Topics for Graduate Students on Becoming a Tobacco Researcher

Background Knowledge
- Behavioral analysis, Walden Two, Beyond Freedom & Dignity
- Behavioral pharmacology
- Pharmacology of nicotine
- Defining dependence
  - Classical conditioning theories
- Epidemiology
  - Etiology, diagnosis, and treatment of non-nicotine drug disorders
- CNS pharmacology
- Over- vs. underreliance on statistics
  - Determining causality/theory building via science
- Statistics, methods
- Nosology
- Health behavior theories
- Expectancies

Content of Nicotine/Tobacco Knowledge
- Genetics of smoking, prenatal exposure
- The nicotine receptor
  - Economics of tobacco use
- Tobacco use internationally
  - Epidemiology of smoking cessation and relapse
- Harm reduction
- Psychiatric comorbidity
- Regulation of tobacco
- Nicotine CNS pharmacology
  - Epidemiology of onset, use and cessation of tobacco use
- Non-cigarette tobacco use
- Smoking and other drug use
- Smoking in women
  - Smoking in minorities & elderly
  - The titration hypothesis
- Measurement of smoking, abstinence, and dependence
- Stages of change
- Craving
- Performance effects of nicotine
- Beneficial effects of nicotine
- Passive smoking
- Nonnicotinoid factors in addiction
- Prevention in adolescents

Cigarette composition

Content of Marijuana Knowledge
- Neuroscience
- Epidemiology
- Withdrawal
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D Treatment
D Adverse effects
D Methods & protocols

Methods for Being a Good Scientist
D Research design
D How to do clinical trials with the industry
D Ethics of placebo controls
D How to graph and table data
D Writing scientific manuscripts
D NIH and industry grantsmanship
D Presentation tips
D Making a poster
D Dealing with the media
  o Getting a post-doc vs. academic position vs. industry jobs
D Interviewing for positions
D Keeping up with the literature
D What to get out of meetings
  o Contingencies of academia: promotion, etc.
D How NIH is organized
D Picking areas to research
  o Giving drugs to humans
  o Being an expert witness
  o How to write a review article
  o Protocol tips
D Article/grant review