

Psychology 345A (A01) – Drugs and Behaviour: Basic Principles

Spring 2021 (Jan-Apr)

T, W, F 1:30 - 2:20 pm

Online (Brightspace & Zoom)

COURSE INFO

Instructor: Iris Gordon

E-mail: igordon@uvic.ca

Office hours: T, 2:30 – 3:30 pm (Zoom)

Teaching Assistant: Josh Palmer

E-mail: jmpalmer@uvic.ca

Office hours: TBD

Summary

In this class, we will discuss behavioural pharmacology as it applies to humans. Topics will include how chemicals affect the nervous system and human behaviour. Basic biological and pharmacological concepts will be presented, and related to psychological phenomenon.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, you will have....

- an understanding of the biological mechanisms involved in drug use.
- knowledge of the effects of drugs on psychological and behavioural processes.
- substance-specific characteristics in treatment and/or addiction.
- learned to think critically, and communicate about, scientific and popular claims.

REQUIREMENTS

Registration

Before you take this course, you must have completed the following:

- **Psyc 251**

*The last day to add courses is **January 22nd**, and the final course drop deadline is **February 28th**. It is the student's responsibility to check their registration status by these deadlines to ensure they are registered only in courses they have been attending.*

Reading Materials

McKim, W.A. and Hancock, S.D. (2016). Drugs and behavior: an introduction to behavioral pharmacology (8th ed.). Upper Saddle River: Pearson Education Inc.

The textbook is mandatory and can be purchased in several formats (hardcopy or digital). Please note that I will provide text pages based on the hardcopy, and headers for digital copies.

Online Resources

1) Brightspace: <https://bright.uvic.ca> You will need your netlink ID & password.

Here you will find:

- General resources (instructions, timeslot sign-ups, & prep pages)
- Lecture slides, recordings & videos
- Summaries & online activities
- Midterms

2) Zoom: <https://uvic.zoom.us/j/95221498434?pwd=UUIKTKNTYXZQT214MVQ1MIZlcnk4Zz09>

You will need your netlink ID & password.

This virtual communication module will be used for class activities and office hours. Installation instructions can be found on Brightspace.

Course Format

This course will *synchronous*.

Lectures will be held via Zoom on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays (class time). It is expected that students who sign-up for the course are available during class time. Lectures will be recorded and posted thereafter on Brightspaces for further access.

Each topic will be accompanied by slides, video recordings, and Assignment. You are responsible for completing the necessary readings, Summaries and Assignments as per the schedule (see calendar below).

Intellectual Property Notice

All course content and materials are made available by instructors for educational purposes and for the exclusive use of students registered in their class. The material is protected under copyright law, even if not marked with a ©. **Any further use or distribution of materials to others requires the written permission of the instructor, except under fair dealing or another exception in the Copyright Act.** Dissemination of course materials is considered a Violation of Academic Integrity.

- You do not have my permission to share or sell the course materials.
- Do not use your classmates' email for any commercial reasons.

Evaluations

Evaluation Tool	Percent of Grade	Date(s)
Syllabus Quiz	0%	Access denied until complete
Mid-term #1	24%	Tuesday Feb 9 th
Mid-term #2	24%	Tuesday Mar 16 th
Mid-term #3	24%	TBD Final Examination Period
Summaries	16%	Saturdays at 10:00 pm
Assignments	12%	Saturdays at 10:00 pm

Criteria

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C*	D	F
90-100	85-89	80-84	77-79	73-76	70-72	65-69	60-64	50-59	0-49

- You must complete all three exams to receive credit for the course. Students who do not complete all three exams will receive an "N" grade (see below for exam policies).
- If you do not complete other course assignments, you will be given a grade of 0 (zero) for that component and this will be used in calculating your final grade.

Midterms (72%)

Midterms will consist of a mixture of multiple choice, fill in the blank & short answer. Please note that vacations, weddings, trips, or other courses are not acceptable excuses for missing midterms. Content will be derived from both the text and lecture materials.

- "The Iris Special": In order to alleviate some test anxiety, the weight of your best midterm will be increased by 5% (i.e. from 24% to 29%) while the weight of your worst midterm will be decreased by 5% (i.e. from 24% to 19%).

Midterm Absences

You are responsible for attending exams as scheduled. If you miss an exam due to illness/accident or a death in the family, you must e-mail me as soon as possible to indicate that you were absent and the reason for it. Whereas you are not required to provide documentation for academic concessions during the Spring 2021 term, it is appreciated.

A make-up examination will be scheduled within 7 days of the missed exam. Make-up exams will not necessarily have the same format as the midterm. Should the student be unable to take the remake, further discussion will be required.

Students who do not contact me in regards to a midterm absence will receive an “N” in this course.

The Final Exam is subject to the University’s policy on missed examinations; please see [“What to do if you miss the final exam scheduled during the formal exam period”](#) below.

Summaries (4 x 4% = 16%)

In order to develop a sense for weighing research claims and thinking critically, you will complete 4 research summaries on miscellaneous topics pertaining to drugs and behaviour. There will be 6 opportunities of which you can complete up to 6 summaries and your best 4 will count. Detailed instructions will be posted on Brightspace.

- All submissions must be typed into Brightspace or submitted as .docx OR .pdf; *submissions in any other format will not be accepted* and given “0”.
- **No extensions, make-ups or substitutions will be permitted**; failure to complete a relevant summary will result in a “0” for the associated 4%.

Assignments (6 x 2% = 12%)

The goal of this activity is to have you think deeper about the material by relating course content to real-world and current events. In order to mitigate for any potential problems, there will be 7 opportunities of which you will only need to complete 6. The assignments are graded on a pass/fail basis, and detailed instructions will be posted on Brightspace.

- **no extensions, make-ups or substitutions will be permitted**; failure to complete a relevant assignment will result in a “0” for the associated 2%.

POLICIES

Respect

We are all very diverse and have different values, beliefs, opinions and cultural backgrounds. Class time is meant to discuss ideas, and you may encounter opinions that you do not share with others. Maintaining an open mind refers to listening, considering other’s perspectives and experiences, and accepting those ideas *even if you do not agree with them*.

Respect also includes creating a safe environment conducive to learning, which means optimizing everyone’s needs while also not distracting, hindering, or impeding other’s ability to listen, learn and study. This holds for virtual environments as well – just because there is a screen between you and others does not invalidate proper interpersonal behaviour. Some tips for on-line environments include:

- Mute your microphone if you are not speaking (to reduce background noise)
- Turn your camera on when possible (to create a sense of community and engagement)

- Use the “raise hand” feature rather than typing questions/comments in the chat box (to reduce distractions as well facilitate better dialogue)
- Use the chat field/whiteboard for constructive comments (be respectful and mature)
- Make sure to review your comments before posting them, and/or to be as polite as possible when speaking with your camera off (the lack of nonverbal cues may colour your comments differently to unknowing listeners)
- Try to be patient and understanding with others (technological limitations are not other’s fault, and sometimes a comment wasn’t meant the way it was interpreted)

Extraneous Circumstances

Life happens! If you find yourself in a position where completing course requirements is not possible, or if something comes up that’s affecting your progress/abilities, please come speak to us **BEFORE** a due date. Extensions, exemptions, or negotiations will not be granted on or after a deadline.

Contacting Us

Office Hours

No appointment is needed if you will be attending regular office hours (denoted above). If you would like to book an appointment outside this time, please e-mail us. The Instructor will be available to discuss your grades, material, or more general topics about psychology, whereas the TA can aid in learning/understanding course material. Please be advised the TA has no power to change grades or postpone due dates; the TA is a learning resource.

E-mail

When e-mailing the Instructor or the TA, please...

- include “psyc345A” in your subject headline or the e-mail will not reach us!
- include your name and student number at the bottom of the e-mail
- allow 24 hours (1 day) for a reply before resending the e-mail again
- do not contact us using the Brightspace instant messenger; we will not reply

*Tentative Course Schedule

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
	11 th	12 th Introduction	13 th Drug Dynamics Drugs & the Body	14 th	15 th Drug Dynamics Drugs & The Body	16 th
17 th A1 opens 12:00 pm	18 th	19 th Drug Dynamics Mechanisms of Action	20 th Drug Dynamics Mechanisms of Action	21 st	22 nd Drug Dynamics Mechanisms of Action	23 rd A1 closes 10:00 pm
24 th S1 opens 12:00 pm	25 th	26 th BioPsychoSocial Tolerance	27 th BioPsychoSocial Tolerance	28 th	29 th BioPsychoSocial Tolerance	30 th S1 closes 10:00 pm
31 st A2 opens 12:00 pm	1 st	2 nd BioPsychoSocial Dependence	3 rd BioPsychoSocial Dependence	4 th	5 th BioPsychoSocial Dependence	6 th A2 closes 10:00 pm
7 th S2 opens 12:00 pm	8 th	9 th Midterm 1: Ch 1, 3, 5	10 th Drug Classifications	11 th	12 th Stimulants/ Caffeine	13 th S2 closes 10:00 pm
14 th A3 opens 12:00 pm	15 th – 19 th Reading Break					20 th A3 closes 10:00 pm
21 st S3 opens 12:00 pm	22 nd	23 rd Caffeine	24 th Cocaine	25 th	26 th Cocaine	27 th S3 closes 10:00 pm
28 th A4 opens 12:00 pm	1 st	2 nd Amphetamine	3 rd Amphetamine	4 th	5 th Antidepressant	6 th A4 closes 10:00 pm
7 th S4 opens 12:00 pm	8 th	9 th Antidepressant	10 th MDMA	11 th	12 th MDMA	13 th S4 closes 10:00 pm
14 th A5 opens 12:00 pm	15 th	16 th Midterm 2: Ch 9, 10, 13, (15)	17 th Hallucinogens	18 th	19 th LSD	20 th A5 closes 10:00 pm
21 st S5 opens 12:00 pm	22 nd	23 rd Psilocybin	24 th DMT	25 th	26 th PCP/Ketamine	27 th S5 closes 10:00 pm
28 th A6 opens 12:00 pm	29 th	30 th Mescaline	31 st Marijuana	1 st	2 nd Good Friday	3 rd A6 closes 10:00 pm
4 th S6 opens 12:00 pm	5 th East er	6 th Marijuana	7 th Opioids	8 th	9 th Opioids	10 th S6 closes 10:00 pm
11 th A7 opens 12:00 pm	12 th	Midterm 3: TBD Final Exam Period Ch 11, 14, 15				A7 closes 10:00 pm

*Dates and topics are approximate and subject to change

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
Department of Psychology

Important Course Policy Information
Fall 2020

Prerequisites

Students who remain in courses for which they do not have the prerequisites do so at their own risk. Students who complete courses without prerequisites ARE NOT exempt from having to complete the prerequisite course(s) if such courses are required for the degree program.

Program Requirements

For more information see the UVic Calendar September 2020.

Registration Status

Students are responsible for verifying their registration status. Registration status may be verified using My Page, View Schedule. Course adds and drops will not be processed after the deadlines set out in the current UVic Calendar.

Commitment to Inclusivity and Diversity

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

In the Event of Illness, Accident or Family Affliction

- *What to do if you miss the final exam scheduled during the formal exam period*

Apply at Records Services for a "Request for Academic Concession", normally within 10 working days of the date of the exam. Records Services will forward the form to the instructor. If the concession is granted, the instructor will determine how to deal with the situation (for example, a deferred exam). Where a concession is not applied for or where such application is denied, an N grade will be entered on the student's academic record.

OR, you can download the Request for Academic Concession form here:

<http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf>

- *What to do if you miss an exam other than one scheduled during the formal exam period*

Do not apply at Records Services for a "Request for Academic Concession". Instead submit documentation of the illness, accident or family affliction directly to your course instructor (or designated teaching assistant).

- *What to do if you require additional time to complete course requirements*

Apply at Records Services for a "Request for Academic Concession", normally within 10 working days of the end of the formal examination period. Records Services will forward the form to the instructor. If the concession is granted the instructor will determine how to deal with the situation. Where a concession is not applied for or where such application is denied, an N grade will be entered on the student's academic record.

OR, you can download the Request for Academic Concession form here:

<http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf>

Policy on Academic Integrity including Plagiarism and Cheating

The Department of Psychology fully endorses and intends to enforce rigorously the Senate Policy on Academic integrity https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/future/undergrad/#/policy/Sk_0xsM_V?bc=true&bcCurrent=08%20-%20Policy%20on%20Academic%20Integrity&bcGroup=Undergraduate%20Academic%20Regulations&bcItemType=policies. It is of utmost importance that students who do their work honestly be protected from those who do not. Because this policy is in place to ensure that students carry out and benefit from the learning activities assigned in each course, it is expected that students will cooperate in its implementation.

The offences defined by the policy can be summarized briefly as follows:

1. **Plagiarism.** You must make sure that the work you submit is your work and not someone

else's. There are proper procedures for citing the works of others. The student is responsible for being aware of and using these procedures.

2. **Unauthorized Use of an Editor.** The use of an editor is prohibited unless the instructor grants explicit written authorization.
3. **Multiple Submission.** Only under exceptional circumstances may a work submitted to fulfill an academic requirement be used to satisfy another similar requirement. The student is responsible for clarifying this with the instructor(s) involved.
4. **Falsifying Materials Subject to Academic Evaluation.** This includes falsification of data, use of commercially prepared essays, using information from the Internet without proper citation, citing sources from which material is not actually obtained, etc.
5. **Cheating on Assignments, Tests, and Examinations.** You may not copy the work of others in or out of class; you may not give your work to others for the purpose of copying; you may not use unauthorized material or equipment during examinations or tests; and you may not impersonate or allow yourself to be impersonated by another at an examination. The Department of Psychology has a policy of not making old examinations available for study purposes. Therefore, use of old exams without the express written permission of the instructor constitutes cheating by the user, and abetting of cheating by the person who provided the exam.
6. **Being an Accessory to Offences.** This means that helping another student to cheat (for instance, by showing or communicating to them answers to an assignment, or by allowing them to view answers on an exam) is an academic offence.

Instructors are expected to make every effort to prevent cheating and plagiarism. This may include the assignment of seating for examinations, asking students to move during examinations, requests to see student identification cards, and other measures as appropriate. Instructors also have available to them a variety of tools and procedures to check for Internet and electronic media-based cheating. In instances of suspected or actual plagiarism or cheating, instructors, following prescribed procedures, are authorized to take steps consistent with the degree of the offence. These measures will range from a zero on the test or assignment or a failing grade for the course, probation within a program to temporary or even permanent suspension from the University.

Rights of Appeal are described in the Policy on Academic Integrity in the University calendar September 2020.

The definitive source for information on Academic Integrity is the University Calendar

Other useful resources on Plagiarism and Cheating include:

1. The Study Solutions Office: <https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/success/study/index.php>
2. The Ombudsperson's office: <http://www.uvss.uvic.ca/ombudsperson/pubsguides/plagiarism.pdf>
The [Office of the Ombudsperson](#) is an independent and impartial resource to assist with the fair resolution of student issues. A confidential consultation can help you understand your rights and responsibilities. The Ombudsperson can also clarify information, help navigate procedures, assist with problem-solving, facilitate communication, provide feedback on an appeal, investigate and make recommendations. Phone: 250-721-8357; Email: ombuddy@uvic.ca; Web: uvicombudsperson.ca.
3. UVic Library Resources: <http://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/plagiarism/>
4. https://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/documents/avoiding%20plagiarism%20guideUpdate_Sept_2013.pdf



BE WELL

A note to remind you to take care of yourself. Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress. All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone.

Social Life, Friends, & Community at UVic:

Having a social network is an extremely important foundation for positive mental health. There are lots of benefits to joining clubs, course unions, intramurals and teams on campus.

<https://www.uvic.ca/mentalhealth/undergraduate/connecting/index.php>

Counselling Services:

Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.

www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/

Health Services:

University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.

www.uvic.ca/services/health/

Centre for Accessible Learning:

The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations www.uvic.ca/services/cal/. The sooner you let us know your needs, the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Elders' Voices:

The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

www.uvic.ca/services/indigenous/students/programming/elders/

Mental Health Supports and Services:

Mental health supports and services are available to students from all areas of the UVic community:

www.uvic.ca/mentalhealth/undergraduate/

Sexualized Violence Prevention and Response at UVic

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. We encourage students to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting www.uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Whether or not you have been directly

impacted, if you want to take part in the important prevention work taking place on campus, you can also reach out:

Where: Sexualized violence resource office in EQHR, Sedgewick C119

Phone: 250.721.8021

Email: svpcoordinator@uvic.ca

Web: www.uvic.ca/svp