

# Texas A&M University - Central Texas

## PSYC 4332.110 - Psychopharmacology - Spring 2018

Instructor: Sam Fiala, Ph.D., L.P.  
Class Meetings: M/W 8:00-9:15am  
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Office hours: TBD (and by appt.)  
Course Web Page: <https://tamuct.instructure.com>

### Course Overview:

Study neuroscientific basis of the effects of drugs on behavior. Emphasis will be placed on major antipsychotic, antianxiety, antidepressant drugs and their clinical use and side effects and drug abuse such as alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine.

Prerequisite(s): [PSYC 2301](#), 8 hours of lab science, and [PSYC 3309](#) or permission of department chair.

### Student Learning Outcomes:

#### Course Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Student Learning Outcome	Assessment
<i>Demonstrate comprehension and application of factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends) related to psychopharmacology.</i>	Chapter Quizzes; Exams
<i>Analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view related to the role of psychotherapeutic drugs and drugs of abuse.</i>	Reaction Paper; Concept Application Discussions
<i>Find and use resources for answering questions regarding the effects of drugs of abuse</i>	Group presentation

### Mode of Instruction & Course Access

This is a *web-enhanced* course; approximately 15% of course instruction will be delivered asynchronously online. Because of this, face-to-face class meetings (after the first class day) will take place between 8:15am and 9:15am. The majority of course instruction and student interaction will take place in a face-to-face classroom setting. Online interactions for the course will rely on TAMUCT's learning management system (Canvas <<https://tamuct.instructure.com>>). See the *Technological Requirements* section of the syllabus for more information on accessing/using Canvas.

### Student-instructor Interactions

Learning is best fostered when open lines of communication are maintained among students and between students and the instructor. During our face-to-face interactions, I hope you will feel comfortable asking questions and offering your own course-relevant insights. Some students are so excited about the material that they share too often and dominate class discussions; when this happens, it can detract from the learning experiences of other students. For this reason, I suggest that if you find yourself making disproportionately more comments during a single class meeting than your colleagues, consider whether your comments are enhancing or diminishing the learning environment.

The best way to ask me a question or make a comment outside of the classroom is via my university email <[sam.fiala@tamuct.edu](mailto:sam.fiala@tamuct.edu)>. I will check this email account daily M-F. I will strive to respond to you within 48 hours of receiving your message. I will also create a space in the discussion boards for you to pose general class questions to your colleagues. This is often a good place for students to help each other find the answers to course-relevant questions. Please remember to maintain appropriate decorum in these interactions.

If you need to meet with me outside of my regularly scheduled office hours, you are welcome to drop by and see if I'm available. To make the most efficient use of your time, I suggest you email me ahead of time and schedule an appointment. I can also meet via phone or via WebEx (this interface will be introduced to the University this Spring, so I don't have details right now on how it will work).

### Participation/Attendance

This course will cover a substantial amount of information in a relatively short period of time. Class time will be used to help identify what information in your text is *essential knowledge*, to elaborate on and provide examples of concepts, and to introduce additional information not found in your text. I highly encourage you to attend class regularly if you wish to get the most out of this learning experience. To encourage you to be an active learner during class time, there will be an opportunity to earn points toward your course grade based on your participation in class discussions (see below).

## Required Reading

Advokat, C. D., Comaty, J. E., & Julien, R. M. (2014). *Julien's primer of drug action* (13<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York, NY: Worth. (ISBN: 987-1-4641-1171-6)

**Note that free student materials are available on the companion website, but you have to set up an account to use some:** [http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/julien13e/#t\\_920470](http://bcs.worthpublishers.com/julien13e/#t_920470)

*A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer (Sec. 51.9705).*

## Technological Requirements & Support

Students must be able to perform basic computer skills such as access the internet; log on to websites that require usernames and passwords; navigate tabs and links on web pages; open and send emails; create and send attachments; download and view attachments including Microsoft Word documents and PowerPoint slideshows; open and view streaming video; input and save information entered into online questionnaires; create, save, and upload files in widely-accessible formats (e.g., .rtf, .pdf, or .docx); copy, paste, and insert textboxes onto documents, and create folders on personal computers to organize and save completed work. Students will need reliable and frequent access to a computer and to the Internet.

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system.  
Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com>].

Username: Your MyCT username (xx123 or everything before the "@" in your MyCT e-mail address)

Password: Your MyCT password

### Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

Email: [helpdesk@tamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamu.edu)

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

*Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.*

For issues with Canvas, select "chat with Canvas support," submit a support request to Canvas Tier 1, or call the Canvas support line: 1-844-757-0953, links to all are found inside of Canvas using the "Help" link.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

## Academic Honesty Policy

### Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University -Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Academic integrity is defined as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. Academic misconduct is any act that improperly affects a true and honest evaluation of a student's academic performance and includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism and improper citation of sources, using another student's work, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. All academic misconduct concerns will be reported to the university's Office of Student Conduct. Ignorance of the university's standards and expectations is never an excuse to act with a lack of integrity. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

My interactions with you are based on an expectation of mutual trust and honor. You are required to do your own work on quizzes, exams, and assignments (unless I explicitly say otherwise). Violation of this trust will result in an F in this course in addition to whatever consequences the administration deems appropriate.

## Library Services

The University Library provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 200 electronic databases containing approximately 250,000 eBooks and 82,000 journals, in addition to the 72,000 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On-campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available twenty-four hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place on Skype or in-person at the library. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group work spaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare,

binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](https://tamuct.libguides.com/) [https://tamuct.libguides.com/].

## **Academic Accommodations**

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier free education. The Department of Access and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the University's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations please contact the Department of Access and Inclusion at (254) 501-5831. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information please visit our [Access & Inclusion](https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html) webpage [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html].

Texas A&M University-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of Title IX and guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, the Dean of Student Affairs' Office can assist students who are pregnant and/or parenting in seeking accommodations related to pregnancy and/or parenting. For more information, please visit <https://www.tamuct.departments/index.php>. Students may also contact the institution's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines online](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf), please visit the website [http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf].

Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender – including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions. A&M-Central Texas is able to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to pregnant and parenting students. All pregnant and parenting students should contact the Division of Student Affairs at 254-501-5909 to seek out assistance. Students may also contact the University's Title IX Coordinator.

## **Tutoring**

Tutoring is available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both on-campus and online. On-campus subjects tutored include Accounting, Advanced Math, Biology, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, and Study Skills. Tutors are available at the Tutoring Center in Warrior Hall, Suite 111.

If you have a question regarding tutor schedules, need to schedule a tutoring session, are interested in becoming a tutor, or any other question, contact Academic Support Programs at 254-519-5796, or by emailing Dr. DeEadra Albert-Green at [deeadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu](mailto:deeadra.albertgreen@tamuct.edu).

Chat live with a tutor 24/7 for almost any subject on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log-in and receive FREE online tutoring and writing support. This tool provides tutoring in over forty subject areas. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

## **A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas**

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence or Stalking) while a student at A&M-Central Texas, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Counseling Services (254-501-5956) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall.

Sexual violence can occur on a campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php) [https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/compliance/titleix.php].

## **Drop Policy**

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete a [Drop Request Form](https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop_Request_Form.pdf) [https://www.tamuct.edu/registrar/docs/Drop\_Request\_Form.pdf].

Professors cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Registrar's Office will provide a deadline on the University Calendar for which the form must be completed, signed and returned. Once you return the signed form to the Registrar's Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Registrar's Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

## **University Writing Center**

Located in 416 Warrior Hall, the University Writing Center (UWC) at Texas A&M University-Central Texas is a free workspace open to all TAMUCT students from 10am-5pm Monday-Thursday with satellite hours in the University Library Monday-Thursday from 6:00-9:00pm. Students may arrange a one-on-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by visiting the UWC during normal operating hours (both half-hour and hour sessions are available) or by making an appointment via [WCOnline](#) at

[<https://tamuct.mywconline.com/>]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu) to schedule an online tutoring session. Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the University Writing Center is here to help!

If you have any questions about the University Writing Center, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at [bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu](mailto:bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu).

## 911 Cellular

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University – Central Texas

911Cellular is an emergency notification service that gives Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via email, text message, and social media. All students are automatically enrolled in 911 Cellular through their myCT email account.

Connect at [911Cellular](https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management) [<https://portal.publicsafetycloud.net/Texas-AM-Central/alert-management>] to change where you receive your alerts or to opt out. By staying enrolled in 911Cellular, university officials can quickly pass on safety-related information, regardless of your location.

## Copyright Notice

Students should assume that all course material is copyrighted by the respective author(s). Reproduction of course material is prohibited without consent by the author and/or course instructor. Violation of copyright is against the law and Texas A&M University-Central Texas' Code of Academic Honesty. All alleged violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Copyright. (2017) by Sam Fiala at Texas A&M University-Central Texas, College of Education; 1001 Leadership Place, Killeen, TX 76549; 254-519-579; [sam.fiala@tamuct.edu](mailto:sam.fiala@tamuct.edu)

## What you will be graded on:

### I. Concept Application Discussions (23 Lecture Days: 200 points total)

Class meetings will frequently feature class discussions regarding application of concepts introduced in the text. At each class period you will be given a notecard, on which you should record your name, the date, and your contribution(s) to that day's discussion (e.g., questions you asked, answers you gave). Your contributions will be evaluated using the rubric below:

*Table 1 Concept Application Discussion Rubric*

Points	Criteria
0	Absent. Sorry, no make-ups (there are sufficient days that full credit can be earned without perfect attendance).
1 to 6	Present and passively participating in the discussion. Number of points earned within this range depends on if you are awake, not on your phone, and not engaged in irrelevant sidebar conversations.
7 to 8	Present and clearly engaged in class discussion. Number of points earned within this range depends on level of participation and quality of contributions.
9 to 10	Present, clearly engaged in class discussion, and demonstrates higher-level consideration of course concepts. Number of points earned within this range depends on level of participation and quality of contributions.

### II. Quizzes (50 pts each x 5 = 250 pts total):

These quizzes will cover content from the assigned chapters and activities listed in the Course Calendar. If you miss a quiz due to an excused absence, you will need to schedule a make-up quiz with the instructor within 7 days of the missed quiz. Reasons for an excused absence (as determined by the instructor) include personal illness, illness of a child, flat tire on the way to class caused by running over a cactus that mysteriously sprouted in the roadway, etc. Documentation of reason for any absence a student wishes to have excused must be submitted to the instructor within 7 days of the absence.

### III. Reaction Papers (75 pts each x 2 = 150 pts total)

You will be given access in Canvas to several short (and some long) videos about psychopharmacology (see calendar below). You will write two reaction papers to the videos. The first reaction paper should be written about content presented in one or more of the videos presented in the first half of the class about drugs of abuse and will be submitted online by 11:59pm on March 11<sup>th</sup>. The

second reaction paper should be written in response to one or more of the videos presented in the second half of the class about psychotherapeutic drugs and will be due by 11:59pm on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Each paper should be approximately 800 to 1,000 words in length (about 3 pages), formatted according to APA style guidelines, and you must cite at least three empirical articles in your paper to support your opinions. More information on this assignment (including a grading rubric) will be provided in Canvas.

#### IV. Group Presentation (150 pts total)

At the beginning of the semester groups will be formed (3 to 4 members) based on topic of interest. Each group will be tasked with presenting to the class on a drug of abuse (e.g., cocaine). The first half of the presentation should highlight benefits of the drug (medical, spiritual, industrial, etc.), and the second half should highlight the negative impact of using that drug. More information on this assignment (including a grading rubric) will be provided in Canvas.

#### V. Comprehensive Final Exam (250 pts)

A comprehensive final examination that includes all content discussed in the course will be given online during final exam week. The exam will be available at 8a.m. on Wednesday May 9<sup>th</sup>. Once you begin, you will have 3 hours to complete the exam. The exam must be completed by 11:59pm on Wednesday May 9<sup>th</sup>. You may use your book and notes when taking the exam. However, using internet resources and/or working with another individual to complete the exam constitute academic dishonesty and will result in failure of the exam and potentially other academic consequences.

#### Grading

Concept Application Discussions	170
Quizzes (5 x 50)	250
Reaction Paper (2 x 75)	150
Group Presentation	150
<u>Final exam</u>	<u>250</u>
TOTAL	1000

Course grades will be based on the percentage of total points earned by each student and will be assigned as follows:

A	90-100 %	B	80-89 %	C	70-79 %	D	60-69 %	F (<60 %)
	900-1000 pts		800-899 pts		700-799 pts		600-699 pts	<600 pts
	Mastery of content		Above average understanding of content		Average understanding of content		Below average understanding of content	Failure to understand content

#### Late work policy

If you turn in an assignment after the due date, you will receive a grade reduction of 10% for each day it's late (with a maximum reduction of 30%). **However, no late work will be accepted for assignments turned in more than 7 days past its due date.** No late work will be accepted after May 12<sup>th</sup> at 12pm (noon). If you miss a quiz, you will not be able to make it up without documentation of an excused absence. Any such make-up must occur within 7 days of the originally scheduled quiz date.

#### Some Thoughts About This Course

Many individuals have strong opinions about both drugs of abuse and psychotherapeutic drugs. It is not my job, mission, or purpose to get you to adopt my opinions on these subjects. My job is to push you to think critically about the topics and provide you with access to factual information and diverse opinions. In class there is the possibility that some discussions about these topics will become heated, as many students often have personal experience related to the topics covered. This is not a bad thing; passion fuels learning. However, I will ask that everyone maintain an appropriate level of professionalism and cordiality during discussions, and I request that any personal information disclosed by students during class about their experiences not be shared outside of class. That being said, I also caution each of you to think about what level of disclosure you are comfortable with related to these topics, as confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.

One last thought on grades...it is unfortunate that I cannot grade you on effort or passion for learning. I believe these are essential to academics, but they are difficult to measure objectively. I can only evaluate the products that you generate (e.g., quiz responses, papers). This product is the result of your own intelligence, your effort, my ability to teach, and luck. It is unfortunate that luck enters the equation, but it is unavoidable. There may be semesters when life tosses you around quite a bit and earning a "C" is more impressive for you than the "A" that the person next to you earned. In these instances, I encourage you to take pride in your effort and not worry too much about grade that cannot perfectly represent your achievements.

**Table 2 Course Calendar**

WEEK	READ	MONDAY CLASS ACTIVITY/DISCUSSION	WEDNESDAY CLASS ACTIVITY/DISCUSSION	ONLINE
<b>WEEK 1</b> JANUARY 15 - JANUARY 21		No Class MLK Day	Introductions	
<b>WEEK 2</b> JANUARY 22- JANUARY 28	Ch. 1 Ch. 2	Synaptic Transmission	Pharmacokinetics	Video-Getting High for God
<b>WEEK 3</b> JANUARY 29- FEBRUARY 4	Ch. 3	Pharmacodynamics	<b>QUIZ 1 (CH 1-3)</b>	Video-Getting High for God
<b>WEEK 4</b> FEBRUARY 5- FEBRUARY 11	Ch. 4 Ch. 5	Neurobiology of Addiction	Alcohol & Inhalants	Video—Johann Hari TED talk
<b>WEEK5</b> FEBRUARY 12- FEBRUARY 18	Ch. 6 Ch. 7	Stimulants Pt. I	Stimulants Pt. II	Video—Cocaine and Crack
<b>WEEK 6</b> FEBRUARY 19- FEBRUARY 25		Presentations	<b>QUIZ 2 (CH 4-7)</b>	Video-Meth Inside Out: II. Brain & Behavior
<b>WEEK 7</b> FEBRUARY 26- MARCH 4	Ch. 8 Ch. 9	Psychedelic Drugs	Cannabis	Video—The Long, Strange Trip of LSD
<b>WEEK 8</b> MARCH 5- MARCH 11	Ch. 10	Opioids	Presentations	Video—Hooked on Painkillers <b>Turn in Reaction Paper #1</b>
<b>WEEK 9</b> MARCH 12- MARCH 18		<b>Spring Break</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	
<b>WEEK 10</b> MARCH 19- MARCH 25	Ch. 11	<b>QUIZ 3 (CH 8-10)</b>	Antipsychotics	Breggin Video 1 Breggin Video2 Breggin Video 3
<b>WEEK 11</b> MARCH 26- APRIL 1	Ch. 12	Antidepressants	Antidepressants	Breggin Video 4 Breggin Video 5
<b>WEEK 12</b> APRIL 2- APRIL 8	Ch. 13	Sedatives & Anxiolytics	Sedatives & Anxiolytics	Breggin Video 6 Breggin Video 7
<b>WEEK 13</b> APRIL 9- APRIL 15	Ch. 14	Treatment of Bipolar Disorder	Treatment of Bipolar Disorder	Breggin Video 8 Breggin Video 9 Breggin Video 10
<b>WEEK 14</b> APRIL 16- APRIL 22	Ch. 15	<b>QUIZ 4 (CH 11-14)</b>	Developmental Issues: Pediatrics	Video-The Power of Placebo
<b>WEEK 15</b> APRIL 23- APRIL 29	Ch. 16 Ch. 17	Developmental Issues: Geriatrics	Future Trends	Video-The Power of Placebo
<b>WEEK 16</b> APRIL 30- MAY 6		<b>QUIZ 5 (CH 15-17)</b>	Exam Review	Video-The Power of Placebo; <b>Turn in Reaction Paper #2</b>
<b>WEEK 17</b> MAY 7-MAY13			FINAL EXAM (ONLINE)	

**###large portions of this syllabus were blatantly pirated from a wide variety of sources###**  
**##Professor reserves the right to amend the syllabus at any time##**