Psychopharmacology
Psychology 223

Professor Rik Musty
Office: Dewey 114B
Office hours: 11-12:30 Tuesday, Thursday and by appointment
Tel. 656-3453; e-mail: Richard.Musty@uvm.edu


Readings: Other Readings: To be assigned

Course requirements and Grading

1. Oral presentations of readings and research articles. (25%).
   a. Oral Presentations on Textbook readings
      Each presentation on readings must include:
      1. A presentation (5-10 minutes) of the information which addresses the question.
      2. A question for the group to discuss.
      The discussion question will be answered by a colleague selected at random, by me. Open discussion among class members will follow.

   b. Oral Presentations on Research Articles
      For presentation of research articles, find a recent article which reports new findings. Use Medline (www.nlm.nih.gov) or use on the UVM library computer (you can access Medline and PsychInfo and PsychLit). Use Power Point. If you do not know how to use Power Point I will train you.

      Give a very brief introduction, 1 slide. Give a very brief description of methods, 2-3 slides. Show results 2-4 slides. Discuss what we learned that was new from the article. Time limit 10 minutes. Practice your presentation before class (10 minutes). Finally ask a question for discussion (5 minutes).

      Presentations and responses to questions will be rated on a 4 point scale:
      4- Excellent, clear presentation/Excellent discussion question, which stimulated outstanding discussion among class members
      3- Very Good, clear presentation/Very Good discussion question, which stimulated very good discussion among class members
      2- Good, clear presentation/Good discussion question, which stimulated good discussion among class members
      1- Poor, weak presentation/Poor discussion question, which stimulated little or no discussion among class members

2. Written Assignments (15%) As assigned.
3. First exam: 15% (Take-home Due March 3, 2005)

4. Second exam: 15% (Take-home Due May 3, 2005)

5. Research project: (25%) (See Poster Presentations Below)

Poster presentations

During the last 2-3 weeks of the semester, each student will present a poster on a topic, related to Motivation from a review of current literature, a survey, an observational study, case study or experiment. If you are going to collect data, you must also submit a Human subjects form with your proposal (see me for this). The goal of these presentations is to go beyond the textbook and present some original work beyond the readings to compliment and expand our knowledge.

Poster Proposal  (DUE FEBRUARY 24, 2005).

1. Deciding on a topic: read chapter summaries of the text, find a topic that interests you. Look up abstract(s) on Medline or other computer search of the literature, as described above. Supply printout of the literature to be reviewed (the first page of the article, including an abstract or summary is sufficient). Proposals are NOT graded, but are meant to help you focus on a project.

2. Once you have picked a topic, find published articles and photocopy the first page of each article to be used in the presentation. If articles are not available and you are ordering the article through interlibrary loan, a printout from Medline or other database will suffice

3. Submit these photocopies with a brief proposal (typed or computer-printed only no more than 2 double-spaced pages, stapled) with the following headings:

4. If the proposal includes human or animal research, students should consult with the instructor as to the details of exempt vs. non-exempt research proposals by the time you submit your proposal.

Note: Late proposals will NOT be accepted without a written excuse from you documenting the emergency. Proposals NOT meeting format guidelines will be returned unread.

- Your Last Name, First Name
- Introduction (Background)
- Goal of the presentation
- Expected Results or Findings
- References: Follow the reference format in Beck’s textbook.

5. Attendance (10%) Each unexcused absence will lead to a 5% reduction in the final grade. The only acceptable absences are: medical/psychological/family emergencies and religious holidays documented in writing. A note from you is acceptable in most cases. No documentation is needed for religious holidays. If you have a question about this, please ask. DO NOT CALL ME OR E-MAIL TO ME, IF ANY OF THESE EMERGENCIES OCCURS. PRESENT ME WITH A NOTE AFTER YOUR ABSENCE. Going to weddings, vacations or similar events ARE NOT acceptable. If these events require your absence, take the consequences or disenroll/withdraw from this course.