**Doctoral Training in Clinical Psychopharmacology**

# COURSE OUTLINE

RXPP 601 Introduction to Psychopharmacology for Psychologists I

*(****Program Overview,******Integrating Psychotherapy and Pharmacotherapy, Introduction to Case History Construction Uniquely for Prescribing Psychologists, and Introduction to Gross Anatomy)***

**Topic: Pathway Ahead for Becoming a Prescribing Psychologist**

**Credit Hours**: 3.0

**Location:**  **NMSU; 2915 McFie Circle, Las Cruces, NM**

**Milton Hall, Room 085**

**Class Meeting Dates**: August 19-20, 2017 Weekend #1 8:00am-5:00pm

Class #1

**Instructor(s)**: Elaine LeVine, Ph.D., ABMP

Patrick Quinn, Ph.D., IMAS.

Marlin Hoover, Ph.D., M.S.C.P., ABPP-Clinical

Paul Feil, MD.

**Readings:**

* Muse and Moore (2012) Chapter 1 & 2
* McGrath and Moore (2010) Chapter 6
* Shier (2015) We will be introducing gross human anatomy and physiology based on this text but a detailed study of all of this material is not required at this time. However, skimming the highlights of Chapters 1, 5, 15, 17 and 19 would be beneficial as they are the most important systems for psychopharmacology.

**Course Description**: RXPP 601-Class #1 will provide an overview of the 25-month clinical psychopharmacology program at NMSU. The training director will provide information related to the program expectations, requirements and resources. The program curriculum will be highlighted, and their contents reviewed. Finally, the training director will review the New Mexico Law for Prescriptive Authority. Dr. Hoover will provide an introduction to the necessary competencies required of a prescribing psychologist as defined by the APA PEP examination. In addition, he will detail the skill set necessary for a successful and competent prescribing psychologist in New Mexico. Dr. Elaine LeVine will discuss the psychobiosocial model of care. Finally, Dr. Paul Feil will provide an introduction to gross anatomy and the relevance of overall health of a patient to an RxP psychologist in a primary and/or specialty care medical setting. By the end of the course, psychologists will have completed a detailed review of the clinical psychopharmacology program at NMSU. In addition, they will have received a detailed review of the competencies examined through the APA-PEP Examination as well as learned about the skill set required of a practicing prescribing psychologist in a primary care setting in the State of New Mexico. Finally, psychologists will have received a six-hour introduction to human anatomy and physiology emphasizing the importance and relevance of adding formal medical training to the practice of clinical psychology in order to enhance our skill set in order to competently and safely prescribe or un-prescribe psychotropic medication.

This is the first of many classes and courses included in the 25-month program that will highlight systems, organs and tissues of the body and emphasize anatomical features and physiological processes that must be well understood by a properly trained psychologist licensed to prescribe of psychotropic medication. The lecture series focuses on basic medical terminology and homeostatic mechanisms. In addition, prescribing psychologists will present complex cases with both psychological and physical manifestations to introduce the student to the broad knowledge base required of a prescribing psychologist. ***This course is congruent with the College of Education's Conceptual Framework in that it provides a general knowledge background, addresses assessment competencies, and integrates content knowledge and professional knowledge.***

**Objectives:** Students will:

1. Be able to describe the four major units of study that are a part of this program.
2. Be able to list five underlying medical conditions that must be considered in the use of psychotropic medications.
3. Increase your knowledge of medical terminology and positions by at least 10 terms.
4. Describe basic morphology on the cellular level.
5. Describe the nature of homeostatic mechanisms within organ systems and give three examples.

**Evaluation**: There will be a test (multiple choice, short answer or true/false) which will be given at the end of each weekend. Students’ experiential case studies will be graded on pass/fail with the expectation for a demonstration of a high-level competence of the biopsychosocial model of care.

***Grading Assignments Points Possible***

***Test (30 questions @ 2 pts each) 60 pts.***

***Case Analysis 30 pts.***

***Participation/Attendance (live or via AdobeConnect) 10 pts.***

***Course grades-***

***90-100 pts total = “A”***

***80-89 pts total = “B”***

***70-79 pts total = “C”***

***Students with Disabilities: If you have or believe you have a disability, you may wish to self-identify. You can do so by providing documentation to the Office for Services for Students with Disabilities, located at Garcia Annex (telephone: 646-6840). Appropriate accommodations may then be provided for you. If you have a condition which may affect your ability to exit from the premises in an emergency or which may cause an emergency during class, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of Disabled Student Programs. If you have questions about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), call 646-3635.***