

DRUGS, BEHAVIOR AND MODERN SOCIETY

PSYCHOLOGY 597.01

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Department of Psychology

Required Text: Charles F. Levinthal, *Drugs, Behavior and Modern Society*,
4th Edition, 2005, (Pearson Allyn & Bacon:Boston)

Class Format: 2 lectures/week + 1 recitation/week
Monday & Wednesday (10:30 – 12:18 am)
Friday (10:30 – 11:30 am)

Course Objectives:

The purpose of this GEC Capstone Experience is to examine the major classes of drugs, their psychological and biological effects, and their widespread use (medicinal, recreational, ceremonial) and abuse in contemporary society. We will also focus on the enormous costs (humanistic, social, economic) associated with drug abuse and addiction.

Relationship between this course and the goals of Category 8 of the GEC (Issues of the Contemporary World):

This capstone course is designed to meet the goals of Category 8 of the GEC – “Issues in the Contemporary World”. One of the most defining issues in contemporary society is the widespread use of drugs throughout the world. The use of drugs occurs at multiple levels, including; therapeutic, recreational, and ceremonial. A particularly tragic and costly aspect of drug use is the compulsive consumption of drugs characteristic of addiction. This interdisciplinary course will present information, on a wide range of drugs, from a psychological, biological and sociological perspective.

Student Evaluation:

The final grade in this course will be based on multiple evaluations. Students will take two examinations (each contributing 25% of the final grade) after approximately the first 3 and 6 weeks of the quarter. These exams will be composed of multiple-choice questions. There will also be two quizzes (multiple-choice and short answer; each contributing 10% of the final grade). Each quiz will be administered during the recitation section during weeks 2 and 8 of the quarter. The final evaluation in the course will consist of a small team-based research paper due during the week of finals (contributing 30% of the final grade). The paper topic will deal with a specific issue that integrates the biological and psychological aspects of drug use. The topic must be approved by the course faculty. It should be 10-12 pages in length and include at least 5 journal articles in its bibliography. While the overall research contributing to the paper will be conducted by small research teams, each member of the team will submitted his/her own paper.

Academic Misconduct:

All students at the Ohio State University are bound by the Code of Student Conduct (see <http://oaa.osu.edu/coam/home.html>). Violations of the code in this class will be dealt with according to the procedures detailed in that code. Specifically, any alleged cases of misconduct will be referred to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.

Students with Special Needs:

Any student who feels that she/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact Professor Bruno (2-1770) privately to discuss her/his specific needs. Also, contact the Office of Disability Services (2-3307) to coordinate such accommodations.

| <u>Week</u> | <u>Instructor</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|---|----------------|
| 1 | Bruno | Drugs & Behavior Today | 1 |
| 1 | Bruno | Drug Taking Behavior | 2 |
| 1 | Course Asst. | Recitation | |
| 2 | Bruno | How Drugs Work in the Body and Brain | 3 |
| 2 | Course Asst. | Recitation (QUIZ) | |
| 3 | Wenk | Major Stimulants (Cocaine, Amphetamines) | 4 |
| 3 | Wenk | Major Narcotics (Opium, Morphine, Heroin) | 5 |
| 3 | Course Asst. | Recitation | |
| 4 | | EXAM 1 | |
| 4 | Wenk | LSD and other Hallucinogens | 6 |
| 4 | Wenk | Marijuana | 7 |
| 5 | Wenk | Alcohol Social Beverage/Social Drug | 9 |
| 5 | Wenk | Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism | 10 |
| 5 | Course Asst. | Recitation | |

Syllabus (cont)

| <u>Week</u> | <u>Instructor</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Chapter</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|--|----------------|
| 6 | Wenk | Nicotine and Tobacco | 11 |
| 6 | Wenk | Caffeine | 12 |
| 6 | Course Asst. | Recitation | |
| 7 | EXAM 2 | | |
| 7 | Wenk | Glues, Solvents and other Inhalants | 13 |
| 7 | Course Asst. | Recitation | |
| 8 | Bruno | Anabolic Steroids and Drug Abuse in Sports | 8 |
| 8 | Bruno | Dietary Supplements | 14 |
| 8 | Course Asst. | Recitation (QUIZ) | |
| 9 | Bruno | Sedatives and Antianxiety Drugs | 15 |
| 9 | Bruno | Drugs for Treating Mood Disorders | 16 |
| 9 | Course Asst. | Recitation | |
| 10 | Bruno | Drugs for Treating Schizophrenia | 16 |
| 10 | Bruno | Intervention/Treatment Strategies | 17 |

FINAL EXAM (during finals period)