

**UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

**NAME OF SCHOOL: SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**SEMESTER:**

**COURSE: PSY 2181 PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY AND ADDICTION**

**LECTURER**

**TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VENUE:**

**CREDIT: 3hours**

**OFFICE HOUR:**

**COURSE PURPOSE**

PSY 2181 focuses on the critical examination of the physiological effects of drugs. The course includes how drugs are metabolized, their effects on the central nervous system and behaviour as well as the addiction process.

**ALIGNMENT TO PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLO)**

This course provides knowledge and skills that meet requirements for PLO 1, 3, 4, and 8: "articulate the major concepts theoretical perspective, empirical findings and historical trends in psychology"

"Apply critical and creative thinking, inquiry and scientific approach to problems related to behaviour and mental process"

"Employ psychological principles in personal social and organizational issues"

"Recognize, understand and respect the complexity of social-cultural and global diversity"

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this course the students should be able to:

1. Describe the functional neuro-anatomy of the brain
2. Describe the neuro-physiological functions of the CNS
3. Understand the basic principles of Drug Action
4. Critically evaluate their relevant theories and approaches to pharmacotherapy
5. Apply basic psychopharmacological principles to reducing potential risks health arising from addiction behaviour.

**Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Week 1	Overview of neuro(bio)psycho-physiological functions of the CNS and classification of psycho-active drugs
	General prescribing principles-language of basic pharmacology
Week 2	Neurochemistry and abnormal behaviour
	Neurophysiology and abnormal behaviour
Week 3	Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics
	Assessment 1
Week 4	Adverse psycho-active drug reactions

	Managing adverse reactions to psycho-active drugs
Week 5	Introduction to neurochemistry and neurophysiology of mood disorders
	Drug treatment of mood disorders
Week 6	Introduction to neurochemistry and neurophysiology of schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders
	Drug treatment of schizophrenia and other psychotic disorder
Week 7	Mid-term examinations
Week 8	Introduction to neurochemistry and neurophysiology of anxiety disorders
	Drug treatment of anxiety disorders
Week 9	Introduction to insomnia
	Drug treatment of insomnia
Week 10	Introduction to dementias and their drug treatment
	Assessment 2
Week 11	Introduction to childhood mental disorders
	Drug treatment of childhood mental disorders
Week 12	Introduction to neurochemistry and neurophysiology of substance abuse disorders 1
	Introduction to neurochemistry and neurophysiology of substance abuse disorders 2
	Hand in term paper
Week 13	Drug treatment of substance use disorders 1
	Drug treatment of substance use disorders 2
Week 14	Final examination
Term paper	Discuss internet addiction

### **TEACHING METHODOLOGIES /MATERIAL**

There will be two class sessions per week. Required material will be required power point slides, class discussions and presentations. Since this is a directed study course, students are required to do extra reading on their own in order to cover the syllabus.

### **COURSE TEXT**

Leonard, Brian E. (2003). Fundamentals of psychopharmacology (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.) Southern Gate, Chichester: John Wiley & Sons Ltd.

Leavitt, F. (1996). Drugs and Behaviour (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed). Thousand Orks, CA: Sage Publications.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY READING**

Kesley, J.E & Newport D.J.(2006). Principles of Psychopharmacology for Mental Health Professionals. Hoboken, N.J: John Wisley and Sons Inc.

Watson, R. R. Editor. (1995). Alcohol, Drugs of Abuse, and Immune Functions. Boca Raton: CRC press

### **EVALUATION**

This course will be evaluated in the following areas:

Attendance and participation	10%
Term paper	20%
Class assignments (2)	20%

10

Mid-term examination	20%
Final examination	30%
Total	100%

**GRADING**

A 90 -100

A- 87- 89

B+ 84 - 86

B 80 - 83

B- 77 - 79

C+ 74 - 76

C 70- 73

C- 67 - 69

D+ 64 - 66

D 62 - 63

D- 60 - 61

F 0 - 59