Review Questions – Midterm Exam

Chapter 1: Drugs and Drug Use Defined

- What are the four principles of psychoactive drugs?
- What are the differences and similarities between the following terms:
  o Drug
  o Psychoactive drug
  o Illicit drug
  o Deviant drug use
  o Drug misuse
  o Drug abuse
  o Drug dependence
- How long have humans been using psychoactive drugs and why?
- What are the trends in psychoactive drug use in the U.S. today?
- What are the correlates of drug use?
  o What are the most important protective factors?
  o What are the most important risk factors?

Chapter 2: Drug Use as a Social Problem

- What three factors made the government change from the laissez-faire attitude of the 1800s to one of control?
- What makes a drug toxic?
- Draw a matrix (table/chart) to explain the differences between acute vs. chronic drug effects, and behavioral vs. physiological drug effects. Give examples of each.
- Explain psychoactive drug dependence using the reinforcement model of substance abuse (relate to the “bio-psycho-social perspective”).
- What impact do psychoactive drugs have on crime (read this section of the text carefully – the answer may not be what you think)?

Chapter 3: Drugs and U.S. Legislation

- What significant federal drug legislation existed prior to the 1900s?
- Using the text and your timeline (online activity 2), describe the build-up (and in one case at least, also the “tear-down”) of U.S. drug legislation from 1906 - 1965.
- Why were these lawmaking efforts deemed necessary?
- What law regarding psychoactive drugs replaced all others in 1970?
- Describe the two criteria that are used to place a drug on the schedules of controlled substances.
- What have been the costs of drug enforcement in the War on Drugs waged in the U.S. since at least 1973?
Chapter 4: The Nervous System

- What is a “neuron” and what parts make it up?
- What is a “glial cell” and what are its functions?
- What are the functions of the somatic nervous system?
- What are the branches of the autonomic nervous system and what are their functions?
- What are the parts and functions of the central nervous system?
- What are the major structures of the brain?
- What is neurotransmission?
- How does “action potential” stimulate neurotransmission?
- What are the chemical “pathways” of the brain? (Hint: SNAGGED)
- What are some examples of drugs that influence specific neurotransmission pathways?
- What is the life-cycle of a chemical neurotransmitter (Hint: USSRBI)
- What is the difference between a drug “agonist” and a drug “antagonist”?

Chapter 5: The Actions of Drugs

- How are drugs named?
- What are the seven main categories of drugs used in the textbook?
- What is the dose-response relationship?
- What are the chief routes of drug administration into the body? Which is fastest/slowest?
- What is the “blood-brain barrier”?
- What are some well-known psychoactive drug interactions?
- How are drugs eliminated from the body?
- What is “tolerance” and why does it develop?

Chapter 8: Drugs for Mental Disorders

- In what document does the American Psychological Association (APA) catalog mental disorders?
- What are the different categories of mental disorders?
- How were mental disorders treated in the past?
- What are the two main types of antipsychotic drugs?
- What is the mechanism of action (neurotransmission) in phenothiazines?
- What is pseudoparkinsonism?
- What are the three main categories of antidepressant drugs?
- What is one risk of taking MAOs?
- How were tricyclics discovered?
- What are SSRIs and how do they help depression?
- What are the mechanisms of action (neurotransmission) of the antidepressants?
- What drug is available for mood disorders, but has risks of toxicity and has not become very widely used in the U.S?
- What are some of the consequences of using drugs alone to treat mental disorders?