



University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code PSYM-530	Course Title Psychopharmacology	ECTS credits 7.5
Department Social Sciences	Semester Fall	Prerequisites None
Type of Course Major Requirement	Field Clinical Psychology	Language of Instruction English
Year of Study 1st	Mode of Delivery Face-to-face	Lecturer(s) Stelios Georgiades, Psych.D.

Course Description:

This course will examine how drugs interact with the brain to exert their behavioural effects and explain the use of drugs as tools to understand relationships between brain and behaviour. It will cover the major themes in Psychopharmacology including the rationale and mechanisms of pharmacological approaches to the major psychiatric and neurological disorders.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

The main objectives of this course is to teach students

- the role of psychopharmacology into altering behaviour
- the different categories of psychopharmacological agents and how they act
- their therapeutic and/or damaging role as a result of appropriate or inappropriate usage.

Course Contents::

- Introduction to Behavioural Pharmacology and Methodology
- Anxiety disorders, anxiolytic and hypnotic drugs
- Affective disorders and antidepressant drugs.
- Foods, drugs and behaviour; drugs affecting appetite
- Psychostimulants; mechanisms, behaviour and abuse
- Opiate analgesics and other mind altering drugs of abuse
- Epilepsy, anticonvulsants and the psychopharmacology of degenerative disorders:
- Alzheimer's disease, Epilepsy, Parkinson's disease and Huntington chorea.
- Schizophrenia and antipsychotic drugs

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures and Assignments

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Palfai, T. and Jankiewicz, H. (1997)	Drugs and Human behaviour (2nd ed.)	Madison, Wis.; London: Brown & Benchmark	1997
Leonard, B.E.	Fundamentals of Psychopharmacology (2nd ed.),	Chichester, UK; J.Wiley & Sons.	1997

Assessment Methods:

1	Mid-Term Exam
2	Final Exam
3	Assignment
4	Attendance and Participation

