

Guía Docente

Curso 2014-2015

1. SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

Degree:	Biotechnology
Course:	Pharmacology and Toxicology
Department:	Physiology, Anatomy and Cell Biology
Year:	2014-15
Semester:	2 nd semester (spring semester)
ECTS credits:	6
Course:	3 rd
Type:	Optional
Language:	English

Model:	A2	
a. Basic Teaching (BT):		70%
b. Practical teaching (PT):		15%
c. Seminars (SM):		15%



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2. Professors

2.1. Coordinator: J uan Carlos Rodriguez Aguilera

2.2. Teachers	
Name:	J uan Carlos Rodriguez Aguilera
School:	Experimental Sciences
Department:	Physiology, Anatomy and Cell Biology
Area:	Cell Biology
Category:	Senior Lecturer
Office hours:	Mondays 9:30-12:00 and Fridays 9:30:00-13:00
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3. TRAINING PLAN

3.1. Goals

- To understand the basic mechanisms involved in drug toxicity
- To predict drug clearance rates
- To trace drug biotransformation and its secondary metabolites
- To design effective drug dose-dependent curves
- To select most effective drug administration modes

3.2. Contribution to training plan

The possibility of establishing new therapies and treatment modalities diseases depends largely on the possibility of obtaining effective, specific, abundant, low-cost drugs. For a drug to be marketed, it is necessary to conduct multiple experimental studies showing drug effectiveness and possible side-effects or even toxicity.

This course in an introduction to the basic knowledge of pharmacology and toxicology oriented to biomedical and biotechnological fields. Particular attention will be paid to kinetics and dynamics of both drugs and toxics. Concepts of clearance, timing and dosage will be stressed. Detoxification and drug biotransformation, as well as excretion will be showed as real models for drug discovery.

In this way, students will gain knowledge of metrics, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, and also basic skills required in the study of these areas. Students will be able to determine the magnitude of drug effects through development of doseresponse curves.

Finally, drug-drug interactions will be studied, updating classical detoxification metabolic pathways, rate-limiting enzyme activities and basic excretion pathways.

3.3. Recommendations or previous knowledge required

This course is partially supported on knowledge acquired in previous subjects. Particularly, those included in the Biochemistry (enzyme kinetics), Physiology (excretion), and Cell Biology (cell/tissue structure) areas. A brief overview of them prior to course beginning may be recommended.

Basic computer skills (Office suite and Internet browsing) are strongly recommended

At least B1 level of English is required for this course.



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4. COMPETENCES

4.1 Degree competences developed within this subject

- Analysis and synthesis skills
- Information management
- Communication skills: improvement on speech and writing performance

4.2 Course competences to be developed

- > Professional skills
 - Development of pedagogical proceeding for science teaching
 - Improvement of computer information management
 - Scheduling and time management

> Attitudes

- Criticism ability
- Scientific judgement
- Teamwork organization and performance

4.3. Subject-specific competences to be developed

- Specialization in pharmacology: pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics
- Clearance models based on complementary excretion mechanisms in animals
- Toxicity molecular mechanisms: biological targets



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5. CONTENTS (Topics)

BASIC TEACHING

- 1. Drug Discovery. Introduction to pharmacology and toxicology. Farmacognosy: Origin of pharmacologically-active molecules. Critical factors on drug posology.
- 2. Toxicity: phases of intoxication and its evaluation. Toxicology: analytical tools. Therapeutics and drug toxicity.
- 3. Pharmacokinetics: drug distribution within the body, bioavailability. Transportation models.
- 4. Pharmacodynamics: mechanisms of action, drug-target interaction, enzymes and other biomolecules..

PRACTICAL TEACHING

Students will carry out practical activities designed to determine magnitude and effectiveness of pharmacological substances, side-effects and toxicity.

Practical teaching sessions will include:

- Session 1: *In vitro* toxicity tests.
- Session 2: Pharmacokinetics. Clearance: simple vs. complex models.
- Session 3. Detoxification: analysis of secondary metabolites.

SEMINARS

Seminars integrate both basic and practical teaching. Sessions will include activities related to teaching sessions. A short practical project for a clinical trial design will be carried out along sessions.

Seminars sessions will include:

- Clinical trial design and previous calculations
- Problem-solving sessions
- Case-based sessions
- Data analysis and model prediction



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6. METODOLOGY AND RESOURCES

This course accounts for 6 ECTS credits (i.e. 150 hours) distributed as follows:

Activities	In-class (session hours)	Off-class (homework hours)	Evaluation (homework hours)	TOTAL
Basic	28			
Practical	7	90	15	
Seminars	10			
TOTAL	45	90	15	150

a) Basic teaching

Attendance to basic teaching sessions is voluntary. These include a get-together of the main aspects of each part of the contents, paying attention to the most complex concepts. Session dynamics include frequent student interaction and problem-solving proposals. Some of these problems and others not treated in basic teaching sessions may be proposed as homework.

b) Practical teaching

Attendance to practical teaching sessions is compulsory. These include experimental work in the lab sessions, and related non-experimental tasks as homework.

c) Seminars

Attendance to seminars sessions is voluntary although strongly recommended. These include planning, development and execution of a short controlled clinical trial. Activities are carried out by students groups formed early in the spring semester.



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d) Timing

Adequate time management is essential. Thus, this subject is scheduled as described hereafter:

- d1) Basic teaching sessions will take 28 hours (one hour per session, Wed. & Thu. at 1pm, classroom to be determined):
- 1 kick-off session, for subject presentation and rules explanation
- 27 sessions to go through four monthly topics along the academic spring semester.

Week	Wednesday	Thursday	<u>Topic</u>
1	28/01/2015	29/01/2015	Kick-off & Topic#1
2	04/02/2015	05/02/2015	Topic # 1
3	11/02/2015	12/02/2015	Topic # 1
4	18/02/2015	19/02/2015	Topic # 2
5	25/02/2015	26/02/2015	Topic # 2
6	04/03/2015	05/04/2015	Topic # 2
7	11/03/2015	12/03/2015	Topic # 2
8	18/03/2015	19/03/2015	Topic # 3
9	25/03/2015	26/03/2015	Topic # 3
10	08/04/2015	09/04/2015	Topic # 3
11	15/04/2015	16/04/2015	Topic # 3
12	29/04/2015	30/04/2015	Topic # 4
13	06/05/2015	07/05/2015	Topic # 4
14	13/05/2015	14/05/2015	Topic # 4

d2) Practical teaching sessions will take 7 hours. There will be 3 lab sessions (2-3 hours each). Lab sessions will take place on indicated Thursdays at 8:30 am (laboratory 23.B.05).

Week	Lab sessions
#3	12/02/2015
#7	12/03/2015
#12	30/04/2015

d3) Seminars sessions will take 10 hours. There will be 5 sessions (2 hours



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each). Seminars sessions will take place on indicated Thursdays at 9 am (classroom to be determined).

Week	Seminar s	Week	
	Group#1	Group#2	
#1	29/01/2015	05/02/2015	#2
#4	19/02/2015	26/02/2015	#5
#8	19/03/2015	26/03/2015	#9
#10	09/04/2015	16/04/2015	#11
#13	06/05/2015	13/05/2015	#14

e) Off-class activities and office hours

All off-class activities are evaluated. These must be uploaded using the <u>Virtual Campus</u> tool. Announcements, marks, schedules or homework deadlines will also be run through this computer-based learning tool.

Office hours are intended for additional student assistance; this can be either face-to-face or on-line. However, in both cases previous appointment is always required.

- f) Tips for successful course completion.
 - <u>Before</u> each in-class session, please revise the key topic aspects and resources that are available online, search documentation list.
 - <u>During</u> the in-class sessions, all doubts should be clarified addressing your questions. Try to obtain the most from the professor's time dedicated to in-class sessions.
 - <u>After</u> the in-class sessions, perform your topic reports and revise them through a brief study.
 - Keep timing as strict as possible.
 - Teachers can be consulted during the whole semester either by e-mail, by phone or in-person (office hours)
 - Try to understand the biological processes that are covered in all the topics, avoiding memorization of unclear ideas.



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7. EVALUATION

According to University regulations, all written contents in exams, reports and quizzes must be original. Illegal copying of these will be prosecuted and may lead to a fail in the final mark

The total score of this subject is distributed as follows:

a) Basic teaching (60% of global score)
Attendance to the EB sessions is voluntary. This teaching component will be evaluated by written quizzes and two written topic reports.

The basic teaching is distributed according to this **homework**:

- Topic-specific <u>quizzes</u> (30% of global subject score)
- Two randomly-selected topic reports (30% of global subject score)

The <u>quizzes</u> will contain questions falling within one of these categories:

- Short answer
- Long answer
- Calculated answer
- Concept matching
- Combinations
- Fill-in blanks
- Scrambled answers
- Multiple choice
- True/False
- Problem solving.

The topic <u>reports</u> must contain:

- Title and authors
- Table of contents (follow each key topic contents, see online resources)
- Report body
- Summary / conclusions
- Bibliography



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Quizzes and reports homework intends to test the knowledge acquired during the semester, and the ability to solve specific biological problems. In all written tests (reports, exams and quizzes) minimal grammatical and vocabulary competence (B1 level) will be required.

b) Practical & Seminar sessions (40% of global score)

Attendance to the practical sessions is compulsory, unless absence is adequately justified. Evaluation of these in-class sessions will be based on this **homework**:

- Practical sessions <u>quizzes</u> (20% of global score)
- Seminar sessions <u>project</u> (20% of global score)

The quizzes will contain questions falling within one of these categories:

- Short answer
- Long answer
- Calculated answer
- Concept matching
- Combinations
- Fill-in blanks
- Scrambled answers
- Multiple choice
- True/False
- Problem solving

According to University regulations, those students failing the final mark will have <u>a resit exam</u> in July with full score opportunities. The resit exam accounts for 100% of the final score. The exam will contain questions falling into one of these categories:

- Short answer
- Problem solving



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8. RECOMMENDED LITERATURE

Title	Authors	Editorial	Year
Casarett and Doull's toxicology: the basic science of poisons	Curtis D. Klaassen	McGraw-Hill	2008 (7 th Ed.) 2001(6 th Ed.)
Pharmacology: principles and practice.	Miles Hacker, William Messer, Kenneth Bachmann	Elsevier- Academic Press	2009
Basic pharmacology: understanding drug actions and reactions	Maria A. Hernández, Appu. Rathinavelu	CRC, Taylor & Francis	2006
Applied pharmacokinetics & pharmacodynamics: principles of therapeutic drug monitoring	Michael E. Burton [et al.]	Lippincott Williams & Wilkins	2006