

## Psychology 3740: Drugs and Behavior

Fall 2015

MWF 10:30 – 11:20 AM

**Professor's Name:** Dr. Lauren A. Fowler

**Professor's Email:** [lfowler@weber.edu](mailto:lfowler@weber.edu) or email tool on Canvas

\*\* (this is by FAR the best way to get in touch with me!)

**Professor's Office Phone:** 801-626-7620 (answering machine)

**Office Hours:** MW 8:30 - 9:30 AM; TTh 9:30-10:30AM; also by appointment

**Office Location:** SS 379b (located off of the south stairwell)

**Web Site:** <http://canvas.weber.edu> and <http://weber.edu/lfowler>

### I. Required Materials

- A. Textbook: Meyer, J. & Quenzer, L. (2013). *Psychopharmacology: Drugs, The Brain, and Behavior*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Sinauer Associates: Sunderland, MA.
- B. Additional readings (provided electronically)
- C. Cell phones or laptops/ipads may be used periodically for class polling/surveys
- D. Your brain in HIGH gear!

### II. Course Objectives

- A. Students will learn basic neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and neuroendocrinology related to drug actions.
- B. Students will learn about the nervous system activity that underlies drug action, including neurotransmitters and chemical neurotransmission.
- C. Students will learn basic principles (pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics) of drug action.
- D. Students will learn about the biological bases of mental disorders and about the classes of psychoactive drugs that are used to treat them.
- E. Students will learn about the commonly abused drugs and their mechanisms of action, as well as prevention and treatment for drug abuse.
- F. Students will apply their knowledge about drugs through a series of fact sheets and presentations on topics of their choice.
- G. Students will read current literature on drug use and abuse, and they will discuss how current research and trends affect their lives.

\*\*Please note that the Department of Psychology has specific learning outcomes that we are striving toward as a department. Examples of these can be found on the Psychology Department website at

<http://departments.weber.edu/Psychology>

### III. Course Grade

No exams or homework assignments can be made up after the last day of Classes. There are **no exceptions** to this rule!

## A. Examinations

1. Four written examinations (multiple choice, labeling, essay, and short answer) will be given during the semester (each will make up 16% of your grade). The fourth exam will be taken during finals week.
2. All exams will be taken using Chi Tester in a Weber State testing center. You will have 3 days in which you can take each exam. Please note the testing center hours.

<http://www.weber.edu/TestingCenter/>

## B. Make-up Examinations/Missing Exams/Missing or Late Assignments

If you miss an exam you will automatically be deducted 20% of the exam grade. You must contact me IN WRITING within 2 days of the last day of the exam period in order to schedule a make-up. You must make up the exam within 4 days of the last day of the exam. If you do not make up the exam during that time, you will receive a grade of zero for that exam. You may take an exam a day early (at no penalty!) if you have a conflict with the exam schedule. Remember that you have 3 days to take an exam, and we do not have class during the exam period. Also remember that you MUST show up to the testing center during their hours of operation. They will NOT let you take an exam late! If you plan to take an exam early OR late, you must notify me in writing of your intentions. If you have an excused absence, you must notify me during the exam period with your explanation in order to schedule a make-up time for the exam. Failure to notify me within that period will result in a grade of zero. There are no late final exams. You may email to notify me of any problems.

All assignments are due at the beginning of class on their due date. If an assignment is not turned in within the first 5 minutes of class on the due date, the assignment is considered late. Assignments turned in late will be deducted 10 percentage points per day (beginning on the due date), including weekends and holidays. Please do NOT turn an assignment in late!!!

## C. Presentations and Papers

In addition to the 4 exams for this course, you will be required to complete the following assignments. The contribution of each assignment to your final grade is listed next to each assignment. Additional information will be made available about these assignments on Canvas. All assignments will be submitted electronically using Canvas Assignment Tool, and I also need a paper copy of each assignment.

- i. **Drug Fact Sheets (20%):** All students are required to submit two drug fact sheets. These fact sheets should include information on the pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, dosage, general information, references, and street-wise information on the drug.

The specific requirements of the fact sheets can be found on Canvas under the Assignments link (and on the main page). The first fact sheet will be on a legal drug; the second fact sheet will contain information about an illegal drug. More information is available on the class website. You may sign up for your drug of choice on a first-come, first-serve basis. Each fact sheet is worth 10% of your grade.

- ii. **Class Presentations/Paper (12%):** Students will be expected to give a presentation and lead a discussion OR write a paper on a specific topic. Students who give the presentation will present information and then lead a discussion about that presentation topic. Students who choose to write a paper instead of lead the presentation will be expected to write a paper on the topic of one of the presentations. More information about the paper/presentations can be found on the course website.
  
- iii. **Class Participation (4%)**  
During lecture, it is always beneficial for students to participate, ask questions, and contribute their knowledge to the discussion. In addition, during presentations and discussions, students will need to demonstrate that they have read the articles prior to class. Students will be expected to participate in class discussion of additional readings and presentations in order to receive credit.

#### D. Grading Scale

The course grade will be assigned according to the scale indicated below:

<u>Numeric Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
90-100	A
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
60-66	D
Below 60	E

#### IV. Course Outline

This course will cover 14 chapters from the text, as well as other related material. There is an **enormous** amount of material that is not found in the textbook. Also, not all of each chapter is used. The following represents a general plan for the course. Deviations may be necessary.

Chapters	Topics	Exam/Due Dates
1	General Issues of Drugs and Behavior, Principles of Pharmacology; *Readings #1	9/17-9/19
	<b>Drug Fact Sheet #1 Due</b>	9/28
(2), (3), 5, 6, 7, 8	(Neuroanatomy), Neurophysiology, Synaptic Transmission, Neurotransmitters; *Readings #2	10/8-10/10
	<b>Drug Fact Sheet #2 Due</b>	10/26
18, 10, 12, 13, ?	Anxiety and Anxiolytics, Alcohol, cocaine and amphetamines, caffeine, and Class Choice; *Readings #3	11/12-11/14
	<b>Papers Due</b>	11/30
	<b>Presentations in Class</b>	11/30-12/11
19, 20, ?	Affective Disorders, Schizophrenia, and Pharmacotherapy, and Class Choice; (presentation material included on 4 <sup>th</sup> exam)	12/12-12/16

( ) Review this chapter for the exams, but it will not be covered in class. You are responsible for the material contained within these chapters.

\*For a list of the readings to accompany each exam, please refer to the course website under the module for each exam period.

#### V. Additional Information

##### A. Attendance

It is **strongly** recommended that you attend class. There will be a considerable amount of information that will be given **only** during class (i.e. not in the textbook), and the tests will concentrate heavily on that information. Attendance is not required, but the best way to be successful in this class is to attend. You will be tested over material covered during the class

presentations, and attending is the only way to get that information. *Class participation during the presentations is graded*, and therefore attendance during that time period is especially important.

### **B. Class Courtesy**

This is a large class, so please be courteous of others when coming late to class (or leaving early). Please refrain from talking during class lecture. Eating and drinking in class is allowed, as long as it is not disruptive to the learning environment. **PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES IN CLASS!! This means NO text messaging!!** It is rude and inappropriate to use your cell phone in class. Any disruptive behavior will be addressed immediately, and if the behavior does not cease, you will be asked to leave class.

Some topics to be discussed in this class are extremely sensitive. While other members of the class may have different opinions from yours, please respect every class member's right to share their opinion.

### **C. Grade Appeals**

If, after receiving an exam back during class, you think a mistake has been made in the grading of your exam, please do not ask about this during class. Please email me what your questions are, provide reference to notes in class or specific pages from the book, or provide additional resources. You will receive a response, and any grade adjustment necessary, within 48 hours.

### **D. Plagiarism/Cheating**

Whenever you try to pass off someone's work as your own, that is cheating. If you cheat on a homework assignment or exam, you may receive a grade of **ZERO for the assignment**. Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of infringements (including plagiarism) that constitute cheating.

<http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>.

Please refer to the PLAGIARISM link on the web site (HOW TO AVOID PLAGIARISM) for specifics about plagiarism. You are responsible for knowing what plagiarism is, and any plagiarism (even unintentional) will result in a grade of ZERO for the assignment.

*WSU subscribes to TurnItIn.com, an electronic service that verifies the originality of student work. Enrollment in this course may require you to submit some or all of your assignments to it this semester, and documents submitted to TurnItIn.com are retained, anonymously, in their databases. Continued enrollment in this course constitutes an understanding of and agreement with this policy.*

### **E. Students with Disabilities**

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

### **F. Students' Rights and Responsibilities**

Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of all WSU student rights and responsibilities.

<http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

### **G. Canceled Classes**

In case of class cancelation for any reason, please check Canvas as soon as possible. Class may be canceled due to weather, force of nature, pandemic, illnesses, or free donuts at Krispy Kreme. In case of closure, check your email through the course website to determine if there are any changes in due dates, class requirements, etc. If you set up your notifications in Canvas so that you receive a text and/or email if I post an announcement, that is the ideal situation. That way you know immediately if I have to cancel class.

### **VI. Grade Record**

Please keep a record of the grades you receive on each exam and assignment. This will help insure that you are always aware of your academic progress in this class. You may always access your grades on the course web site. Remember, your grade is comprised of 4 exams (16% each), 2 fact sheets (10% each), class participation (4%), and a class presentation/paper (12%).

**\*\*The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary. By continuing in the course after receiving the syllabus, you are consenting to the regulations set forth by the syllabus.**