



**School of Arts & Science
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT
John S. Conklin
PSYC 245-01
Drugs and Behaviour
Winter 2008**

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Description

This course is an overview of the medical and non-medical use of drugs with cultural influences; a review of the scientific literature on drugs, behaviour, and the CNS; pharmacology, neuropharmacology; a survey of research methods used in psychopharmacology and the biochemical and neurophysiological bases of psychoactive drug action. (T) **Prerequisite(s):** PSYC 110. (A first year chemistry **or** biology course is highly recommended.)

Ω *Please note: this outline will be electronically stored for five (5) years only. It is strongly recommended students keep this outline for your records.*

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	John S. Conklin
(b)	Office Hours:	See Website below
(c)	Location:	Fisher 350 C
(d)	Phone:	250 370 3196
(e)	Email:	Conklin@camosun.bc.ca
(f)	Website:	http://conklin.disted.camosun.bc.ca/

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to this section, unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through EDCO for approval.)

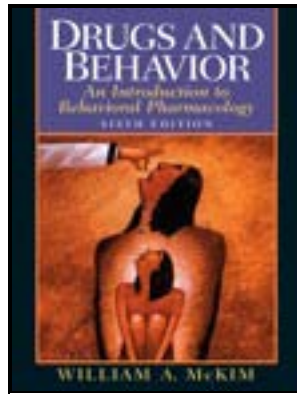
Upon completion of this course the student will be able to describe, explain and evaluate:

1. The historical uses of psychoactive drugs worldwide and the history of drug laws from an international perspective.
2. Current Canadian, European and American drug laws.
3. The research base of the current debate on drug use, with a focus on the LeDane Commission, and current Senate and House illegal drug uses committee findings.
4. Various models of the cause of drug use and addiction with particular reference to the Reward System model of drug addiction.
5. The basic principles of pharmacology and neuropharmacology with regard to psychoactive substances.

6. The basic biochemical processes in the effects of psychoactive chemicals on the neuron and CNS systems.
7. The basic mechanisms of neuronal functioning that are affected by the introduction of psychoactive substances into the CNS.
8. Psychological effects of various drugs.
9. The basic principles of ethnopharmacology.
10. The mode of action, etiological models, side effects and patterns of use with regard to the major drugs used to treat mood disorders, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, and selected other mental disorders.
11. The basic mechanisms of action, short and long term effects of alcohol, caffeine, marijuana, hallucinatory drugs, nicotine, and other selected drugs.
12. The basic methods of drug abuse treatment in use today.
13. The basic methods of drug education used in various parts of the world.

3. Required Materials

Text: McKim, W. (2007). Drugs and Behavior: An Introduction to Behavioral Pharmacology, 6th Edition, Prentice Hall.



4. Course Content and Schedule

Two hours lecture, one hour seminar

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Assignments	
Weekly Labs and Practice Tests	20%
Article Review	10%
Three Exams (15% each)	45%
Research Paper	25%

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage*	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

* Please note that there is a gap between 89% and 90%, for example. This is true for each grade. I will round using the pattern, for example, 89.44 will be rounded to 89; 89.45 will be rounded to 90

Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy E-1.5 at camosun.ca for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete:</i> A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress:</i> A temporary grade assigned for courses that, due to design may require a further enrollment in the same course. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course. (For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3 rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal:</i> A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.

STUDENT CONDUCT POLICY

There is a Student Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, at Student Services and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

10. ASSIGNMENTS

In general all work and assignments must be handed in on the due date. If an emergency or serious problem comes up prior to the exam or due date you may apply for an extension. This must be done in person before, preferably well before, the date in question. I would prefer to receive work via D2L email as an attachment. If you are using MS Word just send your .doc file. If you are using Works, or WordPerfect or an Apple word processor save your file as a "Rich Text Format" file (.rtf) and send that as an attachment. Work occasionally goes missing at an institution so you are responsible for keeping a copy of all work handed in. One advantage of e-mailed assignments is that I have a permanent record of the file, when it was sent, etc. and I will have a copy of the marked paper that I return to you via email. All work must be handed to me in person or e-mailed. All written work must be in APA format.

11. WEEKLY LABORATORY ASSIGNMENTS

Each week there will be a laboratory assignment and a practice test. Each practice test is worth 1 of one percent which you will receive if you get 50% or better on the test. The weekly lab assignments are found in the assignments section of the course. Lab work will be done both outside of class and in lab time in a computer lab. Sometimes we will do the whole lab in the the lab hour, sometimes you will gather data outside of class and we will analyze the data and discuss the experiment or demonstration in the lab time.

12. EXAMS

There will be three exams during this course. The first, about half way through, will cover the material to that point. It will include multiple choice questions, diagrams, short answer and essay questions. A study guide in the form of "**goals**" is attached to each chapter study guide in D2L. All exams will be taken on computer in the Ewing computer labs. What a joy it is to have the computer mark the m/c questions and to mark keyboarded essays rather than 100 versions of handwriting! If you really can't use a keyboard let me know and we'll make arrangements for you

to use the computer for the objective part of the test and then hand write the essays.

Material for the exams will be drawn from the "**Goals**" which are attached to each chapter's lecture notes.

13. ARTICLE REVIEW

The basis of most research in psychology is in knowing the nature of what has come before. Most research is designed to test a theory (explanatory model) by devising an experiment or set of observations that would develop in a particular direction if the theory is correct. But a theory is never created wholly out of the present, it is based on the past, on previous thinking and experimentation. Most research reports begin with a review of previous literature. This assignment involves obtaining some previous literature, from a psychological journal, and summarizing it briefly. This involves reading something about a topic from primary sources. Search for primary sources in an index, usually "Psychological Abstracts", called PsycInfo in the library on-line research system. EbscoHost is also there and is a good source of full text on-line primary source journal articles. Obtain a copy of the article, read it, and summarize it. For our purposes you need only summarize the theory or explanatory model being investigated and what their results say about that theory or model. If you obtained your article from the Internet your bibliography will contain the URL (Internet address) will appear in your reference section and I will be able to click on in it and read the article.

This assignment should be about 250 words. Note: Make sure that your article has to do with the topic of this course: Biopsychology There is a model of a good review in the D2L table of contents.

Please read the Article Review Guidelines !

15. RESEARCH (REVIEW) PAPER

A review paper is one that gathers the most recent relevant information about a topic, organizes it and presents a summary of findings from several recent sources. A typical topic would be the current state of theories or models of the cause of schizophrenia. A writer would find several "primary source" articles, organize their content and present a summary that basically answers the question: "what is the current state of the field with regard to models of the etiology of schizophrenia?" There may be several competing theories in which case the paper would be organized along the lines of a compare and contrast paper that draws conclusions. This paper should be a minimum of five pages or about 1250 (5 x 250) words exclusive of the title page, and reference list. It should include "several," sources, around 10 sources is about average, almost all **primary** sources. Don't get hung up on the number of sources; you need sufficient empirical data to support your points. Textbooks, encyclopaedias, and the like are not appropriate sources for research papers and would be used only in rare circumstances. The reference list should contain only sources actually used for the paper, no filler please. See the research paper guidelines in the D2L table of contents.

Please read the Research Paper Guidelines!

16. Flexibility:

The above is well organized and sensible, but it may not suite your learning style. If you would like to make some modifications in the way you take the course please come and discuss it with your instructor. For example, some people just hate multiple choice tests so we could arrange tests for you that are all essay, or we could arrange a course that it all papers, no tests at all. The only thing we would not feel comfortable arranging is an evaluation scheme that was all multiple choice tests, no writing, no integration of knowledge. This must be arranged and agreed to by both of us before the end of the second week of classes.

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