

PSYC 5850

Psychopharmacology: Drugs & Behavior

Fall, 2021

TIME: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:35 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

LOCATION: SLC216

INSTRUCTOR: Perry W. Buffington, Ph.D.
DrBuff@uga.edu
770-229-3069

OFFICE HOURS: By Appointment

OFFICE: STUCKEY 215

REQUIRED TEXT

Meyer, J.S., & Quenzer, L.F. (Current Edition). *Psychopharmacology: Drugs, the Brain, and Behavior*. Sunderland, MA: Sinauer Associates, Inc.
ISBN# 978-0-87893-510-9

RECOMMENDED TEXT

Buffington, P., (2021). *Psychopharmacology: A Step-by-Step Programmed Guide*. Austin, TX: Sentia Publishing, Inc.
ISBN: 978-1-7359340-3-7

E-Book:

<https://www.sentiapublishing.com/health-science/psychopharmacology-buffington-online-textbook/>

Hardcopy via Amazon.com (or on amazon.com search Buffington Psychopharmacology):

[https://www.amazon.com/Psychopharmacology-Perry-W-Buffington-](https://www.amazon.com/Psychopharmacology-Perry-W-Buffington-PhD/dp/1735934038/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=psychopharmacology+buffington&qid=1623252817&sr=8-1)

[PhD/dp/1735934038/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=psychopharmacology+buffington&qid=1623252817&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Psychopharmacology-Perry-W-Buffington-PhD/dp/1735934038/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=psychopharmacology+buffington&qid=1623252817&sr=8-1)

COURSE DESCRIPTION (from the UGA online *Bulletin*)

The effects of psychoactive drugs on consciousness and behavior. The mechanisms of drug action on neurotransmitter systems are emphasized. Topics include the relationship between behavior and endogenous neurochemical activity, therapeutic agents in psychopathology, and drugs of abuse. PRE-REQUISITES: PSYC 4130 or BIOL 1108

OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the course, students should understand:

- Basic neurophysiology with an emphasis on synaptic transmission
- Principles of pharmacology
- Function and neuroanatomy of the major neurotransmitter systems
- Effects of major psychoactive drugs on consciousness and behavior through their specific actions on neurotransmitter systems

- Original research reports from the psychopharmacological literature and be able to critically evaluate them.

UNIVERSITY HONOR CODE AND ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. Visit the academic honesty web site at www.uga.edu/honesty/ for more details.

CLASS SCHEDULE: The following schedule is tentative. More time may be taken in some sections and less in others. Exam and assignment dates will not change.

| WEEK | TOPIC(S) | CHAPTERS (Quenzer & Meyer) | QUIZZES & ASSIGNMENTS | Modules (Buffington) |
|---------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Introduction & Principles of Pharmacology | 1 | | 1, 2, 3, 4 |
| 2 | Nervous System | 2 | | 5, 6, 7, 8 |
| 3 | Chemical Signaling System | 3 | | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| 4 | Methods of Research (Limited Sections) | 4 | Assignment #1 Due | 13, 14, 15 |
| 5 | Catecholamines | 5 | | 16, 17, 18. |
| 6 | Serotonin | 6 | | 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 |
| 7 | Acetylcholine | 7 | | 24, 25, 26 |
| 8 | Glutamate & GABA | 8 | MIDTERM | 27, 28, 29 |
| 9 | Drug Abuse & Addiction, Alcohol | 9-10 | | 30, 31, 32 |
| 10 | The Opioids | 11 | Assignment #2 Due | 33, 34, 35 |
| 11 | Psychomotor Stimulants: Cocaine & The Amphetamines | 12 | | 36, 37, 38 |
| 12 | Nicotine & Caffeine; | 13 | | 39, 40, 41 |
| 13 | Marijuana & the Cannabinoids | 14 | Assignment #3 Due | 42, 43, 44 |
| 14 | Hallucinogens PCP, & Ketamine | 15 | | 45, 46, 47 |
| 15 | Review – Putting It All Together | 21 | | 48, 49, 50 |
| Tu., 12/14 | Final Exam 8:00 – 11:00 AM | | | |

GRADING

| | |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Mid-Term | 35 Points |
| 3 Assignments | 30 Points (10 points each) |
| Final | 35 Points |
| Total Points | 100 Points |

| | |
|---|------------|
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 59 & Below |

EVALUATIONS

Exams: There will be two examinations (including final). The exams will consist of multiple-choice, short answer, fill in the blank, short essay, and/or matching. These will test your knowledge of material covered in the text, lectures, and required supplemental readings. There is a large amount of information in each of these sections; therefore, it is imperative that you distribute your studying.

Assignments: There will be 3 assignments during the semester. **Assignments will be distributed one class week prior to their being due.** Assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class on the date due. Late submissions will not be accepted or graded. If you must miss class on the date the assignment is due, please arrange with a classmate to turn them in for you.

MAKE-UP EXAM POLICY

Make-up exams will not be given unless appropriate written documentation of an emergent situation (e.g., a doctor's note) can be provided within seven (7) days of the missed exam. I reserve the right to use a different form of assessment in these situations (e.g., essay or oral examination).

CLASS MATERIALS

Supplemental lecture materials will be provided in class only. If you must miss a class, please arrange for a classmate to pick up copies for you. Relying on these materials as your sole form of note taking is extremely risky and is discouraged. These materials are not designed to be a study guide; they may or may not contain material that is not discussed. They are provided to facilitate the objectives for this class. In other words, it is vital you maintain your own notes.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Given the cumulative nature of this course, you should not exceed two (2) unexcused absences. Please inform the instructor of your reasons for an absence *only* if you have a legitimate excuse. Excessive absences are grounds for dismissal from the class and issuance of a "W" (before the withdrawal deadline) or "F" (after the withdrawal deadline).

CLASS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements concerning the class and changes in the class schedule will be made in class and/or via e-mail. Therefore, if you attend class and check your University e-mail account frequently, you will stay current.

WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE

Monday, October 25, 2021

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS for UGA Griffin Campus Students

If you have a disability and require classroom accommodations, please see me after class or make an appointment during office hours. If you plan to request accommodations for a disability, please register with the Disability Resource Center through the Office of Student Affairs, 105 Flynt Building, 770-412-4096 (office), 770-712-2594 (UGA mobile), or ccm16@uga.edu.

WELLNESS STATEMENT

Mental Health and Wellness Resources:

- If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact Student Care and Outreach in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-7774 or visit <https://sco.uga.edu/>. They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services.
- UGA has several resources for a student seeking mental health services (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) or crisis support (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies>).
- If you need help managing stress anxiety, relationships, etc., please visit BeWellUGA (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) for a list of FREE workshops, classes, mentoring, and health coaching led by licensed clinicians and health educators in the University Health Center.
- Additional resources can be accessed through the UGA App.

UGA Griffin Campus Specific Resources Mental Health and Wellness Resources: • If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact • Student Affairs at 770-412-4096. They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services. • UGA Griffin Campus Counseling Services serves as a resource for a student seeking mental health services and can be contacted at 706-612-8792 or via email at griffincounseling@uga.edu. • Students can schedule an appointment, here: <https://bit.ly/3dAWO9d> • If you need help managing stress anxiety, relationships, etc., you can also contact BeWellUGA (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) for a list of FREE workshops, classes, mentoring, and health coaching led by licensed clinicians and health educators in the University Health Center.