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Drugs And Behavior: An Introduction To Behavioral Pharmacology



Synopsis

Designed for students from diverse backgrounds, this text provides students with a background in the field of behavioural pharmacology and prepares them to analyze drug information from a variety of sources. It not only describes the effects of drugs on behaviour, but also the various ways that behaviour principles facilitate an understanding of both the actions of drugs and the way people use them. Each chapter provides comparable information on many classes of both drugs of abuse and psychotherapeutic drugs, including their neurophysiological mechanism of action, their effects on behaviour, and a discussion of the historical and social context in which the drug is used.

Book Information

Paperback: 385 pages

Publisher: Prentice Hall College Div; 3 edition (July 15, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0133771288

ISBN-13: 978-0133771282

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 7.2 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,334,807 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #104 inÂ Books > Medical Books > Pharmacology > Neuropsychopharmacology #419 inÂ Books > Medical Books > Psychology > Psychopharmacology #471 inÂ Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Psychology & Counseling > Psychopharmacology

Customer Reviews

I am using this book to teach an undergrad course on neurochemistry and behavior. Since we are squeezing a semester into 6 weeks, this book (which is fairly concise at just over 400 pages) was good choice. The first 5 chapters are a solid overview of pharmacology, behavior analysis, and the (very) basics of neuroscience. The remainder of the chapters deal with specific drugs (or classes thereof).However, I don't think I would use it to teach a full-term course. The depth is rather uneven, with some chapters barely skirting the surface of some topics and digressions into experimental minutiae in others. Also, the drug chapters fall into a very predictable pattern (history, pharmacokinetics, effects on unconditioned behavior, effects on conditioned behavior, self-administration, etc., etc.) which, though I can appreciate it from an organizational standpoint, became very tedious to teach (and read) after the first few.

It gets the job done, if you can manage to read it. Considering the day and age of science, this book could be a lot less dry. It sounds like it was written by someone who didn't really care for the topic.

I took a BU course on Drugs and Behaviors, and this was one of two books my professor recommended we get. I found it very helpful. Every time we had a quiz I would read over the material on that chapter in this book. It helped me to fill in the gaps of information I had missed in class and my notes, and also just to help refresh my memory. Sometimes, mainly with the first chapter or two we studied, there was some information I didn't need to know, but once we got into the specific types of drugs- SSRIs, Anti-psychotics, Mood stabilizers- most of the information was helpful. I really recommend this book. It was so helpful to me and I don't know what I would have done without it.

This is one of the better textbooks I have read. It is well written, concise and easy to understand. Concepts were explained well, and verbosity and tangential information were avoided. In addition, the small size and paperback cover made it easy to transport and handle.

This is a great text for information about drugs and behavior. I used it for my psychopharmacology class and found it incredibly helpful.

Thorough with the topics covered; peaked my interest more so in the field as well as kept my attention throughout the book.

As someone interested in pharmacology, I found this to be a GREAT textbook. Very informative and easy to follow.

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