

## Drugs and Behaviour

PSYC-2920-001

MWF 12:30 – 1:20

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### Course Description

An examination of the physiological means through which drugs exert their effects on behaviour will constitute the core of this course. Topics covered include the assessment of behavioural drug effects, the basic structure and function of the nervous system, and general principles of pharmacology.

Course Material: There is no textbook for this course. Exams will be based on lecture material and on the occasional assigned reading. Lectures will be delivered via the Zoom platform and all course content will be available through the Nexus learning system.

### Evaluation

#### Exams (90%)

Three non-cumulative exams will contribute equally (3 x 30%) towards the final grade. These will consist of multiple-choice, true/false questions, and short-answer. Exams will take place online via Nexus.

#### Participation/Discussion (10%)

This will involve participation in the discussion forum on Nexus. This will be described more during the first class.

#### Exam Policies

If you are ill or have a family emergency, a make-up exam can be scheduled by contacting the instructor and providing appropriate documentation (e.g. doctors note). Please make every effort to attend the exams as scheduled. Failing that, contact the instructor in advance to discuss the possibility of making alternate arrangements.

## Grade Cutoffs

Please note that the cutoffs provided below are tentative guidelines that the course instructor will endeavour to follow, but will not necessarily correspond to the official final grades awarded by the University administration.

The instructor, the departmental review committee or the senate retains the right to modify grading cutoffs in cases involving unreasonably lenient (or difficult) exams, exceptionally skewed grade distributions, and other unusual circumstances.

### Final Grades:

Letter grades will be assigned based on the following scheme.

Final grades are subject to approval by the Department and the Senate.

A+: 95 – 100 (or at instructor's discretion);	A: 90 - 94;
A-: 85 – 89;	B+: 80 – 84;
B: 75 – 79;	C+: 65 – 74;
C: 60 – 64;	D: 50 – 59;
F: 0 - 49	

### ***Lecture and Exam Schedule:***

#### **Unit One: September 08 – October 06**

##### *Topics to be covered:*

- Module 1.1 Introduction to Drugs.
- Module 1.2 History of Drug Use.
- Module 1.3 Pharmacodynamics and Pharmacokinetics.
- Module 1.4 Neurophysiology.
- Module 1.5 Theories of Drug Addiction.

#### **Unit One Exam: October 08**

## **Unit Two: October 18 – November 08**

*Topics to be covered:*

Module 2.1 Alcohol.

Module 2.2 Nicotine and Tobacco.

Module 2.3 Caffeine.

Module 2.4 Stimulants.

Module 2.5 Depressants.

**Unit Two Exam: November 10**

## **Unit Three: November 12 – December 06**

*Topics to be covered:*

Module 3.1 Opioids.

Module 3.2 Cannabis.

Module 3.3 Hallucinogens.

Module 3.4 Schizophrenia and Anti-Psychotics

Module 3.5 Depressive Disorders and Anti-Depressants

**Unit Three Exam: TBA (Exam will take place during the Fall examination period in December)**

### Other Important Dates:

October 10 – 16 - Mid-term reading week

November 16 - Final date to VW

## Zoom/Nexus

Lectures will be delivered via the Zoom platform and all course content will be available through the Nexus learning system.

Tests/exams are proctored through a live Zoom meeting and may also be recorded locally for later review. Proctors will be monitoring for any evidence of academic dishonesty. Each proctor will monitor a small group of students simultaneously. Students must sit and face an engaged camera to enable monitoring. Microphones can be muted. After being reviewed for academic dishonesty, any recordings made will be promptly deleted if no such evidence is found.

As part of this monitoring, please note:

- Each student's name and everything within their camera's view, including their face, body and background, will be visible to the proctor and to the other students within the group.
- If a student uses the chat feature, anything written will be visible to all meeting participants.
- If a student chooses to un-mute their microphone, anything said will be heard by all meeting participants.

Zoom has been configured to disable students from recording the test/exam. Information regarding Zoom's data collection, including a link to its privacy policy, can be found at <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/privacy/zoom-privacy-notice.html>.

Student personal information is collected under the University of Winnipeg Act and 36(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. For information regarding privacy at UWinnipeg, contact Dan Elves, Senior Information and Privacy Officer, at [da.elves@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:da.elves@uwinnipeg.ca) or 204.988.7538.

## Miscellaneous

### Academic Misconduct

Please carefully read the university's policy on academic misconduct which may be found at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/cms-filessystem-action/pdfs/admin/policies/ampolicy012115.pdf>

### Accessibility Services

Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions, requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., access to volunteer note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 786-9771 or email [accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca) to discuss appropriate options. Specific information about AS is available on-line at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility-services/index.html>. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.

### Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/respect>

### Religious Accommodation

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make-up work and/or examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>