

PSYC 471: Behavioural Pharmacology

Instructor

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To ensure a prompt response to email, please include Psyc471 in the subject line.

Acknowledgement of Territory

To begin, let us acknowledge that Queen's is situated on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee territory. We are grateful to be able to live, learn and play on these lands.

To acknowledge this traditional territory is to recognize its longer history, one predating the establishment of the earliest European colonies. It is also to acknowledge this territory's significance for the Indigenous peoples who lived, and continue to live, upon it and whose practices and spiritualities were tied to the land and continue to develop in relationship to the territory and its other inhabitants today. The Kingston Indigenous community continues to reflect the area's Anishinaabek and Haudenosaunee roots. There is also a significant Métis community and there are First people from other Nations across Turtle Island present here today.

To read more about the history of the land, see the Queen's Encyclopedia at <http://www.queensu.ca/encyclopedia/t/traditional-territories>

Course Hours

Fridays 9:30-10:30 via Microsoft Teams

Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, this entire course will be taught remotely, with weekly synchronous sessions run through Microsoft Teams. Students are encouraged, but not required, to attend the sessions. These will be informal and unstructured, providing students with the opportunity to ask questions about the course material and/or upcoming assignments.

Textbook

All students should purchase or have access to the following textbook:

Hancock, S.D. & McKim, W.A. (2018).
. 8th edition. New York NY: Pearson Education Inc

The text is available through the campus bookstore.

Learning Outcomes

With successful completion of Psychology 471, students will be able to:

- Identify primary areas of research in behavioral pharmacology.
- Outline the biological steps involved in central nervous system neurotransmission.
- Discuss similarities and differences in pharmacological mechanisms of abused drugs.
- Describe pharmacological underpinnings of common psychiatric disorders.

Assignment Descriptions

Quizzes (20%)

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Science Communication (20%)

Each student will complete an assignment in which they communicate findings from a behavioral pharmacology study to a general audience. Topics may include pharmacological treatments for a specific mental health conditions (e.g., obsessive-compulsive disorder), technological advances in understanding epigenetic modification of pharmacological systems, or COVID effects on neurotransmission. The mode of communication may vary from a science reporting article (~1,000 words) to a 5 min TedTalk or podcast. Students may complete the project on their own or in groups of 2-5 students. There are two submission due dates for this assignment (see document with deadlines for specific due dates): students who submit the assignment on the first due date will receive a mark and feedback within 2 weeks of the submission. They will then have the option to revise and resubmit the assignment for the second submission deadline.

Grading policy

If you feel the grade you have received does not reflect the work you turned in, you may ask for your assignment to be graded again by providing written justification within 7 days of receiving your mark. You must explain, in detail, why you think your grade should be adjusted, based on the assignment description and marking guidelines. By asking for your assignment to be regraded, you acknowledge that your grade may be higher or lower than your first mark. The second grade is final.

Due Dates

Please check the syllabus for specific information on each assignment, including requirements for the number of assignments that must be completed. Lecture assignments are listed on a separate page; please check this carefully to ensure that you know the date that YOUR lecture presentation is due. Groups for the Discussion Project will be selected by the instructor three weeks before each presentation is due. Students who require additional supports have the option of completing each assignment up to 72 hours after the due dates listed below. **No extensions will be granted beyond this 72-hour grace period.** Read through the information on academic accommodation and considerations for more details.

As soon as possible, follow-up with your instructor(s) either by email or in-person to discuss how you will be making up for the missed academic requirements. This may require you to complete academic requirements prior to being absent for the event.

Academic Integrity

Queen's students, faculty, administrators and staff all have responsibilities for upholding the fundamental values of academic integrity; honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage (see www.academicintegrity.org). These values are central to the building, nurturing and sustaining of an academic community in which all members of the community will thrive. Adherence to the values expressed through academic integrity forms a foundation for the "freedom of inquiry and exchange of ideas" essential to the intellectual life of the University (see the Senate Report on Principles and Priorities <http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senate/report-principles-and-priorities>).

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments and their behaviour conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information on academic integrity is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see Academic Regulation 1 <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academic-calendars/regulations/academic-regulations/regulation-1>), on the Arts and Science website (see <https://www.queensu.ca/artsci/students-at-queens/academic-integrity>), and from the instructor of this course. Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulation on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

Queen's Copyright Information

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Grade Conversion

All components of this course will receive a letter grade, using the Queen's Faculty of Arts and Science Official Grade Conversion Scale:

Grade	Numerical Course Average (Range)
A+	90-100
A	85-89

A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52
F	49 and below