



## **PSY 507 Pharmacotherapy**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2017; Thursday, 430-7:10pm; Metroplex Campus

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Sean A. Lauderdale, Ph.D.

**Office Location:** BA211A

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Office Phone:** 903 886 5773

**Office Fax:** 903 886 5510

**University Email Address:** sean.lauderdale@tamuc.edu

**Preferred Form of Communication:** Email

**Communication Response Time:** Within 24 hours, with the exception of weekends and holidays

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

#### ***Materials***

Advokat, C. D., Comaty, J. E., & Julien, R. M. (2014). *Julien's primer of drug action: A*

*comprehensive guide to the actions, uses, and side effects of psychoactive drugs* (13<sup>th</sup>

ed.). New York, New York: Worth Publishers.

Stahl, S. M. (2014). *Prescriber's guide: Stahl's essential psychopharmacology* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). New York,

New York: Cambridge University Press.

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## *Course Description*

This course provides an examination of psychoactive medications and their use in the treatment of mental and behavioral disorders. The efficacy and safety of medications will be discussed. The course presents basic principles of pharmacotherapy that are the rationales behind the pharmacological treatment of psychological disorders. Applied components will relate to the aspects of the course material to mental health service delivery. The class also examines the historical psychopharmacological perspective, basic pharmacology underlying the use of medication, and recent research in the field. Prerequisites: Admission to a Psychology Graduate program.

This course is intended to provide students an opportunity to use empirically-based data to evaluate pharmacological interventions available for psychological disorders. To accomplish this objective, students will have the opportunity to learn basic pharmacological principles, actions of pharmacological agents in the brain, adverse event profiles of common pharmacological agents, brief overview of the neuropsychiatric etiology of select psychiatric disorders, and empirically supported pharmacological treatment guidelines for psychiatric disorders. This information is designed to help advanced students be knowledgeable consumers regarding available psychopharmacological agents currently on the market. The information in this course is NOT designed to prepare students to make competent decisions regarding prescription of psychopharmacological agents.

## *Student Learning Outcomes*

1. Identify basic pharmacological principles and convey understanding in response to specific essay questions.
2. Discuss actions of psychopharmacological agents in the brain in essay questions about drug effects and adverse events.
3. Discuss how to identify a patient who may benefit from psychopharmacological treatment and prepare him/her for requesting and/or responding to a recommendation for psychopharmacological treatment. Will demonstrate through responses to case studies.
4. Identify how direct to consumer advertising for psychopharmacological treatments effect both prescribing professionals and consumers. Will demonstrate through essay questions and case studies.
5. Present information about adverse event profiles of common psychopharmacological agents. Will do so by providing specific recommendations of patients depicted in case studies.
6. Review, analyze, synthesize and discuss empirically supported psychopharmacological treatment guidelines for common psychiatric disorders. Will demonstrate by responses to case studies of patients potentially likely to benefit from psychopharmacological treatment.

## **CMHC Learning Objectives**

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C2. Knows the etiology, the diagnostic process and nomenclature, treatment, referral, and prevention of mental and emotional disorders. In course evaluations, students will respond to essay questions about the etiology of various disorders. Additionally, through the use of case studies, students will make diagnoses and discuss evidence-based recommendations for treatment using both pharmacological and psychotherapeutic strategies.

C7. Knows the principles, models, and documentation formats of biopsychosocial case conceptualization and treatment planning. Through the use of case studies, students will make diagnoses and discuss evidence-based recommendations for treatment using both pharmacological and psychotherapeutic strategies.

G1. Knows the principles and models of assessment, case conceptualization, theories of human development, and concepts of normalcy and psychopathology leading to diagnoses and appropriate counseling treatment plans. Through the use of case studies, students will assess whether a patient would benefit from treatment, and if so, make diagnoses and discuss evidence-based recommendations for treatment using both pharmacological and psychotherapeutic strategies.

G2. Understands various models and approaches to clinical evaluation and their appropriate uses, including diagnostic interviews, mental status examinations, symptom inventories, and psychoeducational and personality assessments.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### *Minimal Technical Skills Needed*

Students will have the ability to use word processing programs and internet-based course management software to complete course successfully.

### *Instructional Methods*

In class presentations and discussions will be used to highlight and elaborate information presented in the text. Although some information presented in class will cover information in the text, not all presentation information will be in the text. During the semester, in-class exercises and other presentation media (e.g., pictures, videos) will be used to augment in-class discussions and presentations.

### *Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course*

1. Attend all classes.
2. Read the textbooks.
3. Complete assignments thoroughly and on time.
4. Actively participate in class discussions.
5. Take notes.
6. Ask for assistance.

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## GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

### *Assessments*

During the semester, students will complete four assignments. Each assignment will be composed of essay questions and clinical case vignettes and require students to discuss issues commonly encountered issues such as treatment guidelines for common psychiatric disorders, making appropriate DSM-5 diagnosis, and providing information about the most commonly prescribed medications for a variety of psychiatric conditions. All information provided by students will need to be evidence-based and taken from primary sources, such as drug prescribing guides or peer-reviewed print/electronic journals. Secondary internet resources (e.g., WebMD, rxlist) are strictly prohibited. Students will be required to provide citations for references in their responses.

Students will complete four assignments. Each assignment will be worth 25 points, totaling 100 points for the semester. All reviews will be due on the due date. **NO LATE REVIEWS WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

## COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Readings
8-28 Week 1: Introduction, Syllabus, and Brief Review of Pharmacodynamics and Pharmacokinetics (chps 1-3)
9-4 Week 2: Brief Review of Pharmacodynamics and Pharmacokinetics & DTCA (chps 1-3)
9-11 Week 3: Preparing Patients for a Psychopharmacological Evaluation & Reading prescribing information
9-18 Week 4: Antidepressants (chp 12)
9-25 Week 5: Antidepressants(chp 12)

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10-2 Week 6: Antidepressants and mood stabilizers (chp 14)
10-9 Week 7: Anxiolytics and antidepressants (chp 13)
10-16 Week 8: Anxiolytics and antidepressants (chp 13)
10-23 Week 9: Antipsychotics (chp 11)
10-30 Week 10: Antipsychotics (chp 11)
11-6 Week 11: Antipsychotics (chp 11)
11-13 Week 12: Stimulants (chp 7)
11-20 Week 13: Thanksgiving
11-27 Week 14: Sedative-Hypnotics (chp 13); Child & Adolescent Psychopharmacology (chps 15-16)
12-4 Week 15: ☠️Dead Week☠️ Geriatric Psychopharmacology (chps 15-16)
12-11 Week 16: Finals

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

### **Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information**

This course will be facilitated using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx>.

**You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).**

It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the 'myCourses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

### **Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support**

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

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If at any time you experience technical problems (e.g., you can't log in to the course, you can't see certain material, etc.) please contact the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Chat Support:** Click on '*Live Support*' on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.
- **Email:** [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org) to initiate a support request with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

**Accessing Help from within Your Course:** Click on the '*Tech Support*' icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. You will then be able to get assistance via online chat, email or by phone by calling the Help Desk number noted below.

**Note:** Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

## **Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio**

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure **MUST** be followed?

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org) or 1-866-656-5511
2. Students **MUST** file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and to provide me with the helpdesk ticket number

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4. At that time, I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser **BEFORE** the course begins and to take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform. **ONLY** Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate.

### **Internet Access**

An Internet connection is necessary to participate in discussions and assignments, access readings, transfer course work, and receive feedback from your professor. View the requirements as outlined in Technology Requirements above for more information.

### **myLeo Support**

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu) or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at <https://leo.tamuc.edu>.

### **Learner Support**

Go to the following link [One Stop Shop](#)- created to serve you by attempting to provide as many resources as possible in one location.

Go to the following link [Academic Success Center](#)- focused on providing academic resources to help you achieve academic success.

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The [One Stop Shop](#) was created to serve you by providing as many resources as possible in one location. <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/>

The [Academic Success Center](#) provides academic resources to help you achieve academic success. <http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/>

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

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I prefer that you contact me via email. I will respond within 24 hours. If you have a questions that can addressed through email, I will do so. If your question requires us to meet by telephone or person, I will schedule an appointment with you during office hours or at a mutually convenient time. You are also welcome to come by my office during office hours or at any other time. If I am available, I will be happy to meet with you.

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### *Course Specific Procedures/Policies*

Absences should be avoided at all costs as attendance is strongly associated with academic success. Students with excessive absences will be removed from the course without discussion. Missing more than 10% of the course is considered excessive.

No late work will be accepted without prior approval of the instructor.

No make-up exams will be permitted.

There is no extra-credit available for this course.

### *Syllabus Change Policy*

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be discussed in class and agreed to by consensus; however, I retain the final decision regarding changes to the syllabus.

### *University Specific Procedures*

#### *Student Conduct*

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Students are expected act as professionals at all times in class. This includes being on time and staying for the duration of class. This also includes not allowing the use of electronic devices (e.g., computers or cell phones) to distract from on-going engagement in class. For example, if a student is using their tablet, checking email or social media programs is strongly discouraged. Students are also strongly discouraged from texting in class. If a call needs to be taken due to an emergency, it is allowable for students to excuse themselves to take the call. Students are expected to positively and respectfully engage each other and the instructor at all times, even if

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disagreeing with a particular viewpoint or assertion. All differing points of view should be based on evidence-based information rather than simply on personal experiences as these experiences may have been singular. Note, discussion of personal experiences can be used as a springboard for broader discussions of issues encountered in mental health practice. Careful reflection is required prior to sharing personal experiences to determine if the context is appropriate for disclosure and professional boundaries are maintained.

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)  
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

### *TAMUC Attendance*

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

### *Academic Integrity*

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

### *ADA Statement*

#### **Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a

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learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

### *Nondiscrimination Notice*

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### *Campus Concealed Carry Statement*

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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