

Psychology of Drug Use and Abuse 3240
Weber State University
Online Fall 2019

Professor: Peggy Smith, Ph.D.
Office Hours: By appointment only
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Required Text: Levinthal, C.F. *Drugs, Behavior, and Modern Society, Updated 8th ed.*
Pearson Education, 2016.

I. Course Objectives

- A.** To provide students with an understanding of the history of drugs and how drugs relate to and effect behavior, society, and culture today.
- B.** To familiarize students with the many illegal and legal drugs in our society today and understand their biological and psychological effects on the mind and body.
- C.** To provide an integrative view of research in the area of drug use and abuse and the relationship to behavior and physiological processes.
- D.** To discuss intervention and prevention strategies for drug use and abuse.
- E.** To provide a research based knowledge of the process of addiction and the psychological processes accompanying the abuse of illicit and licit drugs.

II. Course Requirements

- A. Modules:** Each week there will be one module to complete which may include quizzes, assignments, video discussions, and essays.
- B. Exams:** Each exam will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions; the exams will not be comprehensive, however they will consist of material from the text as well as videos, discussions, power points, and assignments. Exams will be taken on Canvas and will be timed with open book and open note. Exams will be worth 60% of the student's grade.
- C. Powerpoint Presentation/Drug Paper:** Each student will be required to research a drug and its effects. Topics need to be turned in for 5 points the second week of class. References will be due in the middle of the semester for 5 points. Papers and power point presentation will be due at the end of the semester. The power points must include all of the requirements to receive full credit. The paper covering the specifics of the drug will also be due at the time of the power point. The paper must be 3-7 pages with references. Specific requirements are available in assignments. The paper and presentation will be worth 15% of the student's grade.
- D. Online Activities and Assignments:** There will be weekly activities and assignments to help with your understanding of the topics. Assignments will be worth 25% of the student's grade.
- E. Extra Credit:** There will be several opportunities for extra credit included throughout the semester. Extra credit points will be applied to the exams.

III. Course Schedule

Week	Assignments/Exams/Activities/ Extra Credit	CHAPTER / READINGS
Week 1	Complete Module 1	Introduction/Syllabus Review – Read Ch. 1 – Overview
Week 2	Complete Module 2	Read Ch. 2- History
Week 3	Complete Module 3	Read Ch. 3- Brain Behavior/ Relationships to behavior Paper Topics Due
Week 4	Complete Module 4	Read Ch. 4 – Stimulants
Week 5	Exam #1	Chapters 1-4 Available 9/21
Week 6	Complete Module 5	Read Ch. 5 – Narcotics
Week 7	Complete Module 6	Read Ch. 6 – Hallucinogens Paper References Due
Week 8	Complete Module 7	Read Ch. 7 – Marijuana
Week 9	Complete Module 8	Read Ch. 8 – Alcohol and Ch. 9 Alcohol
Week 10	Exam #2	Chapters 5-9 Available 10/26
Week 11	Complete Module 9	Read Ch. 10 – Nicotine and Ch. 11 - Caffeine
Week 12	Complete Module 10	Read Ch. 13 – Anti-anxiety and Inhalants
Week 13	Complete Module 11	Read Ch. 14 - Antipsychotics
Week 14	Complete Module 12	Read Ch. 16 – Prevention
Week 15	Complete Module 13	Read Ch. 17 – Treatment and Intervention Paper/Presentations Due
Week 16	Exam #3	Chapters 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, & 17 Available 11/16

IV. Grading Scale

A = 93-100%
 A- = 90-92%
 B+ = 86-89%
 B = 83-85%
 B- = 80-82%

C+ = 76-79%
 C = 73-75%
 C- = 70-72%
 D+ = 66-69%
 D = 63-65%
 E = >63%

V. Cheating

All students are expected to abide by Weber State University's cheating policies, codes, definitions, and sanctions. Please refer to the following website for a complete listing of infringements that constitute cheating: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

Students are also expected to refrain from any type of plagiarism, intentional or unintentional. Please see the website to review what constitutes plagiarism. Any cheating or plagiarism will result in a **failing grade** in this course.

VI. Student Services

Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in room 181 of the Student Services Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials in alternate formats if necessary. Please contact the professor to make any needed arrangements.

VII. Students' Rights and Responsibilities

If you have a question or concern about this class, exams, homework, or syllabus in general, please contact me. If you would like to appeal any graded work please provide a written response as to why you feel the grade is not appropriate.

It is your responsibility to know the information covered, as tests are a combination of online material and the textbook. It is your responsibility to regularly check the syllabus and be aware of any changes or updates to the course. This syllabus constitutes a general guideline of the course. Changes may be made to the readings and exam schedule. It is your responsibility to be aware of these possible changes.

Please refer to the following web site for a complete listing of all WSU student rights and responsibilities: <http://documents.weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm>

VIII. Core Beliefs

According to PPM 6-22 IV, students are to “[d]etermine, before the last day to drop courses without penalty, when course requirements conflict with a student's core beliefs. If there is such a conflict, the student should consider dropping the class. A student who finds this solution impracticable may request a resolution from the instructor. This policy does not oblige the instructor to grant the request, except in those cases when a denial would be arbitrary and capricious or illegal. This request must be made to the instructor in writing and the student must deliver a copy of the request to the office of the department head. The student's request must articulate the burden the requirement would place on the student's beliefs.”