

# Psychoactive Drugs

Psychology 383

Winter 2006 UH 2:00-3:20

**Instructor:** Dr. Richard Marrocco (213A Huestis Hall)

Phone: 346-4547

Email: marrocco@uoregon.edu

Office hours: UH 3:30-4:30

Teaching Asst: Seihwan Oh. Office: 353 Straub Hall, 346-4966

Office hours: M 10:00-12:00, or by appt..

**Text:** Drugs, Society, and Human Behavior, 11th Ed. Ksir, Hart, and Ray.

Other tests of interest: Buzzed; Taking Sides.

## Topics and readings:

1/10 Organization and overview. Chap. 1

1/12 Overview II **Quiz**

1/17 Drugs and Society. Chap. 2

1/19 Drugs and the Law. Chap. 3 **Quiz**

1/24 Neurons and the Brain. Chap. 4

1/26 Drugs and Neurotransmitters. **Quiz**

1/31 Pharmacology. Chap. 5

2/2 Stimulants. Chap. 6 **Quiz**

2/7 Depressants and Inhalants I. Chap. 7

2/9 Depressants and Inhalants II. **Quiz**

2/14 Alcohol. Chap. 9

2/16 Tobacco. Chap. 10 **Quiz**

2/21 Caffeine. Chap. 11

2/23 Dietary Supplements and Over the Counter Drugs. Chap. 12 **Quiz**

2/28 Opioids. Chap. 13

3/2 Hallucinogens. Chap. 14 **Quiz**

3/7 Marijuana. Chap. 15

3/9 Performance-enhancing drugs. Chap. 16 **Quiz**

3/14 Abuse prevention and treatment. Chap. 17 and 18. Jerry Gjesvold, Serenity Lane

3/16 Medications for mental disorders. Chap. 8. Rick Friedrichs, Student Health Center

3/22 Final exam. 1:00 pm.

## Notes:

Your grade in class will be based on quiz scores, scores on the final exam, and any extra credit you receive. Seven of the quizzes count toward the final grade. We will drop the lowest quiz score.

There will be three **homework assignments** during the term and each will be due the class meeting prior to each midterm (exception, first assignment, which will be due on Oct 12) and the final exam. I will grade and return the first assignment to you on Oct 14 to provide you with feedback on your performance and guidance on the midterm. The

assignments consist of developing questions and answers of two types. The first type is a short identification question in which you identify a term or concept (e.g., *temporal summation*) and then define it fully in a cogent paragraph. The second type of question is an essay question, in which you address broader issues that integrate over several areas (e.g., *compare the strategies used by the visual and auditory systems for the coding of the major stimulus attributes*), and then answer the question in about one page. **Each assignment consists of three (3) short identification questions and answers and one (1) essay question and answer.** The assignments will be graded for accuracy and each assignment is worth 20 pts. Some of the better questions will actually appear on the midterm tests.

**Exams** are subjective (midterms worth about 65 pts, final about 100 pts) and will be graded on a curve. The exams will cover the materials immediately preceding them and will not be cumulative. The format of the exam will be identical to that of the assignments. That is, there will be 6 short identification questions and you will choose 3 to identify. There will be two long essay questions and you will choose one to answer as completely as possible. HINT: the best exam and assignment scores will be earned by those that integrate lecture and book information into their answers. Lindy Beane, a graduate student in Psychology, will grade the exams based on a key I will provide.

Please note that the final exam is scheduled for the 22nd of March. No exams will be given prior to that date, so please make your spring travel plans with that date in mind. If missing the final is unavoidable, you must inform me as soon as you can. I will give you an incomplete for the course, which you can make up by taking the final at the beginning of spring term.