Course title	Psychopathology and Psychopharmacology
Course code	PSY13##
Course type	Lecture
Level	Undergraduate
Year / Semester	Year 3
Teacher's name	Markella Grigoriou

ECTS	7.5	Lectures / week	1	Laboratories / week	0

Course purpose and objectives	The purpose of this course is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the complex relationship between psychological disorders (psychopathology) and the use of psychopharmacological interventions. The course aims to explore the theoretical foundations, diagnostic criteria, and treatment approaches for various psychological disorders while also delving into the mechanisms of action, efficacy, and potential side effects of psychotropic medications used in their treatment.
Learning outcomes	The following learning outcomes are expected, where students will: 1. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the major psychological disorders, their diagnostic criteria, and the underlying factors contributing to their development. 2. Explain the fundamental principles of psychopharmacology, including the mechanisms of action of various classes of psychotropic medications. 3. Describe the historical, cultural, and ethical considerations influencing the diagnosis and treatment of psychological disorders. 4. Critically assess the strengths and limitations of different theoretical perspectives in explaining the origins of psychological disorders. 5. Analyze research studies and empirical evidence related to the effectiveness and safety of psychopharmacological interventions. 6. Evaluate the ethical dilemmas and cultural factors that impact the use of psychotropic medications in diverse populations. 7. Apply diagnostic criteria and classification systems (e.g., DSM-5) to accurately identify and differentiate between various psychological disorders. 8. Develop treatment plans that integrate psychopharmacological interventions with psychotherapy approaches, taking into account individual patient characteristics. 9. Formulate strategies for managing potential side effects and risks associated with psychotropic medications.

	10. Communicate complex concepts related to psychopathology and psychopharmacology clearly and effectively to both professional and non-professional audiences. 11. Collaborate with peers in group discussions, case studies, and projects to enhance understanding and problem-solving skills. 12. Demonstrate sensitivity to ethical issues such as informed consent, confidentiality, and the impact of stigmatization on individuals with psychological disorders. 13. Recognize the influence of cultural and societal factors on the expression, diagnosis, and treatment of psychological disorders. 14. Apply critical thinking skills to analyze and interpret research findings in the field of psychopathology and psychopharmacology. 15. Demonstrate proficiency in identifying appropriate treatment approaches for specific psychological disorders, considering evidence-based practices and individual preferences. 16. Develop an awareness of ongoing research trends and advancements in the field of psychopathology and psychopharmacology. 17. Exhibit a commitment to continuous learning by staying informed about developments in the diagnosis and treatment of psychological disorders. 18. Adhere to ethical standards and guidelines when discussing and working with sensitive information related to psychological disorders and treatment options.		
Prerequisites	No	**Required**	No
Course content	The course aims to explore the theoretical foundations, diagnostic criteria, and treatment approaches for various psychological disorders while also delving into the mechanisms of action, efficacy, and potential side effects of psychotropic medications used in their treatment. Week 1: Introduction to Psychopathology and Psychopharmacology Week 2: Diagnostic Classification and Assessment Week 3: Mood Disorders Week 4: Anxiety Disorders Week 5: Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders Week 6: Personality Disorders and Related Issues Week 7: Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders Week 8: Psychopharmacology and Neurobiology Week 9: Treatment Approaches		

	Week 10: Ethical and Cultural Considerations
	Week 11: Treatment Outcomes and Long-Term Strategies
	Week 12: Emerging Trends and Future Directions
	Week 13: Case Studies and Practical Applications
	Week 14: Integration and Conclusion
Teaching methodology	Lecture
Bibliography	Stahl, S. M. (2021). Stahl's Essential Psychopharmacology: Neuroscientific Basis and Practical Applications (5th ed.). Cambridge University Press. American Psychiatric Association. (2022). Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5). American Psychiatric Publishing.
Assessment	1. Midterm & Final Exam (30% & 30%): Mid-term and final exams will be conducted covering the entire course. Both exams will include multiple-choice, short-answer, and essay questions. 2. Group assignment (20%) Group or individual presentations on selected topics from the course syllabus. Students can present on specific disorders, treatment modalities, or the ethical considerations in psychopharmacology.. 3. Individual assignment (10%) Assign case studies related to psychological disorders, requiring students to diagnose and propose treatment plans. 4. Presence and Participation (10%): Students should be present and actively participate in in-class discussions.
Language	Greek