

PSY 383 Psychoactive Drugs

University of Oregon
Spring Term 2012

Instructor: **Jenny Mendoza, M.S.**
Straub Hall 498
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Classroom: Lillis Hall 112
Time: MW 2:00-3:20pm

Office Hours: Mondays 11am-Noon; Tuesdays 2:00-3:00pm
(Also available by appointment)

Course website: <http://blackboard.uoregon.edu>
Check this site *regularly* for important information regarding this course!!

Course description:

In this course, we will examine many aspects of psychoactive drugs, such as neuropharmacology, toxicity, addiction, abuse, prevention, and treatment. We will explore these concepts and their implications in medical, behavioral, social, and legal contexts. Lectures will be complemented with discussions, texts, articles, and movies designed to reinforce the main concepts and enhance the learning experience.

Required Text: ***Drugs, Society, and Human Behavior***
Carl Hart and Charles Ksir; 14th edition, McGraw Hill Publishers

Course Requirements:

Participation	(10% of final grade)
Quizzes	(20% of final grade)
SGRs	(25% of final grade)
Midterm	(20% of final grade)
Final	(25% of final grade)

Participation (10% of final grade)

Participation will be based on *attendance and discussion*. On certain, unspecified days, you will be asked to reply to questions about the lecture by writing responses on index cards, which will be collected at the end of class. Your responses will be evaluated, and they should reflect that you have been actively engaged in the course material. The index cards will also serve as proof that you attended class that day. **In addition, I *highly* encourage you to ask questions, raise issues, and connect ideas during class!**

Quizzes (20% of final grade – 3.33% each)

We will have 8 short quizzes that will take place during the first 15 minutes of class. Quizzes will consist of 5 multiple-choice questions. Quizzes will pertain to material presented in the lectures and the assigned readings for each week. Each quiz will only cover the material from that particular week (e.g. Quiz 1 will only relate to information covered during Week 1). Your lowest 2 quiz grades will be dropped. Therefore, there will be **NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES** offered. Please let the instructor know if you need to miss more than two quizzes.

Small Group Responses (25% of final grade - 5% each)

You will form small groups of ~5 people, and you will find a time outside of class to discuss controversial topics related to psychoactive drugs. This discussion time will provide you with the opportunity to engage in a lively discussion with your classmates, and it should help you generate ideas for the assignment.

The Small Group Response (SGR) assignment *must be completed independently from your other group members*. It should present your opinion about the topic, while demonstrating that you understand the topic and the related issues. It should reflect what you discussed in your small group, but it should also present your own ideas and opinions.

The topics will be posted on Blackboard on Wednesdays after class, and your **SGR will be due the following Wednesday by 2pm**. Please submit your SGRs via Blackboard.

*Please note that there is not a final paper for this course.

Exams – Midterm (20% of final grade); **Final** (25% of final grade)

These exams will consist of multiple choice questions, true/false questions, fill-in-the-blank questions, matching, figure labeling, and short answer questions. Both exams will be comprehensive, although the final exam will focus more on material covered during the second half of the class.

Grading:

Letter grades are determined as follows:

A = 90-102%

B = 80-89.99%

C = 70-79.99%

D = 60-69.99%

F = 0-60%

In addition, a plus or minus will be appended to letter grades for scores in the upper and lower third of each grade range, respectively.

Extra Credit (up to 2% EC):

Research Participation (Option 1) + RER –OR– Article Reading (Option 2) + RER

Option 1: Participate in research plus RER – up to 2 credits/hours

You may participate in real research experiments through the Psychology and Linguistics Departments' Human Subject Pool. Researchers conduct many experiments on varied topics (e.g., attention, social interaction). Through participating, you will gain an understanding of how research is conducted. Sign up to participate here: <http://uopsych.sona-systems.com>.

There will be an option for you to request a username and password. Once logged in, you will find a list of studies and their locations that are available to you. After participating in a study, you will be electronically credited for the time allotted for that study.

For more information, contact Ida Moadab, the Human Subjects Coordinator:

hscoord@uoregon.edu

Option 2: Read an article plus RER – up to 2 articles

You may also fulfill all or part of the research participation requirement by reading research articles. Each article you read will count as 1 credit and take about one hour to read thoroughly. By reading about empirical research, you will gain knowledge of the methodology used in psychology studies.

Research Experiment Reports (RERs): In order to ensure that you understand the experimental hypotheses, methods, etc. you will need to complete an RER electronically on Blackboard after participating in either option, above.

*In order to receive Extra Credit for research participation, all RERs MUST be submitted on Blackboard on **Wednesday, June 6, 2012 by 2pm**

1 credit/hour participation + RER = 1 article + RER = 1% EC

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability, and you anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please meet with the instructor as soon as possible. Also, please request that Hillary Gerdes (hgerdes@oregon.uoregon.edu, tel. 346-3211, TTY 346-1083), Senior Director of the Accessible Education Center, send a letter to the instructor verifying your disability.

Students for whom English is a Second Language

If you are a non-native English speaker and think you may have trouble in this course due of language difficulties, please see the instructor as soon as possible. Please note that you may only use dictionaries/translators during tests if you have discussed this with the instructor *at the beginning of the term*.

Academic Honesty

All work submitted in this course must be your own. You may be required to submit writing assignments to SafeAssign, which is a software tool designed to help students avoid plagiarism and improper citation. By enrolling in this course you grant the instructor permission to submit your work to SafeAssign.

If your responses on assignments are suspected of plagiarism, or if the instructor has any reason to be concerned about your conduct during a quiz or exam, you may be asked to move seats, have your test confiscated, and/or be given an "F". All violations will be taken seriously and noted on student disciplinary records. If you have questions regarding any aspect of these issues, please consult with the instructor before you complete any relevant requirements for this course.

For more information, see the UO web site regarding academic honesty at:

<http://studentlife.uoregon.edu/StudentConductandCommunityStandards/AcademicMisconduct/tabid/70/Default.aspx>

Cheating will NOT be tolerated in any form in this class!

Date	Topic	Readings*	Quizzes/ Assignments
Week 1			
M 4/2/12	Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs		
W 4/4/12	Drugs and Society	Ch. 2	
Week 2			
M 4/9/12	Neuroanatomy and Neurotransmitters	Ch. 4	Quiz 1
W 4/11/12	Neuropharmacology	Ch. 5	SGR 1
Week 3			
M 4/16/12	Stimulants	Ch. 6	Quiz 2
W 4/18/12	Nicotine and Caffeine	Ch. 10 & 11	
Week 4			
M 4/23/12	Depressants and Inhalants	Ch. 7	Quiz 3
W 4/25/12	Alcohol	Ch. 9	SGR 2
Week 5			
M 4/30/12	Schizophrenia; Affective Disorders	Ch. 8	Quiz 4
W 5/2/12	Anxiety Disorders	<i>Rynn, Siqueland, & Rickels (2001); Fenton, Keyes, Martins, & Hasin (2010)</i>	SGR 3
Week 6			
M 5/7/12	MIDTERM EXAM		
W 5/9/12	<i>PBS: The Medicated Child</i>		
Week 7			
M 5/14/12	Drugs and Development	<i>Ch. 18 – Primer of Drug Action</i>	Quiz 5
W 5/16/12	Opioids	Ch. 13	
Week 8			
M 5/21/12	Hallucinogens	Ch. 14; <i>Vollenweider & Kometer (2010)</i>	Quiz 6
W 5/23/12	Marijuana	Ch. 15	SGR 4
Week 9			
M 5/28/12	Performance Enhancing Drugs	Ch. 16; <i>Savulescu, Foddy, Clayton (2004)</i>	Quiz 7
W 5/30/12	Prevention	Ch. 13 & 14	SGR 5
Week 10			
M 6/4/12	Treatment	Ch. 16	Quiz 8
W 6/6/12	TBA		Optional: RERs DUE
Finals Week			
TH 6/14/12	FINAL EXAM: Thursday June 14, 2012 3:15pm		

*Readings should be completed prior to the relevant lecture (e.g. read Ch. 2 *before* coming to class on Wednesday 4/4/12). Chapters refer to *Drugs, Society, and Human Behavior* (Hart & Ksir, 14thed), unless otherwise specified. Additional readings, such as articles and chapters from other texts, will be posted on Blackboard.