

# PSYC 390 – Psychoactive Drugs and Behavior

Fall 2023

## Instructor

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In-Person Office Hours: Tu 1pm – 2:30pm (or by appointment)

Zoom Office Hours: Mo 3pm – 4:30pm (or by appointment)



## Class Schedule

September 5<sup>th</sup> – December 15<sup>th</sup>; MoWeFr 11:00am – 11:50am; Science Building D224

## Course Description

PSYC 390 – 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*, 1<sup>st</sup> 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

- **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 be

due on last day that chapter is discussed in class (days are posted 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 10 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:

• <b>Weekly quizzes (17)</b>	<b>85 pts</b>
• <b>Perspective papers</b>	<b>50 pts</b>
• <b>Exams</b>	<b>250 pts</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>390 pts</b>

### 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**

If you have a documented disability and verification from the Disability Resource Center and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to DRC and meet with a counselor to request special accommodation before classes start. The DRC is located in CCC 108 and can be contacted by phone at (715) 346-3365 or via email at [drc@uwsp.edu](mailto:drc@uwsp.edu).

## **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](mailto: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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Class Activities/Homework</b>
9/6	Course introductions and expectations	N/A	
9/8	Drugs: Mind, Body, and Society	Chapter 1	
9/11	Drugs: Mind, Body, and Society	Chapter 1	<b>Chapter 1 quiz</b>
9/13	Drug Laws and Policies	Chapter 2	
9/15	Drug Laws and Policies	Chapter 2	<b>Chapter 2 quiz</b>
9/18	The Nervous System	Chapter 3	
9/20	The Nervous System	Chapter 3	<b>Chapter 3 quiz</b>
9/22	Pharmacology: How Drugs Work	Chapter 4	
9/25	Pharmacology: How Drugs Work	Chapter 4	<b>Chapter 4 quiz</b>
9/27	Exam 1 review session		<b>Perspective paper #1</b>
9/29	<b>Exam 1 – Ch. 1-4</b>		
10/2	Stimulants: Cocaine and Amphetamines	Chapter 5	
10/4	Stimulants: Cocaine and Amphetamines	Chapter 5	<b>Chapter 5 quiz</b>
10/6	Hallucinogens	Chapter 6	
10/9	Hallucinogens Opioids	Chapter 6 Chapter 7	<b>Chapter 6 quiz</b>
10/11	Opioids	Chapter 7	<b>Chapter 7 quiz</b>
10/13	Exam 2 review session		<b>Perspective paper #2</b>
10/16	<b>Exam 2 – 5-7</b>		
10/18	Marijuana	Chapter 9	
10/20	Marijuana	Chapter 9	<b>Chapter 9 quiz</b>
10/23	Tobacco	Chapter 10	
10/25	Tobacco	Chapter 10	<b>Chapter 10 quiz</b>
10/27	Caffeine	Chapter 11	

10/30	Caffeine Alcohol	Chapter 11 Chapter 12	<b>Chapter 11 quiz</b>
11/1	Alcohol	Chapter 12	<b>Chapter 12 quiz</b>
11/3	Exam #3 review session		<b>Prospective paper #3</b>
11/6	<b>Exam 3 9-12</b>		
11/8	Drugs for Treating Psychological Disorders	Chapter 13	
11/10	Drugs for Treating Psychological Disorder	Chapter 13	<b>Chapter 13 quiz</b>
11/13	Performance-Enhancing Drugs	Chapter 14	
11/15	Performance-Enhancing Drugs Over-the-Counter Drugs	Chapter 14 Chapter 15	<b>Chapter 14 quiz</b>
11/17	Over-the-Counter Drugs	Chapter 15	<b>Chapter 15 quiz</b>
11/20	Exam #4 review session		<b>Prospective paper #4</b>
11/22	Study day		
11/24	No class Thanksgiving		
11/27	<b>Exam 4 13-15</b>		
11/29	Sex and Reproductive Drugs	Chapter 16	
12/1	Sex and Reproductive Drugs Problematic Drug Use and Addiction	Chapter 16 Chapter 17	<b>Chapter 16 quiz</b>
12/4	Problematic Drug Use and Addiction	Chapter 17	<b>Chapter 17 quiz</b>
12/6	Prevention and Treatment of Drug Use and Abuse	Chapter 18	
12/8	Prevention and Treatment of Drug Use and Abuse	Chapter 18	<b>Chapter 18 quiz</b>
12/11	Reefer Madness – movie extra credit		
12/13	Reefer Madness – movie extra credit		<b>Reefer madness extra credit prompt due</b>
12/15	<b>Exam #5 review session</b>		<b>Prospective paper #5</b>
12/21	<b>Exam #5 16-18 SCI D224 2:45pm – 4:45pm</b>		

**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.**