

Psychology 3740
Drugs and Behavior

Fall 2009
TR 10:30 – 11:45 AM
SS 347

Professor's Name: Dr. Matthew Schmolesky

Professor's e-mail: MSCHMOLESKY@WEBER.EDU

**(This is BY FAR the best way to contact me)

Professor's Office Phone: 801-626-8745

Office Hours: TR 1:30 AM – 2:30 PM; also by appointment

Office Location: SS 356

Class Web Site: <http://www.online.weber.edu>

I. Textbook: Meyer, J. & Quenzer, L. (2005). Psychopharmacology: Drugs, the Brain, and Behavior. Sinauer Associates: Sunderland, MA.

II. Web CT – the Course Website

You are required to become familiar with and use the course website via WebCT: <https://www.online.weber.edu/> I will post documents on this site (e.g. copy of syllabus, powerpoint files, assignments, etc.) and will occasionally email students with announcements. For technical issues (e.g. having difficulties accessing WebCT or downloading a document) contact computer support by: a) calling 626-7777, or b) emailing csupport@weber.edu, or, c) go to Lampros Hall and ask for assistance. I do not have answers to questions on WebCT technical issues.

III. Course Objectives

- A. To become familiar with the neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and neuroendocrinology related to drug actions.
- B. To gain an in-depth understanding of how drugs act upon nervous system activity by impacting specific neurotransmitter systems.
- C. To learn the basic principles (pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics) of drug action.
- D. To appreciate the biological bases of selected mental disorders and learn the classes of psychoactive drugs that are used to treat them.
- E. To learn about the commonly abused drugs and their mechanisms of action, as well as prevention and treatment for drug abuse.
- F. To learn, apply and demonstrate knowledge of how drugs act to affect perception, thinking, emotion, memory and behavior.

IV. Course Grade

A. Examinations

1. Five exams will be taken during the course of this semester. Each exam is non-comprehensive and constitutes 14% of your final grade.
2. The fifth and final exam will be taken on Dec. 4-10. No exams may be

taken after Thursday Dec. 10

3. All exams will be taken in the Social Sciences Testing Center (SS 036). You will have 2 days to take each exam. Optional review sessions will be held on exam days, so you have scheduled time to take the exams. Please note the testing center hours listed on the web site (currently listed as: 7:30am to 8pm Monday to Thursday, 7:30am-4:30pm Friday, 9am-4pm Saturday). **YOU MUST ARRIVE AT LEAST ONE HOUR** before the testing center closes or they will not permit you to take the exam. You must have your student ID and 10 cents for the scantron to take the exam.

B. Make-up Examinations/Missing Exams

If you know of a conflict with the exam schedule, you may take ANY exam early but **must notify me in writing of your intention to do so as early as possible**. IF FOR ANY REASON YOU MISS AN EXAM you must notify me in writing immediately. You may take the exam one day late (for a 10 point deduction) or two days late (for a 20 point deduction). You will not be able to take an exam three or more “business days” (i.e. days the testing center is open, Mon.-Sat.) after the scheduled dates and will receive a zero for this exam.

C. In addition to the 5 exams for this course, you will be required to complete the following assignments. The contribution of each assignment to your final grade is listed next to each assignment. Additional information will be made available about these assignments after the first day of class.

- i. **Drug Fact Sheets (16%):** All students are required to submit two drug fact sheets, one on a legal drug and one on an illegal drug. These fact sheets should include information on the pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, dosage, methods of action, references, and street-wise information on the drug. A handout describing the specific requirements of the fact sheets will be distributed separately. You may sign up for your drug of choice on a first-come, first-serve basis. Each fact sheet is worth 8% of your grade.
- ii. **Class Presentations (14%):** Students will present drug material to the class during the last 2 weeks of classes. These presentations should incorporate pharmacological information gathered during the class, as well as material gathered outside the class. You will have specific topics to choose from for your presentations. These topics, and the presentation dates, will be assigned on a first come first serve basis. You must include a Psychopharmacology Fact Sheet (worth 8% of your course grade) to accompany your class presentation (worth 6%). A handout describing the specific requirements of the fact sheet and the presentation will be distributed separately. Students may work in groups of 2 or 3 (depending upon the topic) for the presentations, but each student is responsible for

contributing to both the fact sheet and the presentation.

D. Extra Credit Opportunities

Each exam will have an extra credit opportunity included with the questions. These are questions that require you to integrate information and go above and beyond what you normally would learn for the exam. You may earn up to 4 percentage points for each exam through the exam extra credit.

E. Grading Scale

The course grade will be assigned according to the scale indicated below:

<u>Numeric Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
60-66	D
Below 60	E

IV. Course Outline:

<u>CLASS DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING (pgs)</u>
August 25, 27, Sept. 1	Principles of Pharmacology	Chap. 1
Sept 3, 8, 10	Structure and Function of the Nervous System	Chap. 2
Sept. 10	Review Session	
Sept. 10-11	EXAM 1 (Chaps. 1, 2)	~~WORTH 100 Points
September 15, 17, 22	Chemical Signaling by NTs and Hormones	Chap. 3
September 22, 24, 29	Methods of Research	Chap. 4
Sept. 24	<i>Drug Fact Sheet 1 due</i>	
Oct. 1	Review Session	
Oct. 1-2	EXAM 2 (Chaps. 3, 4)	~~WORTH 100 Points
Oct. 6, 8	Catecholamines	Chap. 5
Oct. 13, 15	Acetylcholine and Serotonin	Chap. 6
Oct. 20	Glutamate and GABA <i>Drug Fact Sheet 2 due</i>	Chap. 7
Oct. 22	Review	
Oct. 22-23	EXAM 3 (Chaps. 5, 6, 7)	~~WORTH 100 Points
Oct. 27, 29	Alcohol	Chap. 9
Nov. 3, 5	Psychomotor Stimulants	Chap. 11
Nov. 10, 12	Nicotine and Caffeine	Chap. 12
Nov. 12	Review	
Nov. 12-13	EXAM 4 (Chaps. 5, 13, 9)	~~WORTH 100 Points
Nov. 17, 19	Hallucinogenics, PCP, and Ketamine	Chap. 14
Nov. 24	<i>Drug Fact Sheet 3 and powerpoints due</i>	
Nov. 24 [[No class Nov. 26-27: Thanksgiving]]	Schizophrenia	Chap. 18
Dec. 1, 3	Student Presentations and Review	
Dec. 3	Closing	
Dec. 4-10	EXAM 5 (Chaps. 14, 15)	~~WORTH 100 Points

NO CLASSES: Sept. 7, Oct. 16, Nov. 26-27

V. Additional Information

A. Attendance

Attendance is not required for this class but is **STRONGLY** encouraged and will be monitored. Anything discussed in class may be included on an exam, even if that information is not found in the textbook or online resources. Thus, it is in everyone's best interest to attend. ****IF you miss class, there are two things you can do to get the material you missed. You may get the outline from the PowerPoint on WebCT, and/or you may get notes from a classmate. DO NOT not email me or come to my office to ask what you missed.** It is your responsibility to attend class or, if you cannot, contact a classmate to catch up.

B. Class Contact

Often it is necessary to miss a part or all of class. When that happens, or when you have questions that you cannot answer on your own, it is helpful to have the name and number of another student in class that you can contact. Please use the space below to write down the name, email, and phone number of at least two students in this class. AND you can use WebCT to email anyone in the class.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR CLASSMATES:

_____	_____
Name	Phone or Email
_____	_____
Name	Phone or Email

C. Class Courtesy

Please be courteous of others when coming late to or leaving early from class. Do not make a habit of arriving late or leaving early as many (including me) find it very distracting. The following behaviors are rude when they take place during class time: a) holding private conversations, b) sleeping, c) reading other material, or d) doing other work. Drinking (but not eating) in class is permitted, so long as it is not disruptive to the learning environment. ****POLICY FOR ELECTRONIC DEVICES: ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE TO BE OFF AND OUT OF SIGHT/REACH DURING CLASS AND TESTS.** Any disruptive behavior will be addressed immediately, and if the behavior does not cease, you will be asked to leave class. **Students repeatedly engaging in rude behavior will be counseled to drop the course.**

D. Grade Appeals

If, after receiving an exam back during class, you think a mistake has been made in the grading of **your** exam, please do not ask about this during class. Write/type down on a sheet of paper what your questions are, provide reference to notes in class or specific pages from the book, and turn in these questions to the instructor at the end of the class period. You will receive a response, and any grade adjustment necessary, within one week. You may also do this with writing assignments. **THIS IS THE ONLY WAY** that your concerns will be addressed. **ONLY** written questions and comments **THAT YOU SUPPORT** will be evaluated.

E. Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism/Cheating

I encourage students to work and study together whenever possible. **However, students must hand in their own work.** Whenever you try to pass off someone's work that is not your own, that is cheating. If you cheat on ANY assignment (even extra credit), you will receive a grade of **E (Failing) for the course**. Plagiarism is when you represent someone else's ideas or words as your own. For a very detailed description of plagiarism, please go to the web site and review the PLAGIARISM description. You are responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism. ANY plagiarism (even unintentional) will result in a failing grade in the course. Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of infringements that constitute cheating:
<http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>.

F. Completing all Work

All assignments must be completed in order for students to pass the course. **Students will receive a grade of I (incomplete) if any work is missing when the final grades are computed.** The grade of I will turn into a UW if the work is not completed in a timely fashion.

G. Students with Disabilities

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

H. Students' Rights and Responsibilities

Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of all WSU student rights and responsibilities: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

VI. Testing Center Hours

All exams will be taken in the Social Sciences Testing Center, located in the basement of the Social Sciences building (SS 036). In order to take an exam, you must show up on the correct date at the appropriate times (NOTE: you must arrive at least one hour before closing) with a form of picture ID and 10 cents for the scantron. You will not be allowed to take the exam without a picture ID or if you

show up after hours. Please see the Social Science Testing Center hours listed at:
<http://departments.weber.edu/testingcenter/hours.htm>

VII. Grade Record

Please keep a record of the grades you receive on each assignment. You may also access your grades using the MY GRADES tool on WebCT. Grades are updated within 1 week of the end of every exam.

NOTE: The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course. I am committed to following the syllabus but there is no guarantee that I will. Altering the syllabus may also mean changing the nature or timing of exams/assignments. **By continuing in the course after reading the syllabus, you are indicating that you accept the terms of the syllabus.** November 3rd, 2009 is the last day to drop with a W.