

# Drugs and Behaviour

PSYC-2920-001

Tue/Thurs 0830 – 0945

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## 1 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

*Drugs and Behavior: An Introduction to Behavioral Pharmacology*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. 2012. McKim and Hancock.

## 2 Evaluation

### Exams

Three non-cumulative exams will contribute equally (i.e.  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ ) towards the final grade. Material from both the textbook AND lectures will be represented on the exams. This includes information from the textbook that is not explicitly covered in the lecture and vice versa. I will make clear any exceptions to this policy in advance of the exams.

### 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). If you contact the instructor within 48 hours of missing an exam, it will be possible to write a make-up exam, with a 15% penalty (i.e., if you scored 80% on the make-up exam, it will be listed as 65% on the grade sheet). This penalty is to prevent students from taking an extra time to study when their peers wrote the exam on time. Thus, it is not to your advantage to miss an exam. If the instructor is not contacted within 48 hours of the missed exam, the student will receive a grade of 0 for that test. **Make-up tests are not given on the basis of a “less than expected” grade.**

In other words, 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.

Students will be required to make their student ID cards available for inspection during exams upon request. Aside from writing implements, the use of any aides (scrap paper, calculators, tablets, cell phones, laptops, etc.) will NOT be permitted during exams.

## Grade Cutoffs

Please note carefully 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.

### 2.1 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: 85–94; A-: 80–84; B+: 75–79; B: 70–74; C+: 65–69; C: 58–64; D: 50–57; F: 0-49

## 3 Lecture and Exam Schedule

Lectures	Exam	Textbook
January 4 - January 30	February 1	Chapters 1-5
February 6 - March 6	March 8	Chapters 6-10
March 13 - April 3	April 19	Chapters 11-15

### Other Important Dates

- Winter Reading Week: February 18-24, 2018
- **March 14, 2018 is the final date to withdraw from the course without academic penalty.**

## **4 Miscellaneous**

### **Academic Misconduct**

Please carefully read the university's policy on academic misconduct which may be found at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/cms-filesystem-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>