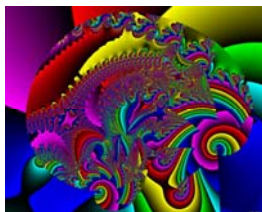


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PSYC 150-01, Drugs, Brain and Behavior, Spring 2007

Item Type	Syllabus
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Publisher	Memphis, Tenn. : Rhodes College
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PSYC 105 - 01
 Drugs, Brain & Behavior
 MWF 11-11:50
 Clough 114

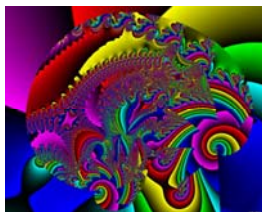
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REQUIRED TEXT: Levinthal CF (2005). Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society, 4th Edition. Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course has been designed to offer you an introduction to neuropsychopharmacology. We will begin by discussing the organization and function of a number of nervous system structures as well as the processes involved in neuronal communication. I will then introduce you to basic principles of pharmacology with emphases on pharmacokinetics (drug absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion) and pharmacodynamics (the effects of drugs based on their specific properties). We will then pull some of these ideas together in an effort to understand the physiological, psychological and sociocultural factors that contribute to addiction. The remainder of the course will focus in on particular classes of drugs in the context of other historical, political and social issues. A major emphasis will be placed on the mechanism of action of distinct drugs in the body/brain; the associated implications for therapeutic and toxic results; and the methodology used in neuropsychopharmacological research.

CLASS SCHEDULE: The following schedule is tentative. We may take more time in some sections and less in others. Exam and assignment dates will not change.

January 10	First Day Stuff
12	Introduction – Chapter 1; Chapter 2 (49-54) → History & Classifications (<u>Introductory Assignment due 1/12</u>)
17	
19	
22	Neurophysiology – Chapter 3 (67-81) → CNS Organization & Neural Communication
24	
26	
29	Pharmacology – Chapter (29-35) Chapter 3 (60-67) → Basic Pharmacology Principles & Introduction to Addiction Terminology (<u>Neural Communication Assignment due</u>)
31	
February 2	
5	Addiction – Chapters 1-3; 17 (376-383); Chapter 18 (398-403) → The Neurobiology of Addiction, Some Addiction Theories & Treatment Strategies
7	
9	
12	Class Discussion Day /Catch-up and Review – ½ day each (<u>Ibogaine Assignment due</u>)
February 14 Exam 1	
16	Stimulants – Chapter 4 → Cocaine, Amphetamines & Designer Drugs & The Noradrenergic & Dopaminergic Systems (<u>Cocaethylene Assignment – due 2/21</u>)
19	
21	
23	Narcotics – Chapter 5 → Opium, Morphine & Heroin & Pain Modulation (<u>Relapse Assignment – due 3/7</u>)
26	
28	



March 2	Hallucinogens – Chapter 6 → LSD, the Serotonergic System & Hallucinogenic Theories
5	
7	
9	
19	Marijuana – Chapter 7 → Conspiracy, THC, Anandamide & Introduction to Behavioral Pharmacology
21	
Class Discussion Day / Catch-up and Review – ½ day each (<u>Marijuana Assignment due</u> – 2 page allotment)	
March 23	
Exam 2	
26	Steroids – Chapter 8 → Anabolic Steroids, Hormonal Signaling & Performance Enhancement (<u>Steroids Assignment due</u>)
28	
30	
April 2	Alcohol – Chapters 9 & 10 → Social Regulations, Health Consequences & the GABAergic system
4	
9	
11	Nicotine – Chapter 11 → The Cholinergic System; The Evils of Tobacco & Tobacco Companies (<u>Nicotine Assignment</u> – due 4/20)
13	
16	
18	Anxiolytics and Anti-depressants - Chapters 15 & 16
20	
23	
25	
27	Catch-up/Class Discussion – ½ class for each (Final Assignment Due)
27	No class – Awards Convocation and URCAS
5/1 8:30 AM	
Exam 3	

COURSE MATERIALS: \\Fileserver1\acad_dept_pgm\Psychology\Gerecke_Kimberly\Public

CLASS DISCUSSIONS DAYS: Periodically, we will discuss important societal issues concerning drug use/abuse in class. The topics include: (1) is drug addiction a choice? (2) does marijuana deserve its schedule I designation? (3) should public smoking be banned? Come to class prepared to talk about these issues. A class discussion will not be very useful unless the class participates. To ensure your preparedness, I will pseudorandomly call on individuals to lead discussions. Other informal discussions will occur as time allows. I have a number of ideas with which to stimulate informal discussions, but it would be much more fun if they were generated by you. Please ask questions, make comments or add additional information. I love a good tangent and following it wherever it goes is half the fun.

GRADING:

- 100 Points (Test 1)
- 100 Points (Test 2)
- 100 Points (Test 3)
- 100 Points (Assignments)
- 400 total points



ASSIGNMENTS: Various tasks will be assigned to you throughout the semester. I will post these assignments in my box on the academic server. Most of these assignments will consist of questions for you to research and answer. Many of the questions can be answered by using the internet. However, you need to ensure that you are viewing a reputable website and that you can corroborate your answer with other reputable sources. Please reference the sources used. Assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class on the date due. Late submissions will not be accepted or graded. Assignments are limited to a single page of single-spaced text. The marijuana assignment will not have this strict limitation. I reserve the right to add additional assignments as I see fit.

EXAMS: The exams will consist of multiple choice, short answer and fill in the blank questions. The questions will be designed to assess your knowledge of the material as well as your ability to apply that knowledge. You will be tested on material from class, the book, the assignments and the class discussions.

RESEARCH PARTICIPATION: All psychology students are obligated to participate in 3 hours of campus research or an alternative research-oriented exercise during their tenure in the department. If you have already met this requirement for a different class, then you are exempt from this requirement for this class. If you have not yet participated, then you must fulfill this requirement in order to pass this class. Instructions and further information are included on a separate handout. These materials are also available in my folder on the Academic Server. You must return to me the signed, completed sheets that acknowledge your participation. Although the typical requirement is for 3 hours, this may increase or decrease depending on departmental need. In other words, plan on 3 hours and I will inform you if there are any changes. Once you have completed all 3 hours (in whatever form), you can turn the credit sheets into me. I will not take them individually.

ATTENDANCE: Class attendance is your responsibility. I will keep track of who is attending and who is not as an assessment tool. The college policy is that you are not to have more than a week's worth (3) of unexcused absences in a given class. Therefore, excessive absences are grounds for being withdrawn from this class and I reserve this right.

CLASS ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements concerning the class will be made in class and/or via e-mail. Therefore, if you attend class and check your Rhodes e-mail account frequently, you will be sure to be up-to-date.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Explicit details concerning honor code violations are listed in your college handbook. Honor code violations will not be tolerated and will be reported immediately to the appropriate authority. Please review the Rhodes College academic dishonesty policies. Since you will be required to submit written reports for this course, pay special attention to the section on plagiarism and pledge all of your work.