

Addiction Homeworks

HW #1

Read “Addiction Handouts” on my webpage and complete the following. Feel free to have these be very short answer:

1. Define both the “go” and the “stop” systems of the brain.
2. How are these systems disrupted by the use of drugs?
3. How do “triggers” affect the function of these systems?
4. Define the disease model of addiction, and explain how this approach is different from the way people usually think about addiction.
5. In one sentence each, explain the following:
 - a. Reduced dopamine activity
 - b. Altered brain regions that control decision-making and judgment

HW #2

Read pgs. 165-170 and complete the following:

1. Describe the construction of Rat Park. What did it look like and provide for the rats?
2. Explain exactly how the original “Seduction” experiment was performed.
3. Clarify and analyze the results of the study. Why did the groups in one condition drink the morphine so much more than the other group?
4. Explain the second study that Alexander did and why he did it. What were the results of this study?

HW #3

Do you agree more with the Disease Model of Addiction? Or Alexander’s explanation for addiction? Take a stand and defend it in either a paragraph (5-6 sentences minimum) or a list of arguments in bullet point form – provide at least 5-6 bullet points. It is ok to agree with both, but at the same time, also try to figure out which one you agree with more, even if it is only a little bit more.