

Subject card

Subject name and code	Biological basis of addiction - lecture, PG_00132768						
Field of study	Criminology						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2025		Academic year of realisation of subject		2025/2026		
Education level	Master's studies		Subject group		Optional subject group		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	1		Language of instruction		Polish		
Semester of study	2		ECTS credits		1.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		credit		
Conducting unit	Laboratory of Neurobiology -> Department of Animal and Human Physiology -> Faculty of Biology -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr Wojciech Glac				
	Teachers		dr Wojciech Glac				
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
	eNauczanie source addresses: Moodle ID: 13522 Biologiczne podłoże uzależnień / Podstawy fizjologii stresu (2026) https://mdl.ug.edu.pl/course/view.php?id=13522						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	20		0.0		5.0	25
Subject objectives	understanding the mechanisms leading to pharmacological and behavioral addiction and the basis of individual differences in susceptibility to addiction; learning the properties, mechanisms of action and effects of the most popular addictive substances; ability to recognize addiction and symptoms of taking addictive substances, and the effects of addiction and psychoactive drugs on antisocial behavior.						
Learning outcomes	Course outcome		Subject outcome		Method of verification		
	[KRYMMU2_WG05] Has an in-depth knowledge of methods and tools, including data and information extraction techniques, specific to criminology and forensic science		Demonstrates knowledge of tools and techniques for acquiring knowledge and analyzing data related to the impact of addiction and psychoactive substances on human behavior, including in the context of criminology.		[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW5] implementation of a problem task		
	[KRYMMU2_WG01] Has an in-depth knowledge of the nature of legal and related penal sciences, their place in the system of sciences and their interrelationships		Demonstrates advanced knowledge of addiction and its biological basis, as well as the effects of psychoactive substances on the human body, as part of a broader understanding of human nature and the biological foundations of behavior, including antisocial behavior.		[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW5] implementation of a problem task		
	[KRYMMU2_KK01] Is aware of the level of his knowledge and skills, and understands the need for lifelong learning		Is able to assess their own knowledge of the biological basis of addiction based on feedback and to identify directions for further development.		[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK5] implementation of a problem task		

Subject contents	- the definitions of addiction; - psychological and physical addictions; - behavioral and pharmacological addictions; - neurobiological mechanism of addiction; - theories on the development of addiction; - mechanisms of action and effects of the main pharmacological groups of addictive drugs - stimulants, depressants and psychedelics - including: amphetamine, cocaine, caffeine, nicotine, alcohol, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, opioids, LSD, psilocybin, MDMA, ketamine, phencyclidine, cannabinoids and others; - individual differences in susceptibility to addiction and the effects of taking addictive substances; - effects of addiction and psychoactive drugs on antisocial behavior; - treatment of addiction		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	quizzes	51.0%	30.0%
	problem-based tasks / case studies	51.0%	50.0%
	discussions	51.0%	20.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	- Bijak i Lasoń (red.), Neuropsychofarmakologia: dziś i jutro, Instytut Farmakologii Klinicznej PAN, Wydawnictwo Państwowe, Kraków, 2000 - Szukalski, Narkotyki kompendium wiedzy o środkach uzależniających, Instytut Psychiatrii i Neurologii, Warszawa, 2005	
	Supplementary literature	- Longstaff, Neurobiologia, PWN, Warszawa, 2002 - articles in specialist scientific journals (provided by teacher)	
	eResources addresses		
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	- test - indicate substances that are physically addictive (indicate all correct answers) - problem-based task - create a synthetic theory of addiction based on various theories - case study - based on the described story, indicate and justify what substances the described has taken, and why criminal behavior occurred - discussion - topic: therapeutic potential of psychedelics		
Work placement	Not applicable		

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