posterior (axial) (behind) Longitudinal axis of the brainstem

and spinal cord

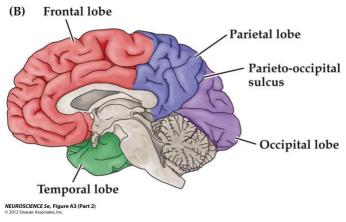
Caudal

Surface anatomy of the cerebral hemisphere

Inferior

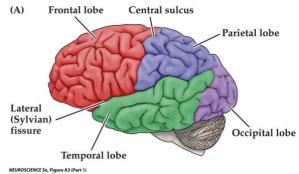
(below)

- Super view of brain = dorsal (above)
- Inferior view of brain = ventral (below)
- Side of brain = mid-sagittal view



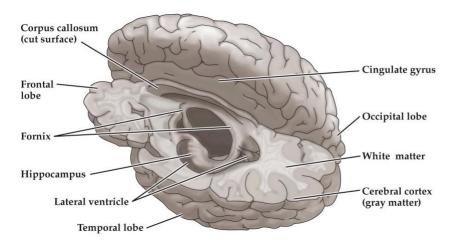
Sections of the brain

- Coronal → frontal
- Sagittal → across (vertical)
- Horizontal → across
- Midsagittal view (side)
- Calcimine sulcus runs down middle of occipital view
- Brain determines what we see → technically humans see things upside down → brain changes to right way



Fun facts:

- Damaged neurons remain dead
- Individual parts work independently when there is no connection between 2 parts
- Sulcus / sulci = in folds ('dips')
- Gyrus / gyri = out folds (top part)
- Fissure = completely separated, not connected (unlike sulcus)
- Corpus collosum = separates the 2 halves
- Lateral ventricles (fluids) are connected to the spinal cord + maintain equal pressure within the brain (keeps brain inflated)



<u>Grey matter</u> = accumulation of cell bodies + white blood cells in brain / spinal cord

White matter = axon tracts (myelinated), commissures → connects parts of grey matter to each other

Neurons

- <u>Definition:</u> type of cell → long distance electrical signalling + intercellular communication by means of synapses. Salient includes an axon (sends messages) + dendrites (receives info)
- All neurons are identical (same morphology) BUT they are designed / structure to perform different tasks
- Specialise in intercellular communication & electrical signalling = fundamental function unit in nervous system
- Transmit information along axon → electrical impulse
- Components of neuron = axon, cell body, dendrite
- Contain positively charged sodium + potassium
- Negatively charged chloride + organic ions
- Afferent neurons = nerve cells carrying info from periphery TOWARDS brain /spinal cord
- Efferent neurons = nerve cells carrying info AWAY from the brain/spinal cord

Glial cells

- <u>Definition:</u> non-neuronal cells that maintain haemostasis (stopping blood flow) from myelin (fat) + provide support / protection for neurons in CNS/PNS
- Support electrical / chemical function of neuron
- Repairs damaged nervous system
- Remove cellular debris
- Cell body (soma)
- 'Factory' of neuron
- Half mass of brain, outnumbering neuron approx. 10 to 1
- 3 types:
 - Astrocytes
 - Oligodendrocytes
 - Microglia (located throughout spinal cord/brain)

