

DRUGS AND BEHAVIOR

PSY 320- Spring 2019

Instructor:	Marc Gellman, Ph.D.	Semester:	Spring 2019
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Hours:	Tues., 2:00-4:00, Thurs. 2:00-3:00	Times:	12:30-1:45
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Textbook: Drugs: Mind, Body, and Society by Martha Rosenthal 1st edition (2019)

Readings: You will be responsible for reading the textbook and the articles, as well as viewing videos that will be posted on Blackboard, under Assignments, throughout the semester. For this course, you will be required to purchase one of the following versions of the textbook, your choice. Please note: we will not be following the order of the textbook chapters.

eBook: 978-0-19-084921-4 • **Loose-leaf:** 978-0-19-085945-9 • **Paperback:** 978-0-19-994911-3

Course Overview: This course serves as an introduction to the field of psychopharmacology. It covers various aspects of how drugs can affect behavior. The broad goals of the course are to familiarize the student with the social and cultural aspects of drug use, the laws and policies that regulate drug use, the treatment and prevention of drug abuse, the scientific aspects of understanding drugs effects on the body, and lastly to critically think about these topics that will be covered throughout the semester. Critical thinking involves maintaining a certain degree of skepticism about information, analyzing claims and arguments based on evidence, and recognizing and evaluating the value assumptions that may underlie a given position. The major drugs focused on in the course are psychoactive drugs, however, other classes of drugs will also be discussed.

Prerequisites: 2.5 GPA; 12 PSY credits, including PSY 220 and 291 or 292 (Alternative Prerequisites: 9 credits in PSY, including PSY 291 or 292; 3 credits in BIL 150 (or above) or CHM 111 (or above)).

Grades: Your grade will be based upon four in-class examinations worth 50 points. See semester outline for exam dates. Each of the four exams will have 40 multiple-choice questions and 10 short definitions. All questions will be worth one point each. You will be required to take all four exams. Students are encouraged to submit m-c exam questions 10 days prior to the exam. Some questions may be selected to be on the exam. If you miss a scheduled examination a make-up exam will be given during the final exam period. You will be allowed to take only one make-up exam.

Grading System: A standard distribution of 90%-100% = A, 80%-89% = B, 70%-79% = C, 60%-69% = D, and 59% or below = F. Pluses and minuses will be assigned at the end of the semester with class participation playing a major role.

Class Participation: Throughout the semester there will be classroom time dedicated to discussion of the current topics and assigned readings. Your participation in these classroom discussions will account for 10% of your grade and will impact +/- be assigned at the end of the semester.

Technology in the Classroom: First class discussion. What are your views of the use of technology in the classroom? Laptops, cell phones, other devices, Twitter, text messages, emails.

Cheating Statement: As per policy of the Department of Psychology, penalties for cheating and/or plagiarism will be enforced on all tests and class assignments. Cheating will not be tolerated. It is expected that all students will maintain the standards of academic honesty. Cheating or plagiarism can be reason for failure of this course.

Attendance: Class attendance is strongly recommended. Class discussion can contribute to your final grade. In addition, exam questions will come from materials presented in class.

Bonus: The first students to identify a complete sentence on this syllabus and the same sentence in the textbook will received bonus points.

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DATE	CLASS TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENTS
		Textbook Chapters
SEMESTER SCHEDULE		
Jan. 15	Overview: Foundations	
Jan. 17	Thinking Critically About Drugs	Preface
Jan. 22	Drug Use	1
Jan. 24	Drugs Laws & Policy	2
Jan. 29	The Nervous System	3
Jan. 31	How Drugs Work	4
Feb. 5	Review & Discussion	
Feb. 7	Exam I	
Feb. 12	Tobacco/Nicotine	10
Feb. 14	Caffeine	11
Feb. 19	Performance-Enhancing Drugs	14
Feb. 21	Over The Counter Drugs & Supplements	15
Feb. 26	Sex and Reproductive Drugs	16
Feb. 28	Discussion	
March 5	Review	
March 7	Exam II	
March 19	Alcohol	12
March 21	Depressants & Inhalants	8
March 26	CNS Stimulants	5
March 28	Psychotherapeutic Drugs	13
April 2	Review & Discussion	
April 4	Exam III	
April 9	Opioids	7
April 11	Psychedelics/Hallucinogens	6
April 16	Cannabis/Marijuana	9
April 18	Prevention	17
April 23	Treatment	18
April 25	Epilogue, Review & Discussion	
May 9	Exam IV and Make-up exams	11:00