



<b>Course title:</b>	[Psychopharmacology for Social Workers]	
<b>Course #/term:</b>	[SSW700, 001, [Winter, 2021]	
<b>Time and place:</b>	Saturday, January 30 and February 6, 2021 at 9 am – 5 pm, Room B760 SSWB	
<b>Credit hours:</b>	1 credit, Online live session 10 - 12 noon and 1 - 3 pm	
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None	
<b>Instructor:</b>	Theadia L. Carey, MD	
<b>Pronouns:</b>	[She, her, hers]	
<b>Contact info:</b>	<b>Email:</b> tlcarey@umich.edu	<b>Phone:</b> 734-730-9075
	You may expect a response within #24 hours	
<b>Office:</b>	Virtual	
<b>Office hours:</b>	By appointment	

## 1. Course Statement

**Note:** Course objectives are intentionally connected to School of Social Work/Council on Social Work Education [Competencies and Practice Behaviors](#) so that the School can measure/assess student outcomes at both the course and curriculum/program levels.]

### a. Course description

This course has a clinical focus and practical orientation; therefore, we will examine basic neuropsychopharmacology, neurotransmitter systems, drug metabolism (i.e., absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion), and the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of psychotropic medications to only a limited degree. Our emphasis will be primarily on understanding the physiological actions, therapeutic effects, and potential toxicities associated with prescribed pharmacotherapies for major classes of mental disorders affecting youth, adults, and older adults.

### b. Course objectives and competencies

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Compare the physiological actions of medications and differentiate among the types of currently available psychotropic medications.
- Formulate a medication treatment for each mental disorder or substance use disorder.
- Design a treatment plan, by applying risk vs. benefits of different medications based on: therapeutic effects, side effects, adverse reactions, medication management.
- Identify the rewards and challenges regarding interdisciplinary collaboration between social worker

and prescribing physicians.

- Analyze psychopharmacological challenges associated with different populations (children, adolescents, adults, older adults, pregnant women etc).
- Assess legal and other considerations in psychopharmacology for social workers

### c. Course design

Lecture and discussion format.

### d. Intensive focus on PODS

Students are invited and expected to actively contribute from their experiences, field placement practice and knowledge of readings, etc. to help support and develop a vision of social justice, learn to recognize and reduce mechanisms that support oppression and injustice, work toward social justice processes, apply intersectionality and intercultural frameworks and strengthen critical consciousness, self-knowledge and self-awareness to facilitate PODS learning.

## 2. Class Requirements

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### a. Text and class materials

- American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5<sup>th</sup> Edition). Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Publishing.
- Dziegielewski, S. and Jacinto, G. (2016). *Social Work Practice and Psychopharmacology*, (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition). New York, NY: Springer Publishing. The electronic version is available free from the library.
- Additional resources will be posted to Canvas
  - Videos
  - Articles
  - PowerPoint presentations
- “To fully engage in the course topic and become a competent and skilled social work practitioner, it is expected that students will complete all required readings prior to class.
- Required readings will be discussed/debriefed in class.
- Additional readings may be assigned and these will be posted on Canvas.

b. Class schedule

Date/Time	Agenda	Required Readings & Assignments
<p>Week 1 11/14/2020</p>	<p><b>Day One:</b> Morning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class Introductions, Course Expectations</li> <li>• Overview of Pharmacology, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics</li> <li>• The Brain – review activities</li> <li>• Psychotic Disorders/Antipsychotics</li> <li>• Depressive disorders/Antidepressants</li> <li>• Anxiety and Related Disorders/Treatment Anti-anxiety medications</li> </ul> <p>Afternoon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group planning for Day 2 presentations</li> <li>• Substance Use Disorders/medication treatment options</li> </ul>	<p>Syllabus Dziegielewski, S. and Jacinto, G. (2016). Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, and 10</p>
<p>Week 2 11/21/2020</p>	<p><b>Day Two:</b> Morning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bipolar and Related Disorders/Mood stabilizers</li> <li>• Attention Deficit Disorders/Stimulant medications</li> <li>• Complementary and Alternative Medicine</li> </ul> <p>Afternoon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interdisciplinary Collaboration</li> <li>• Class discussions</li> <li>• Special populations</li> </ul>	<p>Text, Chapters 6, 7, 9 and 11</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethical and Legal issues in Psychopharmacology.</li> </ul>	
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### c. Assignments

#### Required Assignments:

1. Completion of the 3-D brain application table, submit via Canvas or email.
2. Discussion questions posted in Canvas, please respond to these discussion questions on a weekly basis.
3. Medication fact sheets, total of 4 due by the last day of class, submit via Canvas or email.
4. In-class presentation: You will give an individual **or** groups (total of 3 – 5 individuals) presentation. Choose one of many current debates (some examples below). You will be given time during day 1 to meet with your group and decide how you want to approach the debate and assign responsibilities for the week. On day 2 you will be given time to organize what each of you has worked on during the week and you will present to the class the main issues for social workers and link to what you have learned in this class, PODS and recommendations. You will have 20 minutes for the presentation. Feel free to be creative, use/create PowerPoint, prezi, you-tube video, poster, panel, etc. Below are some of the current debates specific to psychopharmacology.
  - i. Assess the argument against extensive and excessive use of psychotropic medications.
  - ii. Medical Marijuana
  - iii. The debate of prescription privileges by APRN's and psychologists.
  - iv. Social and psychological effects (pro & con) of taking psychotropic medication.
  - v. Genetic tests that are currently available which may help to identify for each individual the best medication to treat mental health issues.
  - vi. Are we abandoning social work values by focusing on the medical model, rather than looking more broadly at needed environmental and psychosocial interventions?
  - vii. Medication Assisted Treatment for persons with substance use disorders.

### d. Attendance and class participation

In order to receive credit for this 1-credit mini course students must:

1. Attend all class sessions from start to finish; Four hours will be scheduled on each scheduled class day 10 am - noon and 1 pm - 3 pm.
2. Actively participate in all activities and assignments.
3. Meetings will be held via Zoom. I am requesting cameras are on. This increases participation and attention.

Purposeful participation in class discussion and activities are paramount for the successful completion of this course. Participation does not mean you need to talk a lot in class. It is more about bringing a positive learning attitude to the class and being present for each session.

e. Grading

Grade will be satisfactory or unsatisfactory for the course.

Passing is based on attending classes, participation and completion of the assignments.

All assignments should be turned in by 5 pm on the last day of class.

f. Class Recording and Course Materials

Additional information on class recordings can be found the [Recording and Privacy Concerns FAQ](#):

Audio and video recording of in-class lectures and discussions is prohibited without the advance written permission of the instructor. Students with an approved accommodation from the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities permitting the recording of class meetings must present documentation to the instructor in advance of any recording being done. The instructor reserves the right to disallow recording for a portion of any class time where privacy is a special concern. If the instructor chooses to record a class, they will decide which classes, if any, are recorded, what portion of each class is recorded, and whether a recording is made available on the course management website. On days when classes are recorded, students will be notified a recording is occurring. Class recordings and course materials may not be reproduced, sold, published or distributed to others, in whole or in part, without the written consent of the instructor.

g. COVID-19 Statement

For the safety of all students, faculty, and staff on campus, it is important for each of us to be mindful of safety measures that have been put in place for our protection. By returning to campus, you have acknowledged your responsibility for protecting the collective health of our community. Your participation in this course on an in-person/hybrid basis is conditional upon your adherence to all safety measures mandated by the state of Michigan and the University, including maintaining physical distancing of six feet from others, and properly wearing a face covering in class. Other applicable safety measures may be described in the [Wolverine Culture of Care](#) and the [University's Face Covering Policy for COVID-19](#). Your ability to participate in this course in-person/hybrid may be impacted by failure to comply with campus safety measures. Individuals seeking to request an accommodation related to the face covering requirement under the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the [Office for Institutional Equity](#). If you are unable or unwilling to adhere to these safety measures while in a face-to-face class setting, you will be required to participate on a remote basis. I also encourage you to review the [Statement of Student Rights and](#)

Responsibilities and the COVID-related Addendum to the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

h. Health-Related Class Absences

Please evaluate your own health status regularly and refrain from attending class and coming to campus if you are ill. You are encouraged to seek appropriate medical attention for treatment. School of Social Work students who miss class due to illness of any kind will be given opportunities to access course materials online or provided with alternative learning opportunities. Please notify me by email about your absence as soon as practical, so that I can make accommodations. Please note that documentation (a doctor's note) for medical excuses is *not* required.

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Additional School and University policies, information and resources are available here: <https://ssw.umich.edu/standard-policies-information-resources>. They include:

- *Safety and emergency preparedness*
- *Mental health and well-being*
- *Teaching evaluations*
- *Proper use of names and pronouns*
- *Accommodations for students with disabilities*
- *Religious/spiritual observances*
- *Military deployment*
- *Writing skills and expectations*
- *Academic integrity and plagiarism*