



## 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:	Dr. Michael Pollock
(b)	Office Hours:	Mon, Tues 1:00-2:30; Wed, Thur 2:00-2:30
(c)	Location:	Fisher 308B
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3111
(e)	Email:	<a href="mailto:pollockm@camosun.ca">pollockm@camosun.ca</a>
(f)	Website:	<a href="http://online.camosun.ca">http://online.camosun.ca</a>

### 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

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, cannabinoids (i.e., marijuana), hallucinogens (e.g., LSD, magic mushrooms, peyote, ecstasy), and dissociative anesthetics (e.g., PCP, ketamine).

COURSE SCHEDULE			
Week	Date	Lecture	Assigned readings
WK 1		Introduction & Course Overview	
	Sep 7 W	Lab: Online quiz demonstration	
WK 2		Drugs & Pharmacokinetics	Ch.1
	Sep 11 S	Online quiz due: Drugs & Pharmacokinetics	
	Sep 12 M	Lecture: Topic #1 - What makes something a drug and what determines the extent of its effects?	
	Sep 14 W	Lab: Group review activities & in-class quiz	
WK 3		Pharmacodynamics	pg. 63-67 & 79-90
	Sep 18 S	Online quiz due: Pharmacodynamics	
	Sep 19 M	Lecture: Topic #2 - How do drugs alter your state of mind?	
	Sep 21 W	Lab: Group review activities & in-class quiz	
WK 4		Nervous System	pg. 67-78
	Sep 25 S	Online quiz due: Nervous System	
	Sep 26 M	Lecture: Topic #3 - How do drugs affect specific parts of your nervous system?	
	Sep 28 W	Lab: Group review activities & in-class quiz	
WK 5		Behavioral Analysis & Adaptation	Ch. 2 & 3
	Oct 2 S	Online quiz due: Behavioral Analysis & Adaptation	
	Oct 3 M	Lecture: Topic #4 - How can we accurately determine the effects of drugs on the mind and how do these effects change over time?	
	Oct 5 W	Lab: Group review activities & in-class quiz	
WK 6		Holiday & Review	
	Oct 10 M	Thanksgiving Day – No class	
	Oct 12 W	Lab: Group review activities	
WK 7		Addiction & Treatments	Ch.5
	Oct 16 S	Online quiz due: Addiction & Treatments	
	Oct 17 M	Lecture: Topic #5 - What causes addiction and how can it be treated?	

	Oct 19 W	Lab: Group review activities & <b>in-class quiz</b>	
WK 8		<b>Midterm Review</b>	
	Oct 24 M	Lecture: Midterm Review	
	Oct 26 W	Lab: <b>Midterm Exam</b>	
WK 9		<b>Depressants</b>	Ch.6&7
	Oct 30 S	<b>Online quiz due:</b> Depressants	
	Oct 31 M	Lecture: Topic #6 - How do depressants help us decompress?	
	Nov 2 W	Lab: Group review activities & <b>in-class quiz</b>	
WK 10		<b>Stimulants</b>	Ch.8,9,&10
	Nov 6 S	<b>Online quiz due:</b> Stimulants	
	Nov 7 M	Lecture: Topic #7 - How do stimulants help stir us?	
	Nov 9 W	Lab: Group review activities & <b>in-class quiz</b>	
WK 11		<b>Opioids</b>	Ch.11
	Nov 13 S	<b>Online quiz due:</b> Opioids	
	Nov 14 M	Lecture: Topic #8 - How do opioids create feelings of utopias?	
	Nov 16 W	Lab: Group review activities & <b>in-class quiz</b>	
WK 12		<b>Antipsychotics &amp; Antidepressants</b>	Ch.12&13
	Nov 20 S	<b>Online quiz due:</b> Antipsychotics & Antidepressants	
	Nov 21 M	Lecture: Topic #9 - How do antipsychotics & antidepressants act as antidotes for mental illness?	
	Nov 23 W	Lab: Group review activities & <b>in-class quiz</b>	
WK 13		<b>Cannabinoids &amp; Hallucinogens</b>	Ch.14&15
	Nov 27 S	<b>Online quiz due:</b> Cannabinoids & Hallucinogens	
	Nov 28 M	Lecture: Topic #10 - How do psychedelics make things seem angelic?	
	Nov 30 W	Lab: Group review activities & <b>in-class quiz</b>	
WK 14		<b>Final Review</b>	
	Dec 5 M	Lecture: Final Review	
	Dec 7 W	Lab: Group review activities	
	TBA	Exam: <b>Final Exam</b>	

### 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(This section should be directly linked to the Intended Learning Outcomes.)

Course component	Weight
Lab participation:	5%

Online Quizzes:	5%
In-class Quizzes	30%
Midterm Exam:	24%
Final Exam:	36%

## 6. Grading System

(No changes are to be made to this section unless the Approved Course Description has been forwarded through the Education Council of Camosun College for approval.)

### 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](http://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 <sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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

