



Department of Psychology
Psychology 475 (L01) – Behavioural Pharmacology
Fall 2010 – Course Outline

Instructor:	Richard Dyck	Lecture Location:	A253
Phone:	403-220-4206	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF 10-10:50 am
Email:	rdyck@ucalgary.ca		
Office:	A028		
Office Hours:	By appointment		

Course Description and Goals

The aim of this course is to provide an insight into the mechanisms whereby drugs exert their action on the central nervous system to influence biochemical, physiological and behavioural processes.

Prerequisites

Psyc 312 – Experimental Design and Quantitative Methods for Psychology
Psyc 375 – Brain and Behaviour

Required Text

Psychopharmacology: Drugs, the Brain, and Behavior, Jerrold S. Meyer and Linda F. Quenzer (2005) Sinauer. Available at bookstore and online vendors.

Evaluation

The final course grade will be based on:

- 1) Midterm 1: 35%
 - a. During class period of October 22, 2010.
 - b. Short/long answer/essay, multiple choice questions
 - c. Based on text (Chap 1-8) & corresponding lecture material
- 2) Final examination: 40%
 - a. 3 hrs. To be scheduled by registrar.
 - b. Short/long answer/essay, multiple choice questions
 - c. Comprehensive examination, based on text & lecture material with an emphasis on material covered since the midterm.
- 3) Term Paper: 25%
 - a. On a topic related to course material.
 - b. Maximum of 20 double-spaced pages, not including references.
 - c. 12 point Times font (about 15 characters/inch).
 - d. Topic must be approved by instructor, with email confirmation provided, no later than October 8, 2010.

- e. Paper will be graded on three criteria: **presentation (25%)**, including grammar, organization, clarity of writing, and other skills pertaining to written English, **content (75%)**, including research done, the accuracy of information presented, etc.
- f. Paper to be handed in to instructor at the beginning of the last lecture (December 10, 2010)
 - i. e-mailed paper will not be accepted
 - ii. Reduction of one letter grade (eg. A+ ->A-) for each 24h interval that paper is late.

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. To determine final letter grades, final percentage grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

September

- 13-17 Introduction. Chapters 1, 2
- 20-24 Chapters 3, 4
- 27, 29 Chapters 5, 6

October

- 1 Chapter 6
- 4-8 Chapters 7, 8
- 11 Thanksgiving Day. No lecture. University closed.
- 13, 15 Chapter 8; Term paper topic approval required, by email, by 15th.
- 18, 20 Chapter 9
- 22 Midterm Examination
- 25-29 Chapters 10, 11

November

- 1-5 Chapters 10, 11
- 8, 10 Chapters 12, 13
- 12 Reading Days, no lecture.
- 15-19 Chapters 13, 14
- 22-26 Chapters 15, 16
- 29 Chapter 16

December

- 1, 3 Chapter 17
- 6-10 Chapter 18; Term paper due December 10, in class.

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. **A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to the student's final grade. Students earn 0.5% (0.5 credits) for each full 30 minutes of participation.** The demand for timeslots may exceed the

supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Dec 8th, 2010**.

Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>. Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 403-220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 403-220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca

Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 403-220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course with no "W" notation and **still receive a tuition fee refund** is **Sep 24th, 2010**. Last day for registration/change of registration is **Sep 27th, 2010**. The last day to withdraw from this course is **Dec 10th, 2010**.