Psychology 181: Drugs and Behavior. This course covers the history, nomenclature, classification, and mechanisms of major psychoactive drugs. It includes some emphasis on psychotherapeutics as well as drugs of abuse. Finally, it concludes with theories of addiction.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO, Psyc 181GS: DRUGS and BEHAVIOR
(An introduction to the neuropsychopharmacology of drug abuse and mental illness)

SYLLABUS, Psyc 181GS (version of DD/MM/201Y)

Instructor: Professor Stephan G. Anagnostaras
Office: Location (stephana@ucsd.edu phone: xxx)
Office Hours: XXX
Lecture: Tue & Thu, 10:30 – 1 pm, LOCATION Discussion and Review: Tue & Thu 2-3 pm
Optional Text: Psychopharmacology: Drugs, the Brain and Behavior (Meyer & Quenzer), 2004

Webpage: Class announcements, updated syllabi, sample test questions, relevant links, and extensive and complete Powerpoint lecture material for downloading will be available at Ted.ucsd.edu.

Exams and Grading: The course grade will be based on the outcome of two short in-class exams (multiple choice questions). Exams 1-2 will be 50 questions each, worth 50 points each, and non-cumulative. Exams will be taken on WebCT, will be open book, and can be taken during class. A specified window of about 24 hours will be given (starting with scheduled class time) and within that window you will have 2 hours to complete each exam. Students will also complete 2, 3 page, drug "monographs" which will be worth 20 points each. These monographs will be "presented" using powerpoint in discussion. These presentations are worth 10 points each. The total number of points 160 (2 exams = 100 points plus 2 monographs = 40 points plus 2 presentations = 20 points). Grades will be based on a generous curve. However, if you skip any exams without proper excuse, or are found to be cheating on any part of the course, you will automatically receive an F for the course grade. All cheating will be prosecuted through the official UCSD process. Cheating on on-line exams will be strictly enforced through a highly effective algorithm and will be prosecuted through the official UCSD process – Don’t do it.

TENTATIVE LECTURE TOPICS AND SCHEDULE
(optional book readings are listed by Chapter for each section)

Introduction to Psychopharmacology

Week 1
Class overview
A brief history of psychotherapeutic medicine
Drugs of antiquity, an overview
A history of recreational, ritualistic, drug use and abuse
Ancient ethnopharmacology and modern drug development

Week 2
Principles of Pharmacology. Drug nomenclature & classification (Ch1)
Pharmacokinetics
Pharmacodynamics and Principles of Behavioral Pharmacology (Ch4)
Introduction to Synaptic Transmission
Synaptic transmission I. Synapses and Neurotransmitters (Ch2-3)
Synaptic transmission II. Receptors and Signal Transduction
Monograph 1 due

Week 3
The Neuropsychopharmacology of Selected Drugs
Psychostimulants: Amphetamines and cocaine (Ch11)
Psychostimulants: Ecstacy
Psychostimulants: Mechanism of action – Monoamine transmitters
Pharmacotherapy of Schizophrenia and Parkinson's Disease (Ch18)
EXAM 1

Week 4
Opiates Pharmacology, behavioral pharmacology, and mechanism (Ch10)
Opiates Endogenous peptides and receptors / Pain Management
Smoking, Nicotine, & Acetylcholine neurotransmission (Ch6-Acetylcholine, Ch12)
Sedative-hypnotics & anxioyltics. Alcohol (Ch9)
Barbiturates & benzodiazepines (Ch17, Ch7)
Pharmacotherapy for fear, anxiety, and insomnia (Ch7) (may be movie; “Brain Transplant”)
Monograph 2 due
Week 5
Mind-altering drugs I: Marijuana (Ch13)
Mind altering drugs II: Hallucinogens: PCP, LSD, mescaline (Ch14, Ch6-Serotonin)

Theories of Addiction
Theories of Addiction (Ch8)

EXAM 2