

COURSE NUMBER Psychology 5361

COURSE TITLE Neuropsychopharmacology

CREDIT HOURS 3 (lecture)

SEMESTER/YEAR Fall 2017

Location of Class Meeting CHSS 242B

Class Meeting Times MWF 3:30-4:50

Instructor Christopher Wilson, Ph.D.

Office Location CHSS, Room 390

Instructor Contact Information 936-294-3052; Wilson@shsu.edu

Office Hours M 3-4 pm; TTH 2-3 pm or by appointment

Course Description:

This course is the study of behavioral pharmacology, e.g., the systematic study of the effects of drugs on behavior. The course deals with mechanisms involved in drug in the body and how and why drugs are both used and abused.

Objectives:

1. This course is designed to give the student a basic background in factors that determine drug action and effectiveness. Students will learn about the following phenomena:
 - a. modes of administration;
 - b. distribution factors;
 - c. metabolism and elimination;
 - d. tolerance and dependence;
 - e. dose response curves.
2. The course is designed to give the student a basic understanding of neurochemical systems. Included under this objective are the following concepts:
 - a. basic structural aspects of neurons;
 - b. drug terminating mechanisms;
 - c. specific neurotransmitter systems.
3. The course will give the student an understanding of specific drug classes (i.e., sedative hypnotics, stimulants, opiates, psychedelics, and antipsychotics) and will investigate the behavioral effects of the use and abuse of those drug classes.

Syllabus

Text: Levinthal: Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society, Pearson.

Date	Topic	Reading
Aug 24	Introduction to drug use	Chapters 1, 2
Aug 29- Sep 12	Determinants of drug action/ pharmacologic principles	Chapters 2, 3
Sep 14	Test 1	
Sep 19-21	Nervous system structure Neurochemical systems	Chapter 3
Sep 26-28	Sedative Hypnotics/Barbiturates	Chapter 13
Oct 3-5	Ethanol	Chapters 8, 9
Oct 10-12	Minor tranquilizers	Chapter 13
Oct 17	Test 2	
Oct 19-24	Stimulants/Cocaine	Chapter 4
Oct 19-24	Stimulants/Amphetamines	Chapter 4
Oct 26-31	Tobacco/Caffeine	Chapters 10, 11
Nov 2-7	Opiates	Chapter 5
Nov 9	Test 3	
Nov 14-16	Marijuana	Chapter 7
Nov 21-23	Hallucinogens	Chapter 6
Nov 28	Antipsychotics	Chapter 15
Nov 30	Anabolic Steroids	Chapter 12

TBA Final Exam

Notice to a person with a disability

*It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no individual otherwise qualified shall, solely by reason of his or her disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic program or activity. Students with a disability which affects their academic performance are expected to arrange for a conference with the instructor as soon as possible. This is so that appropriate strategies can be considered to ensure participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired since there will be **no retroactive accommodation**. Thank you.*

Grade Policy

There will be four exams in this course and your grade will be determined by the total number of points accumulated on four classroom exams. If you miss an examination, you may take a make-up of that examination, but beware, you may take only one make-up exam during the semester. Extra Credit: You may earn up to 10 extra-credit points by reading fictional works, i.e., novels. Each novel that you read will count for 5 points toward your final grade. The window of opportunity for submissions of novels ends on October 4, 2017 for novel 1 and December 1 for novel 2.

Please note that grades are based upon number of points accumulated and NOT percentage.

Attendance is required.

Your grade will be based upon the following schema:

A = 360-400 B = 320-359 C = 280-319

Visitors in the Classroom

Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

Religious Holidays

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. "Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

Americans with Disabilities Act

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university.

Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach.

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials

For more information, please visit: <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>