Drugs and Behavior. (PSYC 2201, 3 credits) will be offered in 2018 by Dr. John Salamone. PREREQUISITES: Psyc 1100, Bio 1107, or consent of instructor. This course is an overview of drug effects on chemical transmission in the nervous system, with an emphasis on the behavioral/psychological effects of drugs. The first half of the course provides an introduction to basic principles of psychopharmacology, with emphasis on the neurochemistry of drug action, chemical signaling in the nervous system, and the anatomy of several neurotransmitter systems, as well as the behavioral assessment of drug effects. The second half of the class builds upon the first, with a survey of drugs belonging to various classes (e.g., stimulants, antipsychotics, antidepressants, antianxiety agents), and a focus on drugs of abuse. In addition, the course matter extends beyond the discussion of drugs themselves, and considers the question of what our knowledge of drug action tells us about the brain, normal and pathological psychological processes, and the tendency to consume drugs. The text book will be Drugs, the Brain, and Behavior (Grilly and Salamone, 2011).

Book: Drugs, Brain and Behavior, 6th ed. (David Grilly and John Salamone ISBN: 0-205-75052-4)
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Copy of Syllabus (list of lectures from Spring 2013 semester):

Psychology 2201: DRUGS AND BEHAVIOR
Dr. Salamone
Date/ subject (Grilly and Salamone book chapter)

SECTION 1. BASIC PRINCIPLES OF PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY
Overview, History of Psychopharmacology (1)
Overview of drug categories, Basic behavioral principles in pharmacology (2,3)
Basic chemical principles in pharmacology; routes of drug administration (2,3)
Basic principles of pharmacology: drug action, dose-response function (2,3)
Chemical Signaling in the Nervous System: General Principles of Neurotransmission (4,5)

Drugs and transmitter synthesis, storage, release, postsynaptic action, inactivation (5)


Neuroanatomy/chemical neuroanatomy (5)
Chemical Neuroanatomy (5)

MIDTERM

SECTION 2. CLINICAL PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY, DRUG USE AND ABUSE

Motor Effects of Stimulants, antiparkinsonian drugs (7)
Drug treatments for Schizophrenia (8)
Drug treatments for Schizophrenia (8)
Drug treatments for Depression (9)
Drug treatments for Anxiety (10)

Anxiety (10)
Stimulants ADHD (11), Drug Treatments for Alzheimer’s disease (11)
General Features of Drug Abuse; nicotine, caffeine, Ethanol (6,7,10)
ethanol and other sedatives (10)
major stimulants: cocaine and amphetamine (7)
Opiates, hallucinogens, cannabinoids (12,13)
General Principles of drug abuse (6)
General Principles and Review

Points: midterm 100
final 120 (during finals week)
PLUS: Two 20-point online quizzes, to be posted on the web (one in mid-late FEB, the other mid-late APR; times to be announced).
TOTAL POINTS: 260