
Student Success \ Brain, Emotion, and Health

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Functions of the Basal Ganglia

INTEGRATION OF YOUR FEELINGS AND MOVEMENTS

Example: movements you apply on the steering wheel when you drive a car.

CONTROL AND SMOOTH FUNCTION OF FINE MOTOR MOVEMENTS

Examples: writing with a pen, typing on a keyboard, playing the piano, etc.

SUPPRESSION OF UNWARRANTED BEHAVIORS OR SPEECH

Example: the sense of knowing what is appropriate to say or do in situations.

“THERMOSTAT” OF YOUR BODY’S IDLE SPEED OR ANXIETY LEVEL

Example: the sense of being very relaxed or highly stressed.

MODULATION OF YOUR MOTIVATION

Example: the sense of being energetic and wanting to do things versus not being in the mood to do things.

MEDIATION OF PLEASURE AND ECSTASY

Example: the sense of balance between your everyday tasks & duties and pleasure & ecstasy.