



**שם ומספר הקורס:**  
**Synaptic Neurochemistry**  
**הנוירוכימיה של סינפסות**  
**פרופ' אד שטרן**  
**27-595-01**

סוג הקורס: (שיעור)

היקף שעות: 3 שעות סמיסטריאליות

**א. מטרת הקורס (מטרות על / מטרות ספציפיות):**

The purpose of the course is to familiarize the students with the neurochemistry of the neurotransmitter systems of the Central Nervous System. The course will cover basic concepts of synaptic transmission, neurotransmitter biochemistry and receptor pharmacology.

In addition, a further purpose of the course to provide the students with experience in presenting a research paper for an audience in English. As such, this presentation will determine the grade.

**ב. תוכן הקורס: (רציונל, נושאים)**

This course will familiarize the students with the basic neurotransmitter systems in the mammalian brain. The emphasis is on the biochemistry, anatomy, physiology, and pharmacology, and functions of the systems.

**מהלך השיעורים: (שיטות ההוראה, שימוש בטכנולוגיה, מרצים אורחים)**

The course will consist of 10-12 frontal lectures. As the students come from a variety of backgrounds, they will be expected to supplement the course as needed by reading the appropriate chapters from the book: **The Biochemical Basis of Neuropharmacology**, 8<sup>th</sup> edition, by Cooper, Bloom, and Roth. Other readings and supplements will be given as needed.

**תכנית הוראה מפורטת לכל השיעורים: (רשימה או טבלה כדוגמת המצ"ב)**

As the students' background is variable, the lecture list is approximate.



הערות	נושא השיעור	מס' השיעור
History of the study of synaptic transmission and neurochemistry, basic concepts of neurochemistry ad pharmacology	Basic review of synaptic transmission	1
Overview of the methodologies used to study neurotransmitter systems	Research methods in neurochemistry	2
Different types of neurotransmitters, how neurotransmitters are categorized: Neuromodulators vs. excitatory and inhibitory neurotransmission.	Chemical neurotransmission: history of concepts, categories of neurotransmitters	3
Synthesis and removal of Ach. Receptor types: agonists and antagonists. Central cholinergic systems.	Neuromodulators I: The "first" neurotransmitter: Acetylcholine	4
Synthesis of catecholamines. DA receptor types: agonists and antagonists. Central dopaminergic systems systems.	Neuromodulators II: Dopamine	5
NE receptor types: agonists and antagonists. Removal of catecholamines and indolamines.	Neuromodulators III: Norepinephrine	6
Synthesis of 5-HT. 5-HT receptor types: agonists and antagonists	Neuromodulators IV: Serotonin	7
Summary of the different CNS neuromodulatory systems with emphasis on behavioral neuroanatomy.	Neuromodulatory systems	8
Discovery of AA neurotransmitter systems, Glycine, GABA, Glutamate, Aspartate	Amino Acid Neurotransmission I: General	9
Synthesis and removal of Glutamate. Types of glutamatergic receptors: agonists, antagonists	Glutamatergic neurotransmission	10
Synthesis and removal of GABA. Types of GABAergic receptors: agonists, antagonists	GABAergic neurotransmission	11
Examples of interactions among neurotransmitter systems in behavior	Interactions among neurotransmitters	12
	Summary	13

## **ג. חובות הקורס:**

### **דרישות קדם:**

### **חובות / דרישות / מטלות:**

The students will be expected to attend the lectures. This will be a factor in the grade, as there is no exam.

### **מרכיבי הציון הסופי (ציון מספרי / ציון עובר):**

The principal determinant of the grade will be a presentation given by the student in English. The presentation will be on a research paper or papers, chosen by the student with the prior approval of the instructor. Topics will be specific to the subject of the course, as determined by the instructor. During the course of the semester, the students will be required to submit the topic ahead of time, and strongly encouraged to discuss the project with the instructor. The student's presentations will be in the final 1/3 of the classes

## **ד. ביבליוגרפיה: (רשות)**

Cooper, Bloom, and Roth: The Biochemical Basis of Neuropharmacology, (Eighth edition), Oxford University Press

### **ספרי הלימוד (textbooks) וספרי עזר נוספים:**

### **חומר מחייב למבחנים:**