**Anatomy Explorations with Brain Atlas (Course 4)**

Purpose: students familiarize themselves with brain anatomy through the use of an online Brain Atlas.

First, the instructor provides some background information on the purpose of the brain atlas(es) available online. These are free repositories of neuroimages of humans and animals, including both those with and without underlying conditions (e.g. tumors, neurodegenerative disease). These resources are a tremendous asset to contemporary research in neuroscience and beyond, providing detailed images of structures and maps of their interactions.

Next, students access a brain atlas online:

* Allen Institute Human Brain Atlas: <http://human.brain-map.org> (select MRI or Brain Explorer)
* Allen Institute Mouse Brain Atlas: <http://mouse.brain-map.org> (select Fine Structure Search or Brain Explorer)
* Harvard Whole Brain Atlas: <http://www.med.harvard.edu/AANLIB/home.html> (select NEW Normal anatomy in 3-D with MRI/PET)

Allow students to familiarize themselves with the interface. It can be useful for the instructor to first review the website and provide a walk-through. Next, ask students to navigate to brain structures that are relevant to the psychology of eating, presented so far in the textbook.

To further challenge students, encourage them to use the connectivity atlas to locate the pathways involved in regulation of eating.

* Allen Institute Connectivity Atlas: <http://connectivity.brain-map.org> (select Brain Explorer)

**Related Reference:**

Allen Institute YouTube channel instructional videos: <https://youtu.be/b_UvVjWydfo>