

# PCTH 201: Drugs & Society

University of British Columbia, 2015W

Introductory principles of drug action. Historical and present day medical and non-medical use of drugs.

a place of mind



## A message from the course director:

Welcome to PCTH 201 – Drugs and Society. While this course is intended to educate you on the basic principles of drugs and their role in society, it is likely not to be your initial exposure to the world of pharmacology. From your daily cup of coffee, to over-the-counter antacids such as TUMS®, to the allergy medication prescribed by your family doctor, drugs are prevalent throughout society. By the end of this course, we hope that you will have a basic understanding of both

- i) Core pharmacological principles of drug interactions within the body
- ii) The role of drugs in present-day and historical society

You will learn how drugs enter the body, what they do in the body to elicit their effect(s), and how they are excreted in terms of both basic principles and through specific examples related to treatment of select diseases and disorders. You will learn about drugs of abuse, both social (alcohol, caffeine) and illegal (marijuana, cocaine). You will learn about how drugs are developed and regulated in today's society. And by the end of this course, it is our genuine hope that you will move forward in life with a better understanding of pharmacology that will benefit you in both your personal and professional aspirations. On behalf of myself and the other lecturers of this course, we thank you for your interest in PCTH 201 and look forward to teaching you this term.

**Dr. Andrew Horne**

Instructor

Dept. of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics

## Course Details

Time:	2:00 to 3:30 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays
Place:	Wesbrook 201 (WESB 201)
Course Director:	Andrew Horne, Ph.D.
Contact:	<a href="mailto:andrew.horne@ubc.ca">andrew.horne@ubc.ca</a> (604) 822-9500 Medical Sciences Block C (MEDC), Room 309

\*Please put 'PCTH 201' in the subject line of all correspondence!

It is the student's responsibility to ensure he or she has the necessary prerequisites for PCTH 201:

- One of BIOL 12, BIOL 111, BIOL 112, BIOL 153, BIOL 155 or SCIE 001
- Second year standing or higher

## Assessment

- Your final course grade will be comprised of a combination of mid-term and final examinations:
  - Two mid-term exams, each with 20% of your final grade
  - One final exam, worth 50% of your final grade
  - Participation in the PCTH 201 PeerWise question community (<http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/>), worth 10% of your final grade; details will be given in the first class of the course
- Exams will be primarily multiple choice, with some short answer questions
- The final exam will be cumulative, with an emphasis towards material taught in the second half of the course

### UBC Policy on Cheating and Academic Integrity

As noted in the UBC Academic Calendar, academic honesty is essential to the continued functioning of the University of British Columbia as an institute of higher learning and research. It is your responsibility as a student to inform yourself of the applicable standards for academic honesty as it pertains in this course to appropriate conduct during examinations. Any incident of cheating will be taken very seriously, and will result in a mark of zero for that exam, and may be subject to further disciplinary action. See the UBC Calendar for more information on policies and regulations regarding student conduct and discipline.

## Exam Policies

- Students are required to write all exams. The final course mark will be based on the grading system above – no grades will be dropped
- As per UBC policy, a finalized version of the December exam schedule will be released mid-November. It is strongly recommended that you refrain from making holiday travel plans within the exam period prior to final release of the schedule, as exam rescheduling based on travel conflicts will not be entertained!
- If you miss the final exam you must contact the Dean of Science or your program head regarding your options. Alternate arrangements will not be made by the course director

## Regarding Textbooks:

There is no required textbook for PCTH 201. Lecture presentations and/or handouts will form the basis for the level of detail and content for all examinable material.

If you wish to do additional reading in a particular area, several general pharmacology books are on reserve at Woodward library, along with a greater selection in the general circulation. As a starting point, the following book (or similar titles) may be of use to you in your study, though keep in mind that the scope of this book may be beyond PCTH 201 curricula:

- Katzung & Trevor's Pharmacology Examination and Board Review, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition. 2012. McGraw-Hill Medical. New York, USA.
- Lippincott's Illustrated Reviews: Pharmacology, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. 2011. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. Baltimore, USA.



## Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Instructor
T Sept. 8	<i>No class today – IMAGINE UBC Orientation</i>	
Th Sept. 10	Introduction to Pharmacology	Dr. Andrew Horne
T Sept. 15	Pharmacodynamics	Dr. Jennifer Shabbits
Th Sept. 17	Pharmacokinetics	Dr. Jennifer Shabbits
T Sept. 22	Principles of Drug Abuse	Dr. Andrew Horne
Th Sept. 24	Drinkable Drugs 1: Caffeine	Dr. Andrew Horne
T Sept. 29	Where Do Drugs Come From?	Dr. Joanne Leung
Th Oct. 1	TBA	Dr. Joanne Leung
T Oct. 6	<b>Midterm #1</b>	Dr. Andrew Horne
Th Oct. 8	Cannabis & Cannabinoids	Dr. Andrew Horne
T Oct. 13	Cardiovascular Pharmacology	Dr. Catherine Pang
Th Oct. 15	Antihistamines	Dr. Catherine Pang
T Oct. 20	Psychiatric Drugs	Dr. Joanne Leung
Th Oct. 22	Psychiatric Drugs	Dr. Joanne Leung
T Oct. 27	Antibiotics	Dr. Andrew Horne
Th Oct. 29	Antibiotic Resistance	Dr. Andrew Horne
T Nov. 3	<b>Midterm #2</b>	Dr. Andrew Horne
Th Nov. 5	Drinkable Drugs 2: Ethanol	Dr. Andrew Horne
T Nov. 10	Analgesic Drugs	Dr. Brian Warriner
Th Nov. 12	Anesthetic Drugs	Dr. Brian Warriner
T Nov. 17	Muscle Relaxants	Dr. Brian Warriner
Th Nov. 19	Drug Development & Legislation	Dr. Brian Warriner
T Nov. 24	Variability in Drug Response	Dr. Pascal Bernatchez
Th Nov. 26	Variability in Drug Response	Dr. Pascal Bernatchez
T Dec. 1	Herbal Pharmacology	Dr. Andrew Horne
Th Dec. 3	Performance-Enhancing Drugs	Dr. Andrew Horne

## Important Dates

September 8

- Imagine UBC. No class.

September 10

- First day of PCTH 201**

September 22

- Last day to withdraw from Term 1 courses without W standing.

October 6

- Midterm #1**

October 16

- Last day to withdraw from Term 1 courses.

November 3

- Midterm #2**

December 3

- Last day of classes for Term 1.

December 8-22

- UBC Exam period; schedule released mid-term.

## Course Policies

Since this is a team-taught course, lecture format and style will vary from class to class. Each lecturer is responsible for all content related to his or her sections of the course, including exam questions. Lecturers may choose to post their notes on the course website at their own discretion. You are encouraged to contact lecturers directly to clarify individual expectations if these are not made clear to you in class. Office hours are available by appointment if you wish to discuss your concerns in person.

## I have a question. Who should I ask?

Great question! First of all, you can always try talking to your classmates/colleagues – they may have heard the information you missed, or have a different perspective on something taught in class, and would be more than happy to help you out. Plus, you may make a new friend in the process! Consult the resources listed below for more options regarding peer interaction. Failing that:

- For general questions about the course and non-content-related issues (registration, administration issues, missed exams, etc.), contact the course director
- For lecture-specific questions (learning objectives, content clarification, etc.) it is instead recommended that you follow up with that specific instructor. Contact info for each instructor, if not provided in class, may be found by searching the UBC Faculty & Staff Database at <http://www.directory.ubc.ca>

## Course Resources

**UBC Connect** (<http://elearning.ubc.ca/connect/>): The course webpage is your go-to place for handouts (lecture slides, additional material), additional pharmacological resources and further information on PCTH 201. Questions can be asked here in a forum that benefits all students. Peer interaction is strongly encouraged through this medium. The course director will contribute to discussion and comment where appropriate, and monitor the page to ensure the environment is supportive and inclusive for all students.

**PeerWise** (<http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/>): PeerWise is an online community where students work together to develop a multiple-choice question database for a course. You as students are able to compose questions for PCTH 201, along with their correct answers and distractors, and tag the question based on the subject matter being covered. These questions may then be answered, rated, and commented upon by fellow students in the class. Well-composed, integrative questions may be eligible for inclusion on midterm or final exams, but in general the website will be useful as a study guide and a resource for peer interaction. Further details will be provided in class, as well as some information on question development. Participation in the PeerWise community will form a component of your course grade.