PSYC 6378: Special Topics in Behavioral Neuroscience: Toxicology I
Asynchronous

Professor: Katherine Serafine, Ph.D.        E-mail: kmserafine2@utep.edu
Office: 216B Psychology Building
Office Hours: Mondays 12:00-1:30 pm

Text:
We will use a variety of open access readings focused on toxicology and refer to some content from this textbook: A Pharmacology Primer: Theory, applications, and methods. Third edition, 2009. Author: Terry P. Kenakin

Course Description:
We will review materials from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health evidence-based toxicology course to spend the semester learning about basic principles of toxicology. Materials from the Kenakin text will also be used to enhance modules. We will focus on regulatory safety sciences and cover systemic review and related evidence-based approaches currently being assessed by the Environment Protection Agency (EPA), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), and the US National Toxicology Program.

Learning Objectives:
The goal of this course is to provide graduate students with an overview of basic toxicology and pharmacokinetic principles that would be applicable to a wide range of career paths. Students will also engage in scientific communication about toxicology via writing assignments.

Accommodations and Support Services:
If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass. Please notify Dr. Serafine ASAP (and one week prior to each exam) if you require CASS support services, especially if you require exam support/accommodations.

Blackboard:
Everything you need for this class can be found on Blackboard. Please check Blackboard for announcements at least once per week. Blackboard is also where you will find online quizzes and other supplemental materials relevant to the course. Make sure you check your email regularly for updates via blackboard.

Grades: up to 400 points total

Grade Breakdown:
- Completion of all modules = 300 points
- Final Presentation = 100 points

Final Grade Calculation: Final grades will be calculated as follows (points earned /400) x 100.

Grading scale:
- A = 90.0-100.0%
- B = 80.0-89.9%
- C = 70.0-79.9%
- D = 60-69.9%
- F < 60.0%
**Final Presentation:** By the end of the semester, students will present a case study outlining the pharmacokinetic profile of a newly FDA approved medication. Students must present data from the peer-reviewed literature, FDA approval materials and other scientific sources. To earn full credit students must demonstrate mastery of understanding about the medication assigned to them, including information about the time course (onset of action, half-life, etc) of pharmacokinetic effects as well as a basic understanding of the pharmacodynamics.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. You can read these policies by following this hyperlink: [https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html](https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/osccr/student-conduct/academic-integrity.html) Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

**Important Contact Information**
- University Counseling Center 202 Union West 747-5302
- Center for Accommodations and Support Services 106 Union East 747-5148
- University Career Center 103 Union West 747-5640
- Department of Psychology 112 Psychology 747-5551

**Class Schedule:**
- Week 1 (August 28-September)
- Week 2 (September 4-8) Course Introduction (Module 1A)
- Week 3 (September 11-15) Shortcomings (Module 1B)
- Week 4 (September 18-22) Current Approaches in Toxicology (Module 1C)
- Week 5 (September 25-29) History & Causation (Module 2)
- Week 6 (October 2-6) History & Causation (Module 2)
- Week 7 (October 9-13) Systemic Review & Meta Analysis (Module 3)
- Week 8 (October 16-20) Systemic Review & Meta Analysis (Module 3)
- Week 9 (October 23-27) Avoiding Bias & Risks (Module 4A)
- Week 10 (October 30-November 3) Application to Test Methods Comparison (Module 4B)
- Week 11 (November 6-10) Quality Assurance, Good Practices, and Validation (Module 5)
- Week 12 (November 13-17) Quality Assurance, Good Practices, and Validation (Module 5)
- Week 13 (No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday)
- Week 14 (November 27-December 1) Biometrical Tools & Future Perspectives (Module 6)
- Week 15 (December 4-8) Case Study Research: New Pharmacotherapeutics
- Week 16 (Finals Week) Final Presentations: Case Study Presentation (video and final paper due by 11:59pm on December 15th).