NOT A CURRENT SYLLABUS – use this Spring 2015 syllabus to get an idea about content of course for

Psychology 318
Psychopharmacology
Larry Wichlinski
Spring Term, 2015

Vital Statistics
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Office Hours: Monday 3-4 p.m.
Wednesday 3-4 p.m.
Thursday 11-12, and by appointment

Texts


Introduction and Overview
Welcome to Psychopharmacology! In this course we’ll cover the major classes of psychoactive drugs used both clinically and recreationally. The emphasis will be on how these compounds affect the nervous system, thought processes, and behavior. A principal theme of the course will be the concept of addiction, which will surface repeatedly throughout this term.

I do NOT intend to use this course as a forum for either anti-drug or pro-drug messages. I will do my best to be fair, and to present both the pros and cons of each category of agents. It’s impossible, however, to be free of bias when presenting information of this nature; you don’t study a topic for several decades and fail to develop opinions. Invariably, my opinions will emerge, intentionally or unintentionally. However, what I hope to do is introduce you to a broad enough range of sources so that you can continue your investigations beyond this course. I want you to think of this class as a beginning, rather than an end.

My goal is to create an open forum in this class, one where no question or opinion is inappropriate or inadmissible. Historically, there has been an extremely wide range of opinion among people taking Psychopharmacology, and I don't expect this class to be any different. Recognize that there will be
those among you who believe that any recreational drug use is immoral, or at least, unwise. There will also be people in this class who are experienced recreational drug users and who are strong proponents of drug use. In addition, there will be people who have used or are using psychotropic agents under medical supervision. So I’m asking that you not assume anything about the viewpoints of your classmates or of their "drug histories."

It is also my goal to make this class more than just a review of psychoactive drugs and their effects. I want you to consider drug use from cultural, philosophical and economic perspectives as well.

**Nuts and Bolts**

Besides the assigned texts, there will be a number of reserve articles (electronic reserve at the library under this course name OR available via Science Direct) that you'll be expected to have read for the class day on which they are assigned. Note that the amount of reading is uneven across the class days. It’s a good idea to plan ahead and read more on days when the reading assignments are relatively light.

**Class Papers and Projects**

You will have to write a short paper in which you recommend a course of antidepressant drug therapy for fictitious patients.

Also, everyone is required to do a short presentation on a topic of your choice. You can do an individual presentation or a group (up to 4 people) presentation with a speaking time of 5-10 minutes, regardless of whether you’re solo or in a group. I’ll provide a list of potential topics, but you may also propose your own. I will hand out a description of the specifications for these assignments in a couple of weeks.

**Evaluation**

In addition to your paper and class presentation, there will be two quizzes and two exams in this course (a midterm and a final). The quizzes will be multiple choice. The exams will have a varied format—multiple choice, matching, short answer, and essay.

The breakdown of your grade is as follows:

- First Quiz: 10%
- Second Quiz: 10%
- Clinical Pharmacology Paper: 15%
- Presentation: 15%
- Midterm Exam: 25%
- Final Exam: 25%
You may self-schedule your final exam. You must let me know by the last day of classes if you plan to exercise this option.

Course Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Topic and Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3-30</td>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>Introduction &amp; Overview</td>
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| 4-1   | Wed.   | Neural Basis of Drug Action I: Brain Parts  
|       |        | Assignment: Julien, Chapter 3  
|       |        | April Fools’ Day |
| 4-3   | Fri.   | Neural Basis of Drug Action II: Neurons & Synapses  
|       |        | Assignment: Musto et al (1991)  
|       |        | Good Friday; Passover begins |
| 4-6   | Mon.   | Neural Basis of Drug Action III: Chemicals of the Brain  
|       |        | Easter Monday (Canada); Twins Opening Day |
| 4-8   | Wed.   | Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics  
|       |        | Assignment: Julien, Chapters 2 and 3 |
| 4-10  | Fri.   | Sedative-Hypnotic Drugs and Anxiolytics I  
|       |        | Assignment: Julien, Chapter 13  
|       |        | Weich et al (2014) |
| 4-13  | Mon.   | **QUIZ Number 1 + Anxiolytics II**  
|       |        | Clinical Handbook (Section on Hypnotics/Sedatives)  
|       |        | Clinical Handbook (Section on Anxiolytic Agents) |
| 4-15  | Wed.   | Alcohol & Inhalants of Abuse  
|       |        | Assignment: Julien, Chapter 5; Glaser (2015);  
|       |        | *Humphreys et al (2014);  
|       |        | *Petit et al (2014) |
| 4-17  | Fri.   | Opiates & Opioids  
|       |        | Assignment: Julien, Chapter 10; Sartor et al (2014) |
| 4-20  | Mon.   | Cannabis  
|       |        | Assignment: Julien, Chapter 9;  
| 4-22  | Wed.   | Antipsychotics |
Assignment: Julien, Chapter 11; Clinical Handbook (Section on Antipsychotics) (BRING HANDBOOKS TO CLASS TODAY; Citrome et al (2013); Lieberman et al (2005)

Earth Day

4-24 Fri. Exam Review

4-27 Mon. MIDTERM EXAM

4-29 Wed. Drugs Used to Treat Bipolar Disorder
Clinical Handbook (Section on Mood Stabilizers)
Assignment: Julien, Chapter 14;
Seemuller et al (2012)

5-1 Fri. Antidepressants I
Assignment: Julien Chapter 12;
Cheung et al (2015); Read et al (2014)

5-4 Mon. MIDTERM BREAK—NO CLASS

5-6 Wed. Antidepressants II
Clinical Handbook (Section on Antidepressants);

5-8 Fri. Caffeine & Nicotine
Assignment: Julien, Chapter 6
Barreto et al (2015); Borota et al (2014);
*Heishman et al (2010)

5-10 Sun. Mother’s Day

5-11 Mon. Stimulants I: Cocaine
Assignment: Julien, Chapter 7, pp. 201-212;
Dong et al (2014); Luo et al (2014)

5-12 Tues. Clinical Pharmacology Papers Due by 4:30 p.m.

5-13 Wed. Stimulants II: Amphetamines/MDMA (Ecstasy)
Assignment: Julien, Chapter 7, pp. 212-230;

5-15 Fri. MDMA / Psychedelics
Assignment: Julien, Chapter 8; Doblin (2014); Parrott (2014); Pollan (2015); Tyls et al (2014)

5-18 Mon. Special Topic: Addiction
Assignment: Julien, Chapter 4;
Greenberg (2008); Koob et al (2014)

Victoria Day (Canada)

5-20 Wed. Special Topic: Child & Adolescent Psychopharmacology
Assignment: Julien, Chapter 15; Fontanella et al (2014); Insel (2014)

5-22 Fri. QUIZ NUMBER 2

5-25 Mon. MEMORIAL DAY – NO CLASS

5-27 Wed. Class Presentations I

5-29 Fri. Class Presentations II

6-1 Mon. Class Presentations III

6-3 Wed. Class Presentations IV

6-5 Fri. Review for Final Exam 2:30-3:30

6-6 Sat. FINAL EXAM 3:30 – 6
(Self-scheduled)

* indicates that the article is available on e-reserve; password is PSYC; all others are available via Science Direct or Web of Knowledge (follow prompt)

READINGS


Valmaggia, L. R., Day, F. L., Jones, C. et al (2014). Cannabis use and transition to psychosis in people at ultra-high risk. Psychological Medicine, 44, 2503-
2512.