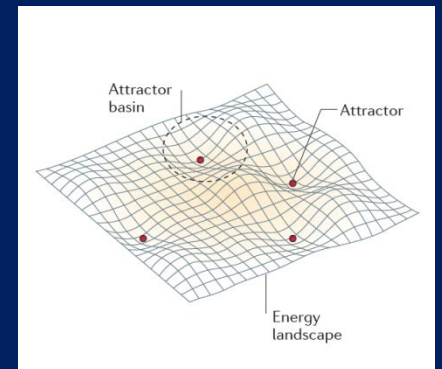# The Neuroscience of Classical Chinese Poetics

The Poetry Machine:

Event → Mind 心 / Nature 性 → Emotion 情 / Resolve 志 → Intention 意 → Poem
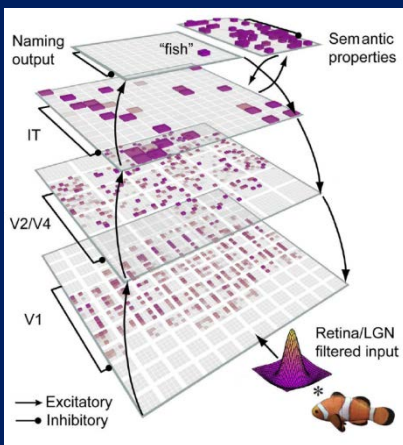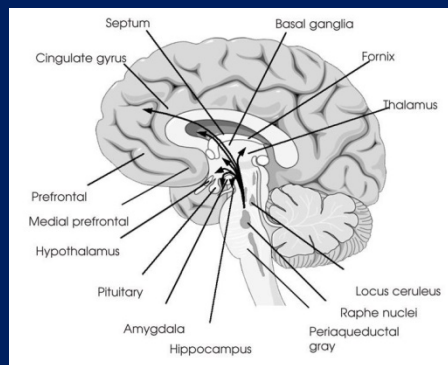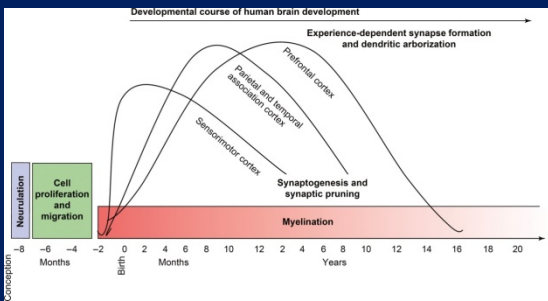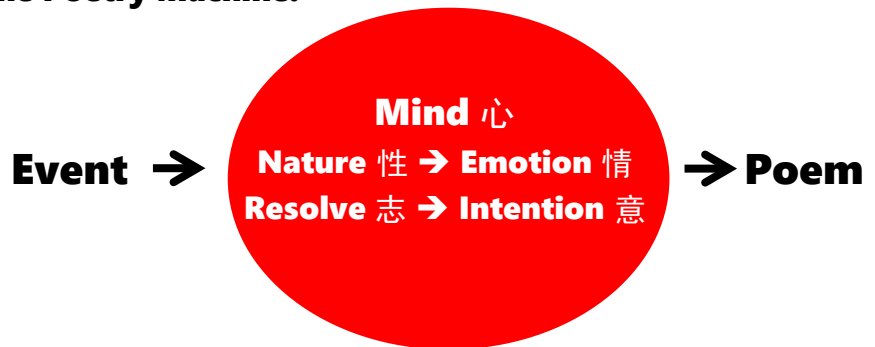
This course uses an integrated approach to introduce students to how the brain structures the information about the world to which we respond. We shall see that classical Chinese poetics is a poetics of engagement and articulated response that is remarkably consistent with the neuroscientific model of deeply affectively informed perception. The course as a whole presents the challenge of bringing together models developed in neuroscience and models long established in the humanities to explore ways in which they attempt to account for modes of human engagement in the world that they both have the responsibility to explain. This challenge will occupy neuroscience and the humanities for decades to come, and this course takes stock of our current situation. No knowledge of Chinese is required. The course is an elective for the Chinese Studies major.

Spring 2018, MWF 2:00-2:50 Humanities Hall 230