



# DRUGS AND THE BRAIN

## Instructor

Zachariah Campbell

## Teaching Assistants

Laurie Hamel

David Nguyen

Sadia Riaz

## Lecture Details

Fridays 10AM-12PM

AA 112

## Office Hours

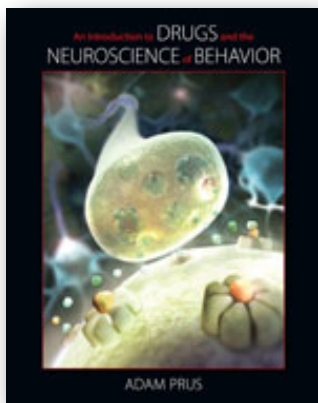
Fridays 12PM-2PM

SY 178

## COURSE OBJECTIVE

The objective of this course is to provide a comprehensive overview of neuropsychopharmacology. This interdisciplinary science examines the neurobiological and behavioural mechanisms that underlie psychoactive drug use, abuse, and dependence. We will cover the principles of pharmacology and the neurobiological mechanisms of drug action. The concepts of dependence (physical and psychological), tolerance, sensitization, reinforcement and aversion will also be covered. Finally, an examination of therapeutic agents (psychotropic medication) and cognitive enhancers will also be examined at length.

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOK & COURSE MATERIALS



Prus, A. (2014). *An Introduction to Drugs and the Neuroscience of Behavior* (1st ed.). Cengage Learning.

All announcements and course materials including lecture slides, additional readings, links to media, and midterm grades will be made available exclusively on Blackboard (U of T Learning Portal).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

All course related inquiries are to be directed to the instructor ([zac.campbell@utoronto.ca](mailto:zac.campbell@utoronto.ca)). All emails need to contain the following subject line to ensure a response:

**RE: PSYC62H3 - Student Inquiry: “Type the topic of your inquiry here”**

Students also must use their academic email account (i.e., utsc or utoronto email) to abide by University policy and avoid fraudulent representation of your person.

## IMPORTANT NOTES

### Prerequisites & Exclusions

Prerequisite: [PSYB07H3 or its equivalent] and [at least one of PSYB64H3, PSYB65H3 or NROB60H3] and [one additional B-level or C-level half credit in PSY or NRO]. Exclusions: PSY396H and PCL475Y.

### Academic Integrity

The **Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters** outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to: 1) using/possessing unauthorized aids or looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test; 2) misrepresenting your identity or falsifying/altering any documentation required by the University such as doctor's notes.

### AccessAbility Resources

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach the instructor and/or AccessAbility Services as soon as possible. AccessAbility Services staff (located in Room SW302, Science Wing) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations: 416-287-7560 & email: [ability@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:ability@utsc.utoronto.ca).

## SESSIONAL DATES

### Dates

January 4

January 17

February 15

February 16-20

March 20

March 20

March 25

April 4

April 7

April 8-22

### Detail

Winter Session classes begin

Last day to add S courses

Family Day holiday (University closed)

Reading Week (No classes held)

Last day to drop S courses without academic penalty

Last day to add or remove CR/NCR for S courses

Good Friday (University closed)

UTSC Friday (Last day of classes for S & Y courses with Friday lectures)

Last day to drop S & Y courses with a LWD transcript indication

Final examinations is S & Y courses

# EVALUATIVE COMPONENTS

## Midterm Tests

There will be two (2) term tests held outside of class (yet to be scheduled by the Office of the Registrar). The second term test is non-cumulative. **Note: the first midterm may take place as early as the week of Monday, February 1st.**

The exact weight (%) and content coverage of each term test will be determined once the Office of the Registrar sets the date of each. They will collectively contribute to approximately 60% of the final grade.

**There will be no make-up examinations for either term test.** If a student is absent from a midterm examination due to illness or other extenuating circumstance, they are to submit an explanatory message to the instructor as soon as feasible. For medical reasons, students are to utilize the **UTSC Medical Certificate**. For approved absences from either midterm, students will write an extension during the final examination (with additional questions and provision of time) that evaluates untested content from either or both midterms.

## Final Examination

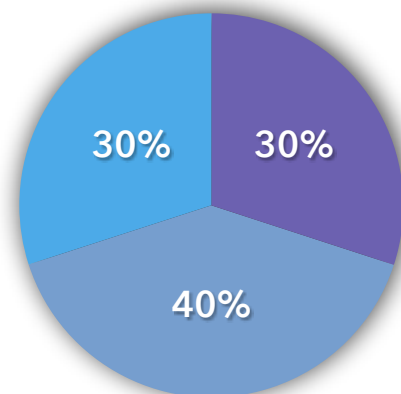
There is a final examination that will be administered during the UTSC Final Examination Period. It will be worth approximately 40% of the final grade (i.e., whatever remaining percentage exists from both term tests). Absences from the final examination are dealt with solely by the Registrar's office.

The final examination will be primarily based on material not evaluated by either term test, but a smaller proportion of the multiple-choice questions will be cumulative in nature.

## Examination Structure

Both tests and the final examination will be comprised of both multiple-choice and written response questions. The exact breakdown will be provided on Blackboard one week prior to each scheduled term test and the final exam.

- Midterm 1
- Midterm 2
- Final Exam



# COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Week	Lecture Topic	Readings
Jan 8	Week 1	Introduction to Psychopharmacology Review of the Nervous System	Chapters 1-2
Jan 15	Week 2	Neurotransmission Neurotransmitter Systems	Chapter 3
Jan 22	Week 3	Pharmacokinetics Pharmacodynamics	Chapter 4
Jan 29	Week 4	Drugs of Abuse Neuropsychology of Addiction	Chapter 5
<p><b>Note:</b> Midterm 1 will take place outside of class time in February. <u>Please note that it may be scheduled as early as Monday, February 1.</u> Testable content will include lectures and assigned material up to the scheduled date. This date is yet to be determined by the Office of the Registrar and will be announced on Blackboard once known to the instructor.</p>			
Feb 5	Week 5	Psychostimulants I	Chapter 6
Feb 12	Week 6	Psychostimulants II	Chapter 7
Feb 19		Reading week (No class)	
Feb 26	Week 7	Depressants	Chapters 8-9
Mar 4	Week 8	Opioids Cannabinoids	Chapters 10-11
<p><b>Note:</b> Midterm 2 will also take place outside of class time and <u>may be scheduled as early as Monday, March 7.</u> Testable content will be based on the actual date scheduled and any material that was not evaluated by Midterm 1.</p>			
Mar 11	Week 9	Psychedelics	Chapter 12
Mar 18	Week 10	Antidepressants Stabilizers	Mood Chapter 13
Mar 25	Week 11	Anxiolytics	Antipsychotics Chapters 14-15
Apr 4 (Monday)	Week 12	TBA	TBA