

PSYC 290 – Psychoactive Drugs and Behavior

Spring 2022

Instructor

Sean Mooney-Leber Ph.D.

Office: D236

E-mail: smooneyl@uwsp.edu

In-Person Office Hours: Tuesday 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Zoom Office Hours: Thursday 3:00pm – 5:00pm; (also by appointment)



Class Schedule

January 24th – May 13th; TuTh 12:30pm – 1:45pm, Chemistry, Biology, Building (CBB) 135

Course Description

PSYC 290 – Psychoactive Drugs and Behavior, 3 credits hours

Introduction to psychopharmacology; examine effects of commonly used drugs on the central nervous system, behavior, and motivation for administration, consumption, and drug abuse

Prerequisite – PSYC 110 – Intro to Psych

Course Structure

This course will be conducted in-person. You can access Canvas (which contains links to Zoom) from the UWSP [log in page](#) using your UWSP credentials. If you have not activated your UWSP account, please visit the [Manage Your Account](#) page to do so.

Objectives/Learning Outcomes

- Define current drug policies and laws.
- Understand drug category classification.
- Identify neural structures and neurotransmitters that play a role in drugs' regulation of behavior.
- Describe mechanism of action, physiological and behavioral effects of drugs including stimulants, depressants, hallucinogens, opioids, etc.
- Explain appropriate drug treatments for psychological disorders.
- Recognize factors that influence addiction and treatments for addiction.

Required Materials and Online Canvas Page

- *Drugs: Mind, Body, and Society*, 1st Edition by Rosenthal.
- Materials that will be used to supplement the text (journal articles etc..) will be provided via Canvas.
- Canvas will be used regularly to distribute documents, grades, and exams. If you have any troubles accessing the course Canvas page please inform IT Service Desk (<http://www.uwsp.edu/infotech/Pages/helpdesk/default.aspx>)

Grading/assessment

Final grades will be based on weekly quizzes, perspective papers, and exams

- **Weekly content quizzes:** There will be a quiz for each chapter that we cover in class. Each quiz will consist of 5 multiple choice questions. These quizzes will be posted on canvas and

will open at the start of each week and will end on the following Sunday (due dates are highlighted below). The goal of the quizzes is to aid in digesting the course content. You are encouraged to use the book, notes, and any other source for the quizzes. You will have 10 minutes (per chapter) to complete the quiz once it is open.

- **Perspective papers:** Throughout the semester you will write 5 perspective papers. Each unit will have multiple questions/prompts in which you will be tasked with responding to a question of your choosing in a 1-2 double spaced paper format. These questions will be asking for your opinion on a wide range of drug-based questions (society, pharmacology, etc.). Each paper is worth 20 points. Question administration and submission of papers will be carried out via canvas.
- **Exams:** There will be five-unit exams. Exams will consist of multiple-choice and short-answer/essay questions which will each be worth a total of 50 points. Exams will take place during the normally scheduled class time. There will be no makeup exams unless I am provided with a legitimate, documented excuse. In the case of an absence during an exam please contact me as soon as possible. **I must be notified before the exam start in order to reschedule an exam.**

The following will comprise your final grade:

• Weekly quizzes (17)	85 pts
• Perspective papers	100 pts
• Exams	250 pts
Total	435 pts

Grading Scale

Final grades will be based on the percentages shown below. I reserve the right to lower/raise these cutoff points. The cutoff points are:

94%- 100%	A	80%- 83%	B-	67%-69%	D+
90%- 93%	A-	77%-79%	C+	64%-66%	D
87%- 89%	B+	74%-76%	C	60%-63%	D-
84%- 86%	B	70%-73%	C-	0%-59%	F

Attendance

Attendance will not count explicitly in the calculation of your grade, but attending class is imperative since all of the tests and final exam will be mostly based on what we cover in class. If you miss a class, please obtain the lecture notes from a classmate.

University Policy Regarding Students with Disabilities

The University will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students need to register with Disability and Assistive Technology Center every semester they are enrolled. DATC is located in Albertson Hall on the 6th floor (715-346-3365). To be assured of having services when they are needed, students should register no later than the end of the add/drop deadline of each term. If you have a disability that necessitates an accommodation or adjustment to the academic requirements stated in this syllabus, you must register with DATC as described above and notify your professor.

UWSP Technology Support

- Seek assistance from the [IT Service Desk](#) (Formerly HELP Desk)
 - IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
 - IT Service Desk Email: techhelp@uwsp.edu

Understand When You May Drop This Course

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](#) for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student's family.

Statement of Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity is an expectation of each UW-Stevens Point student. Campus community members are responsible for fostering and upholding an environment in which student learning is fair, just, and honest. Through your studies as a student, it is essential to exhibit the highest level of personal honesty and respect for the intellectual property of others. Academic misconduct is unacceptable. It compromises and disrespects the integrity of our university and those who study here. To maintain academic integrity, a student must only claim work which is the authentic work solely of their own, providing correct citations and credit to others as needed. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and/or helping others commit these acts are examples of academic misconduct, which can result in disciplinary action. Failure to understand what constitutes academic misconduct does not exempt responsibility from engaging in it. Students suspected of academic misconduct will be asked to meet with the instructor to discuss the concerns. If academic misconduct is evident, procedures for determining disciplinary sanctions will be followed as outlined in the University System Administrative Code, Chapter 14.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings	Class Activities/Homework
1/25	Course introduction and expectations	N/A	
1/27	Ch1. Drugs: Mind, Body, and Society	Ch. 1	Ch 1 quiz (due 1/30)
2/1	Ch 2. Drug Laws and Policies	Ch. 2	
2/3	Ch 3. The Nervous System	Ch. 3	Ch 2 & 3 quiz (due 2/6)
2/8	Ch 4. Pharmacology: How Drugs Work	Ch.4	
2/10	Ch 4. Pharmacology: How Drugs Work	Ch.4	Ch 4 quiz (due 2/13)
2/15	Exam 1 review session		Perspective paper #1
2/17	Exam 1 – Ch. 1-4		
2/22	Ch 5. Stimulants: Cocaine and Amphetamines	Ch.5	
2/24	Ch 6. Hallucinogens	Ch. 6	Ch 5 & 6 quiz (due 2/27)
3/1	Ch 7. Opioids	Ch. 7	
3/3	Ch 9. Marijuana	Ch. 9	Ch 7 & 9 quiz (due 3/6)
3/8	Exam 2 review session		Perspective paper #2
3/10	Exam 2 – 5-7 & 9		
3/15	Ch 10. Tobacco	Ch. 10	
3/17	Ch 11. Caffeine	Ch. 11	Ch 10 & 11 quiz (due 3/20)
3/22	SPRING BREAK		NO CLASS
3/24	SPRING BREAK		NO CLASS
3/29	Ch 12. Alcohol	Ch. 12	Ch 12 quiz due (4/3)
3/31	Exam 3 review session		Perspective paper #3
4/5	Exam 3 10-12		
4/7	Ch 13. Drugs for Treating Psychological Disorders	Ch. 13	Ch 13 quiz due (4/10)

4/12	Ch 14. Performance-Enhancing Drugs	Ch. 14	
4/14	Ch 15. Over-the-Counter Drugs	Ch. 15	Ch 14 & 15 quiz due (4/17)
4/19	Exam 4 review session		Perspective paper #4
4/21	Exam 4 13-15		
4/26	Ch 16. Sex and Reproductive Drugs	Ch. 16	
4/28	Ch 17. Problematic Drug Use and Addiction	Ch. 17	Ch 16 & 17 quiz due (5/1)
5/3	Ch 18. Prevention and Treatment of Drug Use and Abuse	Ch. 18	Ch 18 quiz due (5/8)
5/5	Drug fishbowl activity		Extra credit
5/10	Exam 5 review session		
5/12	Catch-up day		Perspective paper #5
	Exam 5 13-15		

This syllabus is subject to change and you are responsible for keeping up with any changes and announcements. Any changes will be announced in-class and on the Canvas course page.