San José State University
Psyc 126 Drugs, Brain, and Behavior – Fall 2012

Instructor: Susan Snycerski, Ph. D.
Office Location: 311 DMH
Telephone: 408-924-5662 (only available during office hours; I will answer if I am not meeting with another student at the time)
Email: Use email option on Piazza (I check this more often)
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Class Days/Time: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:30-2:45 p.m.
Classroom: DMH 356
Online and email hours: M-Th 10:00-5:00 (I am not available for email on weekends or holidays)
Prerequisites: Psyc 30 or 3 units of biology

Contacting Instructor
1. **Through Piazza mail function.** Best for questions related to class materials.
2. **Through regular email.** If you have tried contacting me via Piazza but have not received a reply in a reasonable amount of time (2 – 3 days), please use my SJSU email account: susan.snycerski@sjsu.edu
3. **By phone.** Not the best method; I will answer during office hours only when I am not meeting with a student. Do not leave voicemails; rather, contact me by email.

Our class will use Piazza for posting lecture notes, class readings, and additional course related materials. This website should also be used for posting questions regarding the class material or for emailing your instructor.

The course D2L website will be used for posting grades and online “drobpx” assignments only. No course content will appear on D2L. To access this site use the link below.

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

Required Textbook
Available at Spartan Bookstore or online

Many lectures include additional information from A Primer of Drug Action (12th ed) by Julien, R. M., Advokat, A., & Comaty, J. (2010). Worth Publishers: NY, NY. This text is not required. However, these authors’ work contributes to material in the lecture slides.

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

Other equipment / material requirements
You will need regular access to a computer and four scantrons (882E).

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
1. Know the history of drug regulation in the United States, including the process of bringing a drug to the marketplace.
2. Be able to classify drugs according to their legal status and drug class.
3. Be proficient in describing the actions of drugs in the brain and body.
4. Be able to describe the behavioral and psychological effects of drug classes, in general, and specific drugs, in particular.
5. Be able to identify the genetic, personality, social, and environmental factors leading to substance abuse as well as effective drug abuse treatment options.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)
Upon successful completion of the psychology major requirements…

PLO1 – Knowledge Base of Psychology – Students will be able to identify, describe, and communicate the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.

PLO2 – Research Methods in Psychology – Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations.

PLO3 – Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology – Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.

PLO4 – Application of Psychology – Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.
PLO5 – Values in Psychology – Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

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 opinion’s 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, let’s all be cool to one another.


Classes are comprised of 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. Do not talk, read non-class materials, text message, or sleep during class time. This policy is strictly enforced. **Students who fail to abide by classroom protocol may be excused from class.** 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/Tablets

**Students using laptops/tablets will sit in the first two rows of the classroom only. No exceptions.** Laptops/tablets should be charged prior to class. In-class laptop/tablet use is restricted to course-related activities (e.g., taking notes). Other activities (e.g., checking email, Facebook®, MySpace®, etc.) distract both the instructor and students and will not be tolerated. **Inappropriate laptop use during class will result in the student being dismissed for the remainder of the class session.** Repeated inappropriate use may lead to loss of permission to use the device in class for the duration of the course.

**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. **Phones should not appear on the desktop;** rather, they should be stored during class sessions in pockets, bookbags, purses and the like. **DO NOT TEXT DURING LECTURE.** Texting during class will result in the student being dismissed for the remainder of the class session.
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. Also, there may be unannounced quizzes or in-class activities that require students to have read assigned material prior to class; not doing so can negatively affect student grades.

Communication
Use email or come to office hours.

Check the course Piazza site regularly!
If I become ill or am otherwise unable to hold class, I will inform you the night before or the day of (the earliest moment I can) that I will be absent. If you will not be in class, please email me before class to notify me of your absence. Also, please set your spam controls to accept my email address. I also often post general news stories regarding topics related to the class content on this website for class discussion.

Check this website for postings under the “Drugs in the News” link. Here you will find links to stories about drugs that appear in the popular press and news sites. These links are to enhance your awareness of the ubiquity of drugs in our society. The contents of the links are neither endorsed by the instructor or represent the opinion of the instructor. That is, they are for informational purposes only.

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. Information about late drop is available at 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 films, web-based content, guest lectures (when available), 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 except in cases of a documented emergency or a Dean’s excuse.** This is another reason to regularly attend classes.

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 who arrive after the first person has finished the exam and left the classroom will lose their opportunity to take that exam, thus earning a zero grade for that exam. Please be sure to be on time for all exams.**

   **No make up exams will be given. There are no exceptions unless in cases of documented emergencies or a Dean’s excuse.** Thus, be sure to obtain a doctor’s note, court notice, accident/police report, and so forth if you must miss class.

   **Cheating on exams or other assignments will result in a failing grade (F) 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. Plagiarism on written work will also result in a failing grade for the course. This policy is strictly enforced.**

**Final Exam**

The Final Exam will consist of the 4th unit exam. It will not be cumulative.

3. **Quizzes and/or assignments:** There will be quizzes and/or assignments, all of which may consist of online, 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 that occur via the D2L site 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 (unless in cases of documented emergencies or a Dean’s excuse), 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, = 20
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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 98</td>
<td>≥ 98</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>70</td>
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<td>90</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>68</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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<td>88</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>C+</td>
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- Any disputes over an awarded grade must be accompanied by the original
  graded assignment.
- Students should verify grades for each assignment on the D2L website. There is
  a one-week period after each assignment grade is posted for students notify the
  instructor if they think there is an error in the posted grade.

University Policies
Academic integrity

Students should know that the University’s Academic Integrity Policy is available at
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

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.

Note: When the instructors requires “APA style” that includes both in-text citations as well
as a reference section (in addition to proper grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc.). Failure to
cite or provide references is not acceptable.
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.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material, Amends F06-2

Whereas Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that someone is notified when being recorded; and audio recording without consent in private settings is prohibited by California Penal code 630-635, and

Whereas Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval; and is already prohibited by California Civil Code 980 a(1), and

Whereas It is desirable to allow flexibility to faculty as to when and how consent is given for recording classes or publicly sharing course material; therefore be it

Resolved That the following items be included in the list of greensheet items recommended for consideration in the Appendix of University Policy F06-2.

“Common courtesy and professional behavior dictates that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. This permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”

“Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Therefore, neither recording of class lectures or discussions nor distribution of course materials are allowed. Failure to follow this policy will result in immediate expulsion from the class, a grade of F in the course, and reporting the student to the University and proper authorities for further sanctions/punishment.
Senate Policy

Senate Policy S12-3 on student work expectations

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course-related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

The credit hour is defined as "the amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than:

1) One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester

2) A credit hour is assumed to be a 50-minute (not 60-minute) period.

As an example, the expectation of work for a 3-credit course is 150-minutes of direct faculty instruction and a minimum of six hours of out-of-class student work each week.

Psychology Department Writing Policy

Department of Psychology Writing Policy

Important!! The Department of Psychology has adopted the policy that designated written assignments will be returned ungraded for substantial errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling, clarity, conciseness, and validity of content. Papers returned will suffer a minimum penalty of 10% on the final grade on rewritten work. The revised paper must be returned within a maximum of seven calendar days and submitted with a copy of the original work. This policy is in effect for all courses 100W and above and by instructor discretion for courses under 100.

Unless otherwise noted, all written assignments must be typed, double-spaced, with 1" margins, and use a standard font (i.e., Times New Roman) of size 12. Your name, the semester of the course, and the course name must appear in the upper right corner. Multiple pages must be sequentially numbered and stabled in the upper left corner. Assignments will not be accepted and will be considered “late” until they are consistent with the above policy.

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/](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/](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/](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/).
**Psyc 126 / Drugs, Brain, and Behavior**  
**Fall 2012 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 website. You are responsible for checking the class website before each class. If, for any reason, your instructor must cancel class a message will be posted on the course website. 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>Aug-22</td>
<td>Introduction to the course.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aug 27 &amp; 29</td>
<td>Ch 1 Introduction to Drugs and Society</td>
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<td>Ch 2 Explaining Drug Use and Abuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sept 3 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Sept 3 – Labor Day – Campus Closed</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Ch 2 Explaining Drug Use and Abuse</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sept 10 &amp; 12</td>
<td>Ch 3 Drug Use, Regulation, and the Law</td>
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<td>Clinical Trials</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sept 17 &amp; 19</td>
<td>Pharmacology/Basic Research with Humans</td>
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<td>(this chapter is available on D2L)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Sept 24 &amp; 26</td>
<td><strong>Sept 24 Exam 1</strong></td>
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<td>Chapters 1, 2, 3, Basic Research with Humans, and distributed reading materials.</td>
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<td>Ch 4 Homeostatic Systems and Drugs</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oct 1 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Ch 5 How and why drugs work</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 8 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Classical and Operant Condition in Drug Use</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 15 &amp; 17</td>
<td>Ch 6 CNS depressants: Sedative-Hypnotics</td>
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<td>Ch 14 Inhalants</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Oct 22 &amp; 24</td>
<td><strong>Oct 22 Exam 2</strong></td>
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<td>Chapters 4, 5, 6, 14, and distributed reading materials.</td>
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<td>Ch 7 &amp; 8 Alcohol: Behavioral effects</td>
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<td>Week</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Oct 29 &amp; 31</td>
<td>Ch 9 Narcotics (Opioids)</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Nov 5 &amp; 7</td>
<td>Ch 10 Stimulants</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 12 &amp; 14</td>
<td><strong>Nov 12 – Veteran’s Day – Campus Closed</strong></td>
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<td>Nov 14 18 Exam 3</td>
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<td>Chapters 7, 8, 9, &amp; 10 and any additional materials presented in class or on the website.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Nov 19 &amp; 21</td>
<td>Ch 11 Tobacco</td>
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<td>Ch 12 Hallucinogens</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Nov 26 &amp; 28</td>
<td>Ch 12 Hallucinogens</td>
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<td>Ch 13 Marijuana</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Dec 3 &amp; 5</td>
<td>Ch 15 OTC, Prescription, and Herbal Drugs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Drugs for Mental Disorders</td>
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**Final Exam:** Monday, Dec 17, 12:15-2:30 p.m. Chapters 11, 12, 13, 15, and any additional material presented in class or on the website.