San José State University  
Psyc 126 Drugs, Brain, and Behavior – Spring 2011

Instructor: Susan Snycerski, Ph. D.
Office Location: 311 DMH
Telephone: 408-924-5662
Email: Use email option on D2L (I check this more often) or susan.snycerski@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: M & W 3:00-5:00  
T & TH 12:00-12:30  
M & W 1:30-2:45
Class Days/Time: M & W 1:30-2:45
Classroom: DMH 348
Online hours: M-Th 10:00-5:00
Prerequisites: Psyc 30 or 3 units of biology

Contacting Instructor

1. **Through D2L mail function.** Best for questions and comments that you wish to remain private.

2. **Through D2L discussion board.** Best for questions about the course that need not remain private. Chances are others have the same questions you have.

3. **Through regular email.** If you’ve tried contacting me via D2L but have not received a reply in a reasonable amount of time (2 – 3 days), or if you need to contact me quickly, please use my regular email account: susan.snycerski@sjsu.edu

4. **By phone.** Not the best method.

To access the site go to:

http://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/students/

The course D2L site is an online resource supplement for this course. Use of this site and the information provided is not a substitute for attending lectures. The site will be updated regularly throughout the semester. This site contains:

- Discussion Board (Course Announcements, student questions)
- Links to webpages that will be of use to you throughout the course
- Handouts and articles
• Lecture slides (generally posted after lecture is presented)
• Grade roster

My intention is that the site will become an additional forum, outside of class, in which we can debate, discuss, and raise questions about the course material. **Check this site regularly for course announcements.**

**Course Description** Survey of psychoactive drugs, including prescription and street drugs; social, behavioral and physiological effects of drugs; neural mechanisms of drug action; history of drug use. Prerequisite: PSYC 30 or 3 units of biology.

**Textbook**
Available at Spartan Bookstore or online

**Other Readings**
Additional reading materials will appear on D2L or will be distributed in class.

**Other equipment / material requirements**
You will need regular access to a computer and four scantrons (888E).

**Classroom Protocol**
Students are expected to attend class and maintain a level of professional and courteous behavior in the classroom. Respect for the rights and opinions of others is expected. The free and open exchange of ideas is the cornerstone of higher education, but we must always remain respectful of others, even if we disagree strongly with them. Disagreement is acceptable, but discourteousness is not. Behavior that creates a threatening or harassing environment (either online or in class) will not be tolerated. Severe and pervasive disruptions of class activities are a violation of the Student Code of Conduct will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs. In short, be cool to one another.


Classes will comprise lectures, in-class activities, question-and-answer periods, guest presentations, and films. Attendance is expected and is critical for success in this course. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting the information covered. It is vital that you complete all scheduled readings and assignments before each class. Always bring your text to class. Do not talk, read non-class materials, text message, or sleep during class time. Please arrive to class on time. If you need to leave early, please inform the instructor prior to the start of class.
Be sure to come prepared to class. This means reading required material and completing assignments on time. There will be unannounced quizzes and/or activities or projects throughout the semester, so it is best to be prepared.

**Laptops**

**Students using laptops will sit in the first two rows of the classroom only.** Laptops should be charged prior to class as outlets are often not available in the classroom setting arrangements. In-class laptop use should be restricted to course-related activities (e.g., taking notes). Other activities (e.g., checking email, Facebook®, MySpace®) distract both the instructor and students and will not be tolerated. You will be asked to turn off your laptop if you are engaged in non-class activities and you may be asked to refrain from laptop use for the duration of the course if this behavior continues.

**Cell phones and other electronic devices**

Please be certain to turn off or put in silent mode (not vibrate mode as that is still audible and is distracting) all cell phones, pagers, and any other devices that produce distraction prior to entering the classroom. **DO NOT TEXT DURING LECTURE; you may be asked to leave for the remainder of the lecture.**

**Late arrivals**

If you must arrive late or leave early, please do so quietly and with a minimum of distraction.

**I expect you to come to class prepared**

“Prepared” means you have completed the readings and any assignment before class starts, and written down any questions you had from any assignments.

**Communication**

Use email or come to office hours.

**Check the course D2L site regularly!**

If I become ill, I will inform you the night before that I will be absent. Please email me before class if you will not be in class. Please set your spam controls to accept my email address. I also often post general news stories regarding topics related to class on this website for class discussion.

**Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drops, academic renewal, etc. [Information on add/drops are available at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html](http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/soc-fall/rec-324.html). [Information about late drop is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/](http://www.sjsu.edu/sac/advising/latedrops/policy/). Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for adding and dropping classes.
Assignments and Grading Policy

Method of instruction
This course will use the classic lecture-discussion format as its primary form of instruction. In addition, this course will use videotapes, web-based content, guest lectures, and in-class activities to supplement lectures. Powerpoint lecture material for each chapter is available online; I will attempt to post lecture notes prior to class, however, sometimes I may be unable to do so. Please remember that I post these notes as courtesy and I appreciate your patience if notes are not up before class time.

Be advised that due to time constraints not all text material will be covered in lecture. This does not mean that such material is not important, nor does it mean that such material will not appear on exams. You are responsible for all text and lecture material. Students are encouraged to ask questions during class or via the course web site.

Course requirements

1. Classes: This class covers a large amount of material, therefore, attending lectures is crucial for your success in this class. If you miss a class, you are responsible for getting the information from that class. Classroom participation is expected and may be graded via in-class quizzes, assignments, or other activities. In-class activities are only for those students present; that is, there are no make-up opportunities for in-class activities.

2. Exams: You will have four exams. Exams will comprise multiple-choice, short answer, and essay questions. Please bring a Scantron form (882-E) and pencils to each exam. For exams, all bookbags must be stored under your seat or at the front of the classroom. Students arriving after the first person has finished the test and left the classroom will lose their opportunity to take that exam, so please be sure to be on time for all exams.

   Cheating on exams or other assignments will result in a failing for the course; a grade of F will be recorded and the student(s) will be reported to the Office of Student Code and Ethical Conduct.

Final Exam

The Final Exam will consist of the 4th unit exam. It will not be cumulative. Per University policy, failing to take the final exam results in a failing grade for the course; same rule for late arrivals applies to the final exam.

3. Quizzes and/or assignments: There will be quizzes and/or assignments, all of which may consist of on-line, in-class, take-home, or group assignments, as time allows and at the discretion of the instructor. If you do not complete a quiz or assignment, you will receive a zero for that missed work. No make-up quizzes or assignments will be given. Online quizzes and assignments will occur via the D2L site and have strict deadlines. Once the deadline has passed the opportunity to take or submit a quiz or assignment expires. No exceptions will be made for this policy. More details will be provided in class.

4. Late Work: All assignments/quizzes must be turned in at the beginning of class or uploaded/submitted to D2L on the scheduled due date. There will be no exceptions to this
policy, and this policy will be strictly enforced. DO NOT EMAIL ASSIGNMENTS. You will not receive credit for emailed assignments.

5. Grading

4 Exams @ 20 points each = 80
Quizzes (online, in-class, announced or unannounced), assignments, writing projects, and/or activities. Point values, due dates, and descriptions of requirements for assignments and/or quizzes will be provided in class. Total points available = 100

Grading scale:

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<tr>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<td>A+</td>
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University Policies

Academic integrity

Students should know that the University’s Academic Integrity Policy is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/download/judicial_affairs/Academic_Integrity_Policy_S07-2.pdf. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University’s integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at http://www.sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/index.html.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person’s ideas without giving proper credit) will result in failing the course and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU’s Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.
Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

Learning Assistance Resource Center

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to motivate them to become self-directed learners. The center provides support services, such as skills assessment, individual or group tutorials, subject advising, learning assistance, summer academic preparation and basic skills development. The LARC website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The Writing Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/.

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. The Peer Mentor Center website is located at http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/.
Psyc 126 / Drugs, Brain, and Behavior  
Spring 2011 Schedule

This course will follow this syllabus to the extent possible. The timing and specific nature of topics and activities may change. You are responsible for keeping informed of any changes made to the class syllabus. Such changes will be clearly stated in class and will be posted on the class web site. You are responsible for checking the class web site before each class. If, for any reason, your instructor must cancel class a message will be posted on the course web site. Therefore, it is extremely important to check the website before each class.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 26</td>
<td>Introduction to the course.</td>
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| 2    | Jan 31 & Feb 2 | Ch 1 Introduction to drugs and society  
                      | Ch 2 Explaining drug use and abuse                                         |
| 3    | Feb 7 & 09 | Ch 3 Drug use, regulation, and the law Behavioral Clinical Trials  
                      | Pharmacology/Basic Research with Humans                                   |
| 4    | Feb 14 & 16 | Pharmacology/Basic Research with Humans  
                      | **Feb 16 Exam 1 Chapters 1, 2, & 3, and distributed reading materials.**  |
| 5    | Feb 21 & Feb | Ch 4 Homeostatic Systems and Drugs                                       |
| 6    | Feb 28 & Mar 2 | Ch 5 How and why drugs work                                                 |
| 7    | Mar 7 & 09 | Ch 6 CNS depressants: Sedative-Hypnotics  
                      | Ch 14 Inhalants                                                           |
| 8    | Mar 14 & 16 | **Mar 16 Exam 2 chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, & 14, and distributed reading materials.** |
| 9    | Mar 21 & 23 | Ch 7 Alcohol: Pharmacological effects  
                      | Ch 8 Alcohol: Behavioral effects  
                      | Ch 9 Narcotics (Opioids)                                                 |
| 10   | Mar 28 & 30 | **Spring break: No class**                                                 |
| 11   | Apr 4 & 6 | Ch 9 Narcotics (Opioids)  
<pre><code>                  | Ch 10 Stimulants                                                         |
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Apr 11 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Ch 10 Stimulants</td>
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<td>Ch 11 Tobacco</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Apr 18 &amp; 20</td>
<td><strong>Apr 18 Exam 3 covers chapters 7, 8, 9, 10 &amp; 11 and any additional materials presented in class or on the website.</strong> Ch 12 Hallucinogens</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 25 &amp; May 2</td>
<td>Ch 12 Hallucinogens</td>
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<td>Ch 13 Marijuana</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>May 3 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Ch 13 Marijuana</td>
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<td>Ch 15 Over-the-counter (OTC), prescription, and herbal drugs</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>May 4 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Ch 15 Over-the-counter (OTC), prescription, and herbal drugs</td>
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<td>Ch 16 Drug Use Within Major Subcultures</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>May 11 &amp; 16</td>
<td>Ch 17 Treating drug dependence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td><strong>May 19</strong> 12:15-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>DMH 359</td>
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<td><strong>Exam 4 covers chapters 13, 14, 15, 16, &amp; 17 and any additional materials presented in class or on the website.</strong></td>
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Due dates for all graded and credit/no credit assignments will be announced in class and posted on the course D2L website.