



EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 2011
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A. Division: Education Effective Date: January 2011

B. Department / Program Area: Humanities and Social Sciences/ Psychology
 Revision New Course **X**
 If Revision, Section(s) Revised:
 Date of Previous Revision:
 Date of Current Revision:

C: PSYC 3341 D: DRUGS AND BEHAVIOUR E: 3

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
F: Calendar Description: This is an introductory course in psychopharmacology. Topics include the neurobiology of drug action and psychotropic drugs--their pharmacology, metabolism, interactions, adverse effects and therapeutic uses.		
G: Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings: Lecture Number of Contact Hours: (per week / semester for each descriptor) Lecture: 4 hrs per week/semester Number of Weeks per Semester: 15	H: Course Prerequisites: PSYC 2315	
	I: Course Corequisites: NONE	
	J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite: NONE	
	K: Maximum Class Size: 35	
L: PLEASE INDICATE: <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Credit <input type="checkbox"/> College Credit Non-Transfer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Credit Transfer: SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bctransferguide.ca)		

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of basic neural structure and function, with a particular focus on cellular level events such as neurotransmission.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic mechanisms of drug effects, including routes of administration, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and neurophysiology.
3. Describe and demonstrate an understanding of the major classes of psychotropic drugs, their mode of action, effects and side effects.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the drugs used to treat psychiatric disorders.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of psychotropic drug abuse, dependence and treatment, including both prescription and street drugs.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of drug research including clinical trials.
7. Demonstrate an ability to obtain, critically evaluate and understand current information regarding drugs.

N: Course Content:

1. Neurotransmitters and Receptors
2. Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics
3. Biology of Mental Disorders
4. Sedative Hypnotics, Anxiolytics and Alcohol
5. Psychostimulants
6. Opiates
7. Marijuana, Hallucinogens, Phencyclidine and Inhalants
8. Antidepressants
9. Mood Stabilizers
10. Antipsychotics and Anticholinergics
11. Dementia
12. Herbal Medications

O: Methods of Instruction:

The primary methods of instruction will be lecture and seminar. The course will also involve group activities, presentations, audiovisual media and guest lectures.

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students:

Texts will be updated periodically. An example of an appropriate text is:

Hedges, D. and Burchfield, C. (2006). *Mind, Brain and Drug*. New York: Pearson.

Q: Means of Assessment:

Evaluation will be carried out in accordance with Douglas College policy. Evaluation will be based on course objectives and include some of the following:

1. multiple choice, short answer, or essay exams
2. term paper, research project, or written assignments
3. oral presentation or teaching demonstration

The instructor will provide a written course outline with specific evaluation criteria at the beginning of semester.

An example of a possible evaluation scheme is as follows:

Research paper	20%
Three exams at 20% each	60%
Presentation	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No.

Course Designer(s): John Higenbottam, Ph.D.

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Interim Dean: Catherine Carlson, Ph.D.

Registrar: Ted James