UAB
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Psychoendocrinology

2026/2027

Code: 102586
Credits: 6

Degree programme	Type	Course
Psychology	OP	4

Contact lecturer

Name : Ferran Balada Nicolau

Email : ferran.balada@uab.cat

Group languages

You can consult this information at the end of the document.

Prerequisites

There are no specific prerequisites, although it is advisable to have completed the basic subjects in the area of psychobiology.

Objectives

The subject of psychoendocrinology forms part of psychobiology. This optional 6-credit course is usually taken in the fourth year. It is part of the specialized areas of "Child and Adolescence Clinical Psychology" and of "Adult Clinical Psychology". The aim of this subject is to offer knowledge of the neuroendocrine bases of normal behaviour and psychopathology, as well as psychological disorders associated with endocrine disorders. Endocrine diagnostic methods (dynamic endocrine tests,..) will also be analysed.

Learning outcomes

1. Describe the different types of hormone and the mechanisms for action.
2. Describe the anatomy and physiology of the main endocrine glands.
3. Identify and describe the hormonal bases in normal and abnormal behaviour.
4. Describe hormonal changes throughout the life cycle.
5. Analyse, synthesize and summarise information from scientific and professional texts.
6. Handle scientific documentation systems.
7. Plan a literature search or references, both computerized databases and libraries and newspaper archives.
8. Analyse scientific texts written in English.
9. Use different ICTs for different purposes.

Contents

BASIC ASPECTS IN PSYCHOENDOCRINOLOGY

Unit 1. - Molecular and anatomical bases in psychoendocrinology.

Unit 2. - Homeostasis and psychoendocrinology.

Unit 3. - Hormones and human life cycles.

CLINICAL ASPECTS IN PSYCHOENDOCRINOLOGY

Unit 4. - Behavioral disorders in endocrinopathies.

Unit 5. - Endocrine alterations in neuro-psychiatric disorders.

Learning activities and methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Readings of scientific articles and manuals	40.5	1.62	3, 5, 8
Theoretical classes	24	0.96	1, 2, 3, 4
Study	50	2	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Tutorials	1.5	0.06	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Wikis	20	0.8	5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Seminars	12	0.48	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9

The methodology is the following:

Lectures.

Case study: Seminars about endocrinological cases.

Autonomous work: Students must prepare two entries, one individually and the other in a group, on aspects related to psychoendocrinology. These works will be done through a wiki application.

Other activities through the virtual campus that include the elaboration of a glossary or the participation in forums.

Classes are taught in Catalan

Use of AI:

In this subject, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies is permitted as an integral part of the work, provided that the final result reflects a significant contribution from the student in the analysis and personal reflection. The student must clearly identify which parts have been generated with this technology, specify the tools used, and include a critical reflection on how these have influenced the process and the final outcome of the activity. A lack of transparency regarding the use of AI will be considered academic dishonesty and may result in a penalty to the activity's mark, or more severe sanctions in more serious cases.

Annotation: within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous assessment activities

Title	Weight	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Ev4 - Group Wiki	10%	0	0	5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Ev5 - Participation in classroom activities	10%	0	0	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Ev1 - Online written examination - Part One	20%	0	0	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8
Ev4 - Final written examination	40%	2	0.08	1, 2, 3, 4
Ev2 - Online written examination - Part Two	20%	0	0	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8

This subject does not consider single assessment.

The assessment of the course consists of six evidences of learning. Competences for this subject will be assessed by means of written questionnaires and exams, individual and group tasks, presentations and/or discussions of texts in class. The translation of the on-site evaluation exams will be provided if the criteria outlined in Article 263 are fulfilled and the application is submitted via the e-form online in week 4 (further details are available on the faculty website).

Each of these three sections will be assigned a specific weight in the final grade:

- 2 online written examinations (Ev1 and Ev2) in which the students individually answer to a series of questions, raised with clinical cases, on the different topics of the program (weight 20% each examination). The first one will be taken around the first assessment period (week 9), while the second one will be taken during week 14-15. Both written tests will have a specific questionnaire section on the clinical cases presented. The feedback of these evaluative activities will be made in writing, indicating the correction criteria, within a maximum period of three weeks after the activity has been carried out.
- One individual written examination (Ev4) on basic concepts of the subject (weight 40%). Second assessment period. The delivery of the translation of the face-to-face evaluation tests will be made if the requirements established in article 263 are met and the request is made telematically (E-FORM) in week 4 (more information on the Faculty's website). The feedback of this evaluative activity will be made in writing, indicating the correction criteria, on the course website within five days after the activity has been carried out.
- One group (Ev3) task with the support of wiki systems (weight 10%). The group task is to make a wiki page about some aspect of cell biology involved in psychoendocrinology. The specific topics will be indicated during the course. They will be delivered on week 13-14. In this activity, a non-evaluative peer review will be carried out in the last two weeks of November through the activation of a specific task in moodle. The final assessment will be carried out at the expense of the teaching staff and the feedback will be in January, before the assessment week.
- Participation in activities (Ev5), both in classroom and online (weight 10%). The overall assessment, with the corresponding feedback, will be done in writing, in January, before the week of evaluations.

In accordance with Art. 116, point 10, of the UAB Regulations, should the student carry out any irregularity (copy, plagiarism, ...) that may lead to a significant variation of the qualification of an evidence; this assessment will be graded with "zero". In case there are several irregularities in the evaluation of the same subject, the final grade will be "zero". For any doubt, on the website https://www.uab.cat/web/estudiar/graus/graus/avaluacions-1345722525858.html you can consult the Guidelines for the evaluation of the UAB psychology degree.

Final grade

In accordance with the Faculty's assessment guidelines, the definition of a passed module in continuous assessment, which on a 0-10 scale, must include having obtained a minimum score of 5.0 points and a mark of at least 4.0 points in each of the in-person assessment tests that contribute 20% or more to the mark for this continuous assessment. Should these requirements, not be met, the maximum mark to be recorded on the academic transcript will be 4.5 points.

Resit

In the case that the subject is not passed (grade equal or higher than 5), the student will be able to take a resit test in the recuperation period to improve the learning evidence note corresponding to the written tests. As long as they meet the following two criteria.:

a) Obtained a final grade equal to or greater than 3 points (between 3 and 4.8 points), and

b) The weight of the evidence presented equals to a minimum of 66% of the total qualification of the subject.

The final grade for the subject obtained by the student in case of passing the resit will be five (5).

"Non-assessable" grade

A mark of N/A (Non-Assessable) will be awarded if a student fails to hand in equal or more than 40% of the assessed work used to calculate the final grade.

No unique final synthesis test for students who enroll for the second time or more is anticipated.

Bibliography

Main Bibliography

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Software

Installing the Safe Exam Browser for Moodle quizzes

Course groups and languages

The information provided is provisional until November 30. After this date, you will be able to consult the language of each group through this link. To access the information, you will need to enter the course CODE

Type of teaching	Group	Language	Semester	Shift
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	111	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	112	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	113	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	114	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	115	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed