

Psychology 391--Psychopharmacology
Professor Wilson—Summer I, 2008
Monday-Friday: 12:00-1:50

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.

Grade Policy

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There will be five exams in this course and your grade will be determined by the total number of points accumulated on four of five 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. In addition, you may drop one exam grade for the computation of your final grade.

Your grade will be based upon the following schema:

A = 360-400; B = 320-359; C = 280-319; D = 240-279; F = 000-239

Syllabus

Text: Grilly, D. M. (2006), Drugs and Human Behavior, 5th ed. Allyn and Bacon.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
June 3	Introduction to drug use	Chapter 1
June 4-5	Determinants of drug action Pharmacologic principles	Chapter 2 Chapter 3,6
June 6	Test 1	
June 9	Nervous system structure Neurochemical systems	Chapter 4 Chapter 5
June 10	Drug classification	Chapter 7
June 11	Sedative hypnotics	Chapter 8
June 12	Ethanol	Chapter 8
June 13	Minor tranquilizers	Chapter 8
June 16	Test 2	
June 17-18	Stimulants	Chapter 9,13
June 18-19	Tobacco and caffeine	Chapter 9
June 20	Test 3	
June 23	Opiates	Chapter 10
June 24	Marijuana	Chapter 11
June 25	Test 4	
June 26	Hallucinogens	Chapter 11
June 27	Antipsychotics	Chapter 12
June 30	Anabolic/Androgenic Steroids	
July 1	Final Exam	

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Grade and Attendance Policies

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.

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Statement of Understanding:

I have read and understand the Grade and Attendance Policies for this course.

Student's Name (printed)

Student's Signature

Date