

Biopsychology of Chemical Dependency: Drugs, Behavior and Health

Spring Semester 2014 / West Los Angeles College / Room GC 340
3.05 Hrs online TBA & 9:00am-12:50pm Saturdays (2/10/2014 thru 4/6/2014)

Instructor Information

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Day & Evening # 310 743-9268 (7am-10pm daily) / Office Hours: 12:00pm-1:00pm Room GC 340

Textbook

Drugs and Society, 10th Edition (2009), by Hanson, Venturelli, & Fleckenstein

www.amazon.com \$44.99 (rent) \$57.86-\$29.97 (listed as new and used)

<http://www.coursesmart.com/search> (180 days @ \$72.95)

ISBN #'s: 1-4496-1369-1, 978-1-4496-1369-3, 1-4496-5137-2, 978-1-4496-5137-4

Copy Image of what textbook look like: <http://ecx.images-amazon.com/images/I/51hiRzhoCyL.jpg>

Course Objective

This course will focus on the action of licit and illicit drugs on the body. Topics will include principles of drug action, physiology of the central nervous system and neurotransmitters, as well as how at least a dozen different drugs affect the body neurologically and physically

Student Learning Outcomes

- To identify and describe the classification and related psychological effects of alcohol and other commonly abused drugs
- To identify and describe the effects of alcohol and other drug use, misuse, and abuse in relationship to specific physical, life experience, and circumstantial variables.
- To explain the process occurring from the use of more than one mood-altering drug.
- To demonstrate knowledge of the criteria for the evaluation of dependence and abuse of alcohol and other drugs.
- To describe the various components and theories about tolerance and increases in tolerance.
- To describe the withdrawal syndrome and the theories describing psychological and physiological dependence.
- To identify and describe the protocols for pharmacological and physiological treatment/recovery strategies.

Special Instructional Accommodation

To receive accommodations for a special need or disability, students must register with the Office of Disabled Student Program and Services, HLRC: (310) 287-4450

Professional Conduct in Our Virtual Classroom Community

One of the unifying objectives in this course is to familiarize you with best practices and give you exposure to becoming a member of a professional community. I also have the responsibility to insure that our virtual community is a conducive learning environment for all students. As such, all students will please follow these policies of our classroom community for all emails, discussion groups and chat rooms:

1. No profanity or foul language, either in writing or pictures, of any kind at any time.
2. Please address everyone politely by their names.
3. Under no circumstances may you ask for a classmate's personal contact information or in any way ask for a personal meeting or date.
4. Unless I specifically ask you to do so as a proper part of an assignment, do not include in your email signatures or other material in your messages any kind of a personal nature, including a photo, sales solicitation, information about a business, or a political or religious message of any kind. Do not include a blind or other kind of hyperlink to such information. Violators will be excluded from the course.
5. Please use common sense and common courtesy as if you are already a professional in the community. This includes messages you send student's and the instructor. I will not tolerate rude, condescending, or *challenging* emails. If you choose to disregard these rules, there are college policies that I follow leading to you being dropped from the course; maintain appropriate behavior at all times.

Standard of Student Conduct

Faculty members are charged with responsibility for building and maintaining a classroom atmosphere conducive to learning. Disruptive, disrespectful, or obstructive behavior will be dealt with in terms specific to this syllabus and in accordance with the LACCD Standard of Student Conduct. The following types of disciplinary action may be taken by an instructor.

http://www.wlac.edu/academics/pdf/WLAC_12-14Catalog_Policies.pdf

Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. When there is evidence of cheating or plagiarism in classroom work, the instructor will assign a failing grade, 'F', or zero points to either an examination or assignment in which the alleged cheating or plagiarism occurred. The instructor will provide the student with supporting documentation of the plagiarism or cheating charge. Instructors have the authority to use plagiarism detecting instruments such as 'Turn It In' to detect academic dishonesty.

Forms of Behavior which Violate Academic Integrity

- Cheating: Using any materials or devices or strategies, which provide undue advantage on any exam, assignment, activity or other method of assessment for a course. This includes, but is not limited to, looking at another student's exam, using phones or other communication systems to text message during exams, taking pictures or images of exams, talking with others during exams, using Internet to find information, or any other system of inappropriate 'help'. Exams are to be measures of what **you**, as an individual, have learned.
- Collaboration: Working together on projects, papers, exams or other forms of assessment which are to be completed individually
- Plagiarism: Taking anyone else's work as one own. Presenting another's words, ideas, forms of expression, materials, or labor without proper citation, referencing, and declaration that this material originated outside the student's own work. (Visit <http://www.plagiarism.org/plagiarism-101/what-is-plagiarism>)

Online Requirements

This is a hybrid course, so you must have daily access to a computer with the Internet. Please go to www.wlac.edu/online and review the tabs on the left side of that page. Pay specific attention to: 'Course Login' and 'Technical Requirements'. This information is critical to helping you succeed as an online student. Please make sure your email address is correct in the school system!

Course Requirements

It is important that you are online regularly in order to do the work. If you have never taken an online class, you should spend time quickly getting familiar with the tabs on the left side of the **HOME** page of the class. We will be utilizing all of the tabs:

- Schedule--calendar of events
- Announcements--information from Instructor
- Syllabus--reference for class requirements, grade points and what is being covered on what date
- Assignments, Tests and Survey--bi-weekly quizzes
- Discussion/Private Messages--where students send messages to Instructors and other classmates public and/or private
- Chat Room--instant/realtime messaging and where class 'meets' online
- Resources--Storage of document, files, web links and other learning objects

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered, to be prompt and to remain in class for the entire time. Instructors may drop a student from a class whenever a student is absent more hours than the number of hours the class meets per week; for this class this would be one missed class. Do not answer cell phones in class; and either shut off or set to vibrate.

Lecture/Readings/Videos

Essentially, the lectures are going to take place during class time on Saturdays. The Readings/Videos will be accessible from the Resource tab (on the left hand side of the screen) under the designated Chapter being discussed that week. Students are responsible for the weekly textbook readings and the online video presentations.

Discussion Questions

Each week, you will need to answer a Discussion Question (DQ) related to your reading. These are assigned Saturday (after class meets) and **due** by Wednesday night weekly by **11:59pm**. After reading the textbook and viewing the videos, you will go to the **Discussion and Private Messages** tab, on the lefthand side of the screen. Click on **Discussion Questions**, then answer the appropriate **DQ #** for that week. After reading the question, you hit **post reply** and write your answers in the space provided (do not cut and paste from Word because it doesn't always transmit properly to Etudes). Your grade on these discussion questions will be dependent on how thoroughly and thoughtfully you answer them as well as if you properly cite your answers; earning up to 15 points for each **DQ** submitted totaling up to 105 points. **IMPORTANT:** Do not copy other classmates 'work'; answers are posted for everyone to see in this format, and I do not want you to receive 'NO CREDIT' because your answer matches someone else's. The best way to avoid this is to answer the questions, after reading the text and viewing the videos, with **your** authentic response; then, read what other people have written. Also, do not copy word-for-word from a website or your textbook, or any other reference. This will result in 'NO CREDIT' for your answer. When you answer a **DQ** and use a source for your answer, such as the textbook, you **MUST** give that source credit for the information (ie. authors name and date of publication). If you do not do so, you are saying that the answer is your original work, and that is plagiarism. This too will result in NO CREDIT for your answer. For further clarification, read the information in the Resource section of the Home page and **CLICK** on Plagiarism. Please note that using **WIKI** information, in this way, is also considered plagiarism. I will not grade **DQ's** that are posted after the 11:59pm cutoff time Wednesday evening, weekly. You can not answer or post **DQ's** after they have closed; and, there is **NO MAKE-UP DQ's**. Your classmates can see what you post in the discussion section as well as the **Chat Room**. Please feel free to chat with each other as much as possible as this helps with the discussions, and you can ask each other for help, etc. You will see when others are in the **Chat Room** with a blue dot appearing next to their name listed on the left side of the screen.

Tests/Exam

There are 15 tests in this course, each composed of 15 multiple-choice questions totaling up to 225 points. Tests are based on the lectures, videos and textbook reading. All tests are administered in the **Assignments, Tests, and Surveys** tab on the left side of screen. All tests are **due** on Saturday evening by **11:59pm**. The test are timed at one hour; once, you open the test the timer begins and stops within one hour exactly. The Final Exam will be administered on April 3, 2014. There are **NO MAKE-UP Tests**.

Research Paper

An APA format Research Paper is due on March 15, 2014. This paper must follow the APA format, be typed, 12 point Courier font size/style, with a Title Page, Abstract, 3-4 pages of content and a Reference Page. There is are *APA Style Basics* and *Research Help Set Up* to assist you, at the General Information folder in the Etudes portal. The paper is worth up to 70 points.

Grade Point System

400-360 --> **A** 359-320 --> **B** 319--280--> **C** 279-240--> **D** < 240--> **F**

Ex-Assignments

These assignments allow students the opportunity to earn extra points. These are Class Assignments and attendance of Lectures and/or viewing Videos and writing a one (full) to two page essay describing or critiquing the psychological phenomena of addiction and some premise from our lectures or texts that show correlation (ie. lecture on something about women and drugs could be correlated to pages 485-486 'women's role in treatment...'). In your essay follow the **7** criteria from sample below:

Criteria for EX-Assignment Essay Submission

ALL WORK SUBMITTED, IN THIS CLASS, MUST meet this criteria. If not the work will be returned without ability to resubmit (refer to sample below):

- 1) TYPED
- 2) FONT STYLE Courier
- 3) 12 POINTS DOUBLE-SPACED (2.0)
- 4) Name on each individual piece of paper submitted upper right hand corner of your paper (using Header helps set this).
- 5) The paper's **HEADING** should be flush right, start writing paper's content flush left (indenting paragraph start).
- 6) When submitting more than one sheet of paper, for the same assignment, pages must be stapled.
- 7) **DO NOT** STAPLE DIFFERENT ASSIGNMENTS TOGETHER (ie. papers distributed from Cain)

SAMPLE:
7 points to check before handing in
ANY essay EX-Assignment

Last & First Name
Section 8580
Assigned Date
Name of Assignment

Indent (like in this sample) and begin your essay after one double space from **heading/salutation**. Within the first paragraph **boldface your thesis statement**. Your Thesis Statement needs be an **answer** to one PSYCHOLOGICAL question that was covered in the video/lecture assigned that is your written essay. If you need assistance, in writing an essay, there is 'The Five Paragraph Essay' in the Etudes portal's General Information folder, as a writing sample reference. **REMEMBER**, the essay's thesis statement must **show a correlation to psychological phenomena/content** mentioned either in class lectures and/or the class textbook. Following the **7 points**, will insure that your paper will be graded and your efforts will not be wasted by having your paper returned ungraded and not be able to resubmit.

Enjoy the Class...It will be a great experience for us all