



School of Arts & Science
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT
PSYC 245
Drugs and Behaviour
Quarter or Semester/Year

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/psyc.html>

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only.
It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records.
You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Michael Pollock		
(b)	Office Hours:	Mondays 2:30pm to 3:20pm Tuesdays 1:30pm to 2:20pm Wednesdays 1:00pm to 1:50pm Thursdays & Fridays 11:30am-12:20pm, or by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Fisher 308B		
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3111	Alternative Phone:	
(e)	Email:	pollockm@camosun.bc.ca		
(f)	Website:	D2L		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

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.A. & Hancock, S.D. (2013). *Drugs and Behavior: An Introduction to Behavioral Pharmacology*. (7th ed.). Toronto: Pearson.

4. Course Content and Schedule

Course Content:

This course familiarizes students with the major findings and issues associated with the effects of drugs on behavior. The first part of the course will examine the fundamentals of pharmacology, behavioral analysis, drug adaptation, neurophysiology, neurochemistry, and neuroanatomy. The rest of the course will focus on

how these biological fundamentals are applied to the study of addiction and the effects of various types of substances, including alcohol, anti-anxiety & sleeping pills, cigarettes, caffeine, stimulants, opioids, antipsychotic & antidepressant medication, marijuana, and hallucinogens. Lectures will not only cover material presented in the assigned readings but will also show how to apply this information to real-life situations and will evaluate the practical significance of reported effects with in-class demonstrations whenever possible. In addition, in order to make learning of the material as interesting as possible, questions will be posed in class in a fun and engaging environment.

COURSE SCHEDULE				
Week	Lecture#	Lecture topic	Readings	Assignment due
Jan 7-11		Introduction, course outline, and tips for studying		
Jan 14-18	1	Basic pharmacology	Chapter 1	
Jan 21-25	2	Behavioral analysis of drug effects	Chapter 2	Research question
Jan 28-Feb 1	3	Adaptation to drugs	Chapter 3	
Feb 4-8	4	Neural bases of behavior & neuroanatomy	Chapter 4	
Feb 11-15		Midterm exam		
Feb 18-22		<i>Reading Break – No class</i>		
Feb 25-Mar 1	5	Substance use & addictive disorders	Chapter 5	Research articles
Mar 4-8	6	Depressants	Chapters 6&7	Deadline to schedule individual presentation time
Mar 11-15	7	Stimulants	Chapters 8-10	Scheduled individual presentations
Mar 18-22	8	Opioids	Chapter 11	Scheduled individual presentations
Mar 25-29	9	Antipsychotic & antidepressant drugs	Chapters 12&13	Scheduled individual presentations
Apr 1-5	10	Cannabis & hallucinogens	Chapters 14&15	Scheduled individual presentations
Apr 8-12	11	Review for final exam		Poster session
TBA		Final exam		

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Your course grade will be based on the total number of points you receive on examinations, quizzes, and an assignment, in addition to opportunities in class for bonus points. Each of these components of your course grade is described in detail below. You can check with the instructor at any time during the semester for your current class standing and you are invited to discuss any concerns about your grade.

Each requirement will receive the following weight in determining your final grade:

Midterm Exam:	20%
Final Exam:	40%
Quizzes:	20%
Assignment:	20%

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

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 the College web site in the Policy Section.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE OR AS REQUIRED