

PSYC 3391: Psychopharmacology

Spring 2018

Instructor: Jessica Lee

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Office Hours: Mon: 9-10am; Thurs: 2-3; and by appt

Office Location: CHSS 318

Class Time: MWF 12-12:50

Class Location: CHSS 242A

Required Text: Charles. F. Levinthal. (2014). *Drugs, Behavior and Modern Society* (8th Ed.). Throughout the semester you may also be assigned outside readings, videos, etc. These will be posted on Blackboard for you within each section. You are responsible for anything posted in the section unless otherwise noted.

Course Overview: This course includes a study of the field of behavioral pharmacology: the systematic study of the effects of drugs on behavior and the way in which behavioral principles can help in understanding how drugs work. The course focuses on the neurophysiological mechanisms of action of various psychoactive drugs.

Course Goals:

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:
 - modes of administration
 - distribution factors
 - metabolism and elimination
 - tolerance and dependence
 - 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:
 - basic structural aspects of neurons
 - drug terminating mechanisms
 - 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.

Grading: Each of the **five** exams are worth 20% of your grade in this course. If you miss an exam, you will receive a 0 for that exam. However, you may take the optional cumulative exam at the end of the semester to replace that grade. All students are given the option of replacing their lowest exam grade by taking this optional cumulative exam (if you have missed an exam, that 0 is your lowest grade). Exams will be based off of the readings as well as the lecture. *Anything that we go over in class or that is in the readings is fair game for a test.* Students will be responsible for the material in the textbook even if it is not specifically covered in class. The exams will consist of multiple choice questions. Please bring a scan-tron to each exam. **Exams are only given on exam days. Only in the case of a documented emergency (such as hospitalization or death in the family) will a makeup exam be allowed and only then when documentation (which will be verified) is provided and I am contacted prior to the start of the exam.** Any makeup exam must be made up within 1 week of the scheduled exam day.

Finally, as course instructor, I maintain the right to manage class-wide behavior through the use of Mickey Mouse quizzes. These are very simple Quizzes that are given during class. Mickey Mouse quizzes are rarely given. But, when given I will add the points from the quiz onto a test grade.

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A- 89.50 to 100

C- 69.50 to 79.49

F- 59.49 and below

B- 79.50 to 89.49

D- 59.5 to 69.49

Grade Policy: As of the fall semester 2009, only grades of C or better (A, B, or C) will be counted toward the student's major in Psychology

Attendance Policy: Attendance is expected since tests will include both the readings and lectures. Attendance will be kept for my records; however, *this class does not carry a “failure due to absence” policy.* Keep in mind that attendance in this class is highly correlated with your grade.

Extra Credit: There are no opportunities for extra credit at this time.

The fine print:

For more information about the guidelines involving **VISITORS TO THE CLASSROOM, ACADEMIC DISHONESTY, STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY, AND THE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY**, please visit <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

SHSU proudly adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may adversely affect your work in this class, you should contact our Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Office located in the Lee Drain North Annex building (next to the Farrington building), 936-294-3512, or TDD 936-294-3786, to apply for accommodations. Your disclosure of any disability will be kept strictly confidential, of course; however, no accommodation can be made until you register with SSD. All the information you need is here: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/disability/>

Classroom Rules of Conduct: Students may find the University's Code of Student Conduct and Discipline at the following web link: <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>

Section 5.2.22 describes classroom disturbances, and in general I prefer my students to observe the following classroom behavioral guidelines (i.e., “Easy Ways to Tick Me Off”)

1. Arriving late to class.
2. Talking to neighboring students during class
3. Not visiting with me after you have failed an exam.
4. Leaving class early.
5. Allowing your cell phone to ring during class or playing on your cell phone or computer.
 - Any use of a telephone, pager, or text messenger or any device that performs these functions during a test period is prohibited. These devices should not be present during a test or should be stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen or used by the student. Even the visible presence of such a device during the test period will result in a zero for that test. Use of these devices during a test is considered de facto evidence of cheating and could result in a charge of academic dishonesty (see student code of conduct <http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/StudentGuidelines2010-2012.pdf#page=29>).
 - If there is an emergency situation for a student, that student should inform the instructor, place the device on silent or vibrate mode, and place himself/herself in a seat near the door where an exit for a phone call would be only minimally disruptive. Other arrangements for handling potential emergency situations may be granted at the discretion of the instructor.

Instructor Evaluations: Towards the end of the semester, students will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form. I encourage you to be complete and honest in your evaluations. I particularly encourage you to provide constructive feedback in the open-ended section of the evaluation form. IDEA is the faculty evaluation system used at SHSU.

Important dates for all courses at SHSU:

1/17: First day of class

1/24: Last day to add classes

2/1: Deadline for Spring 2018 Graduation applications

3/12-3/16: Spring Break!!

3/30: Good Friday- No classes

4/6: Last day to drop full term courses and labs with a "Q"

5/4: Last day of classes

5/7-5/10: Final Exams

Class Schedule:

Date	Topic	Chapters
1/17-2/5	Introduction to Course Introduction to Drug Use Drug Taking Behavior- Personal and Social Issues How Drugs Work in the Body and On the Mind Classification System of Drugs	1 2 3 Lecture
2/7	Exam 1	
2/9-2/21	Alcohol: Social Beverage/Social Drug Chronic Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Depressants and Inhalants	8 9 13
2/23	Exam 2	
2/26-3/26	The Major Stimulants: Cocaine and Amphetamines Opioids: Opium, Heroin, and Opioid Pain Medications Nicotine and Tobacco Use Caffeine	4 5 10 11
3/12-3/16	<i>Spring Break</i>	
3/28	Exam 3	
3/30	<i>Good Friday- No Class</i>	
4/2-4/11	LSD and other Hallucinogens Marijuana	6 7
4/13	<i>No Class</i>	
4/16	Exam 4	
4/18-5/2	Performance Enhancing Drugs and Drug Testing in Sports Prescription Drugs, OTC, and Dietary Supplements Drugs for Treating Schizophrenia and Mood Disorders	12 14 15
5/4	Exam 5	
5/7	Cumulative Final Exam- 1:00-3:00 pm	

******This schedule is subject to change as the needs of the class become apparent******