PSYCHOLOGY 380

Selected Topics on Substance Use Disorders

Fall, 2007

Instructors: Stephen T. Higgins, Ph.D. (course organizer), Sarah H. Heil, Ph.D., John R. Hughes, M.D., Stacey C. Sigmon, Ph.D., & Joanna Strong Kinnamon, Ph.D.

Tuesdays 9:30 - 12:15
Human Behavioral Pharmacology Laboratory
Conference Room, Ira Allen School

SYLLABUS

This seminar will be taught by five faculty members with research and clinical expertise in the area of substance use disorders. Dr. Higgins will act as class organizer and all organizational questions should be directed to him. Questions regarding content or other matters having to do with a specific session should be directed to the faculty member responsible for that session.

This seminar assumes no prior familiarity with the study of substance use disorders. The intended audience is graduate students in general/experimental and clinical psychology. Students from related disciplines are welcome. There is no formal text for the seminar. Instead, assigned readings in the form of reviews and original experimental reports will be provided weekly. Each of the faculty will lead sessions on topics on which they currently or recently conducted NIH-supported research. Structuring the seminar in this manner will introduce students to a range of substantive, contemporary substance-use problems, provide opportunities to see how researchers conceptualize those problems and conduct research to examine them scientifically, and provide ample opportunity to discuss in detail related scientific and clinical issues and questions.

Grades will be based on class participation and evidence of completing assigned readings, class presentations, submission of 3 written questions per session, and attendance at all sessions. These requirements are intended to foster a lively and interesting graduate seminar. We fully anticipate that all who enroll with the goal of reading and understanding the material via collegial interactions will receive an A. Further information about the seminar format will be provided during the first session.

August 28: Organizational and introductory session. Dr. Higgins

September 4: Cocaine use disorders and effective treatment. Dr. Higgins


September 11: Cigarette smoking among pregnant women. Dr. Higgins


September 18: Issues in pharmacological and behavioral treatments for cigarette smoking. Dr. Hughes


**September 25: Illicit-opioid dependence and effective treatment. Dr. Sigmon**


**October 2: Caffeine use disorders. Dr. Hughes**


**October 9: Marijuana use disorders. Dr. Hughes**


**October 16: Prescription-opioid dependence and effective treatment. Dr. Sigmon**


**October 23: The problem of cigarette smoking among opioid-dependent patients. Dr. Sigmon**


**October 30: Treating opioid-dependent pregnant women. Dr. Heil**


**November 6: Treatments for other substance use disorders among pregnant women. Dr. Heil**


**November 13: Alcohol use disorders and effective treatments for. Dr. Strong Kinnamon**


November 20: Holiday break.

November 27: Treating those with substance use disorders and serious mental illness. Dr. Strong Kinnaman


December 4: Socioeconomic disadvantage and vulnerability to substance use disorders. Dr. Higgins

