



**Course Title:** Adolescent Brain Development: The Double-edged Sword of Neuroplasticity

**Course Instructor:** Dr. Jessica Liu

**Course Description:**

This course will include an overview of adolescent brain development, especially regarding the importance of the process of pruning. We will also discuss the “sensitive” period of adolescent brain development, and how this is a window of opportunity. We will then introduce the concept of neuroplasticity, and students will be divided into two groups. One group will advocate for neuroplasticity as a danger to adolescent health, and the other group will advocate for neuroplasticity as a benefit. There will then be an informal “debate” that follows between the two sides.