

Course Outline
 University of Toronto Scarborough Campus
 Clinical Psychopharmacology: PSY D35 H Lec 01

Winter Semester 2018 Professor: David Nussbaum, Ph.D., C. Psych.

Office Hours: Mondays: 11:10 – 12:10 Portable 3, Room 123

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Course Text: *Julien's Primer of Drug Action, 13th Edition. (2014; Or MORE RECENT EDITION IF AVAILABLE)*

Authors: Advokat, C. D., Comaty, J. E. & Julien, R.M. New York: Worth Publishers

ISBN-13: 978-1-4641-1171-6

Lectures: Mondays: 9:10– 11:00 P.M.

Location: AA206

<u>Section/Week</u>		<u>Reading</u>	<u>Chapter(s)</u>
<i>Basics of Pharmacology</i>			
1.	January 8	Philosophy of Science, Redefining Psychology & Consequences for Psychopharmacology	None :-)
2.	January 15	Functional Neuroanatomy, Neurotransmission & Protein Synthesis	1
3.	January 22	Pharmacokinetics: How body handles drugs	2
4.	January 29	Pharmacokinetics: The drugs effect the body	3
<i>Abusable Drugs</i>			
5.	February 5	I: Addictions: Epidemiology, Neurobiology & Decision-Making	4
		II: Ethyl Alcohol & Inhalants of Abuse	5
6.	February 12	I: Caffeine & Nicotine	6
		II: Cocaine & Psychostimulants	7
	February 19	Family Day/Reading Week: No Classes	
7.	February 26	Term Test I: Lectures & Chapters 1 – 7	
<i>Therapeutic/Clinical Medications</i>			
8.	March 5	I: Opioid Analgesics	10
		II: Cannabis: Analgesic and Abuse Effects	9
9.	March 12	Mood Disorders I: Sedative/Anxiolytics	13
		Mood Disorders II: Antidepressant Drugs	12
10.	March 19	Bipolar Mood Disorder	14
11.	March 26	Antipsychotic Medications	11
12.	April 2	Pharmacological Treatment of Autism Reading: LeClerc & Easley (2015) Available at: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4450669/	

Final Examination: TBA

During Final Exam Period: Readings and Lectures weeks 8 – 12.

Term Test 2: Lectures Weeks 8 – 12 & Chs. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 & .

Course Evaluation: Two multiple choice quizzes of ~100 items, each worth 50% of final grade.

Course Description:

Increasingly, Mental Health Professionals across disciplines (including psychiatry) need to be better grounded in the effects of drugs (both licit medications and illicit recreational drugs) on information processing in cognitive, emotional, motivational, perceptual and motor systems in the CNS. This course is designed to familiarize senior students in the Mental Health Stream with the basic pharmacological mechanisms by which the Central Nervous System (CNS) processes information, the basic neurotransmitter/receptor/complexes and their neuroanatomical locations and functions, how drugs of abuse impair typical information processing and how medications have been utilized to enhance functioning in individuals affected by common mental disorders.

By the end of the course, the student should be very familiar with:

- 1) A general approach for conceptualizing behaviour in light reflecting a “neurocentric” perspective
- 2) The general process of information processing at the pharmacological level
- 3) Specific types of information processing associated with different neuroanatomical regions and their embedded transmitter/receptor complexes
- 4) How different drugs of abuse operate
- 5) How different medications achieve improvement of functioning in mentally disordered individuals

Grading will be based on two term tests worth 50% each. The second term test is NOT cumulative.