



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:	Each weekday at 9am (see course website for details)
(c)	Location:	Fisher Bldg, Room 308B
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3111 (email is preferable)
(e)	Email:	pollockm@camosun.ca
(f)	Website:	D2L (https://online.camosun.ca)

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

(No changes are to be made to these Intended Learning Outcomes as approved by the Education Council of Camosun College.)

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

This introductory course will review the major psychoactive ("mind-altering") drugs, their effects, and their possible underlying mechanisms of action, as reported in the scientific literature. In particular, we will study a sort of alchemy of the mind – how drugs are able to turn lesser mental states into golden ones, and the limitations/side-effects of our current drugs. The first half of the course will examine the fundamentals of psychopharmacology: drug classifications and names, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, analysis of drug effects (both physiological and psychological), consequences of long-term drug use

(tolerance/sensitization and harmful side-effects), and the causes/treatments of drug addiction. The remainder of the course will then apply these fundamentals to, as well as explore the history of, the major classes of psychoactive drugs: depressants (e.g., alcohol, anti-anxiety & sleeping pills), stimulants (e.g., cocaine, amphetamines, caffeine, nicotine), opioids (e.g., pain killers, heroin), antipsychotic and antidepressant medication, marijuana, and hallucinogens (e.g., LSD, magic mushrooms, peyote, ecstasy, ketamine).

COURSE SCHEDULE			
Week	Readings	Lecture	Lab
1		Sep 2 Topic: What should this course be like?	Sep 5 Online quiz demonstration
2	Ch.1	Sep 9 Topic: What are drugs, how are they named/categorized, and how do they move through the body? Due day before: Online quiz on Drugs & Pharmacokinetics	Sep 12 In-class quiz on Drugs & Pharmacokinetics
3	Ch.4	Sep 16 Topic: How do drugs affect the brain? Due day before: Online quiz on Pharmacodynamics	Sep 19 In-class quiz on Pharmacodynamics
4		Sep 23 Midterm #1 review session	Sep 26 Exam: Midterm exam #1
5	Ch.2&3	Sep 30 Topic: How do drugs affect the body & mind, and how does this change over time? Due day before: Online quiz on Behavioral Analysis & Adaptation	Oct 3 In-class quiz on Behavioral Analysis & Adaptation
6	Ch.5	Oct 7 Topic: What causes addiction and how can it be treated? Due day before: Online quiz on Addiction & Treatments	Oct 10 In-class quiz on Addiction & Treatments
7		Oct 14 Midterm #2 review session	Oct 17 Exam: Midterm exam #2
8	Ch.6&7	Oct 21 Topic: How do depressants help decompress us? Due day before: Online quiz on Depressants	Oct 24 In-class quiz on Depressants
9	Ch.8,9,&10	Oct 28 Topic: How do stimulants help stir us? Due day before: Online quiz on Stimulants	Oct 31 In-class quiz on Stimulants
10	Ch.11	Nov 4 Topic: How do opioids create feelings of utopias? Due day before: Online quiz on Opioids	Nov 7 In-class quiz on Opioids
11		Nov 11 <i>Remembrance Day – School closed</i>	Nov 14 Review session
12	Ch.12&13	Nov 18 Topic: How do antipsychotics & antidepressants act as antidotes? Due day before: Online quiz on Antipsychotics & Antidepressants	Nov 21 In-class quiz on Antipsychotics & Antidepressants
13	Ch.14&15	Nov 25 Topic: How do psychedelics make things seem angelic? Due day before: Online quiz on Cannabis & Hallucinogens	Nov 28 In-class quiz on Cannabis & Hallucinogens
14		Dec 2 Final review session	Dec 5 Final review session
			TBA Exam: Final exam

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Your course grade will be based on the total number of points you receive on 9 online quizzes, 9 in-class quizzes, 2 in-class midterm examinations, and 1 final examination scheduled in the final exam period. 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:

- Average of Online Quizzes: 5%
- Average of In-class Quizzes: 20%
- Midterm Exam #1: 20%
- Midterm Exam #2: 20%
- Final Exam: 35%

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. <i>(For these courses a final grade will be assigned to either the 3rd course attempt or at the point of course completion.)</i>
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.

