San José State University  
College of Social Science/Psychology  
Psyc 126, Drugs, Brain, and Behavior, 80, Spring, 2022

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Susan Snycerski, Ph.D.

Office Location: DMH 311

Telephone: (408) (924-5662) I am not on campus this semester. Please use course website to contact me.

Email: susan.snycerski@sjsu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays 4:00-4:30 (see details below)

Class Days/Time: This class is ASYCHRONOUS, and will not have scheduled live meetings.

Classroom: https://sjsu.instructure.com/courses/1472687

Prerequisites: Psyc 30, Biological Psychology

Course Format

This class is a fully online asynchronous course, which means we will not meet as a class on any set time. You will proceed through the course at your own pace watching posted lectures and documentaries/media content, and completing homework, quizzes, exams, and writing assignments by their due dates. Lectures will be posted weekly following the course schedule. Given the flexibility of this course format, it is imperative that you manage your time effectively. I recommend completing a semester class schedule wherein you identify the days of the week and specific times on those days that you will dedicate to this course. List all due dates for every assignment so you have ample time to complete them by the due date. No late work is accepted, so knowing all due dates is essential.

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.

Warning: This class discusses drug use in great detail. Those with previous or existing drug problems should be aware of this and consider whether or not exposure to these discussions may serve as triggers for cravings for drug use and possible relapse. If so, you may wish to consider dropping the course. Your instructor is not responsible for any adverse reactions to the course material.
Learning Outcomes and Course Goals

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Knowledge base of physiological, psychological, and behavioral effects of drugs; historical and contemporary theories of drug use and abuse; drug regulations and laws (CLO 1); research methods used in basic and applied behavioral pharmacology and in clinical evaluations of investigational new drugs (CLO 2); critical thinking skills as applied to evaluating basic and applied psychopharmacological research (CLO 3), applications of drugs in the treatment of mental disorders and other conditions (CLO 4); and ethical considerations of using human and nonhuman animals in studies investigating basic and applied psychopharmacological research (CLO 5) comprises the overall course learning outcomes.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
1. Be able to describe 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

Required Texts/Readings:

Textbook
ISBN: 9781284197853
Text can be purchased at the Spartan Bookstore or online.

Additional readings will be posted on Canvas.

Library Liaison (Optional)

Christa Bailey
Email: christa.bailey@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.
Grading Policy

Grading Information

Your grade will be determined by the total number of points you earn throughout the semester.

Grading

4 Exams @ 150 points each = 600 (60%)
10 Quizzes @ 10 points each = 100 (10%)
4 Writing Assignments @ 75 point each = 300 (30%)
Total points available = 1000 (100%)

Grading scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 98</td>
<td>≥ 98</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>C+</td>
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Grading is based on total points earned according to the values above.

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See University Policy F13-1 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf for more details.

Classroom Protocol

Given that this is a fully asynchronous class, it is imperative that students have good time-management. Please be sure to start the reading and homework assignments earlier enough so that you meet the due date deadline. No late work is accepted. Use the Discussion link in Canvas to post all content related questions. Use the Canvas email to contact me for personal questions (e.g., grade questions, emergencies, etc.).

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU’s policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90–5 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.
Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu-static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate 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. Such 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.”
  - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor’s process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
  - In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on the recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “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.”
  - You may not make audio or video recordings of course material appearing on Canvas. By enrolling in this course, 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. You may not publicly share or upload instructor-generated material for this course such as quiz or exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions. You agree not to take screen shots or photos of any content provided in the course.
- You may never sell or upload any course content material to an outside agency (e.g., a study website) as this information is copyrighted and protected by both the professor and SJSU.

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf requires 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 Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

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.
**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 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at http://www.sjsu.edu/aec to establish a record of their disability.

**Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays**

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf.

**Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/ located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab 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 DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

**SJSU Peer Connections**

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals.

In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for a number of undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC).

Peer Connections is located in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu for more information.
SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook. (Note: You need to have a QR Reader to scan this code.)

SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.
Psyc 126 / Drugs, Brain, and Behavior, Spring 2022, Course Schedule

The schedule below and the following breakdown contains of all assignments and due dates required to for the course. This schedule is tentative and may subject to change. Any changes will be announced on Canvas in the Announcements section. Students are responsible to check the website regularly for communications with Dr. Snyderski.

**Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jan 26</td>
<td>Introduction to the course</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 31</td>
<td>Chapter 1: Introduction to Drugs and Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>Chapter 2: Explaining Drug Use and Abuse</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Meth Epidemic</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Feb 14</td>
<td>Chapter 3 Drug Use, Regulation, and the Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Feb 21</td>
<td>Research Methods in Behavioral Pharmacology &amp; Basic Research with Humans</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Feb 28</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 4: Homeostatic Systems and Drugs March 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Chapter 5: How and Why Drugs Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mar 14</td>
<td>Classical and Operant Conditioning and Drug Use</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mar 21</td>
<td>Chapter 6 CNS Depressants</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mar 28</td>
<td>Spring break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Apr 4</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chapter 7 Alcohol: Pharmacological Effects April 5</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 8: Alcohol: Behavioral Effects</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Apr 11</td>
<td>The Heroin Epidemic</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Apr 18</td>
<td>Chapter 9: Opioids</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Apr 25</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 10: Stimulants April 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Chapter 13: Cannabis/Marijuana</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Chapter 12: Hallucinogens</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Hallucinogens continued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>May 19 7:45–10:00pm</td>
<td>Exam 4 (final)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
All assignments open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 11:00 p.m. No late work accepted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter Quizzes</th>
<th>Opens on</th>
<th>Closes and due on</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 1 – Introduction</td>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>February 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2 – Explaining Drug Use</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 3 – Drug Use, Regulation, and the Law</td>
<td>February 18</td>
<td>February 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 4 – Homeostatic Systems and Drugs</td>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>April 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 5 – How and Why Drugs Work</td>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>April 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 6 – CNS Depressants</td>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>April 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 7 – Alcohol: Pharmacological Effects &amp; Chapter 8 – Alcohol: Behavioral Effects</td>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>April 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 9 – Opioids</td>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>April 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 10 – Stimulants</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>May 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 13 – Cannabis/Marijuana</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>May 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 12 – Hallucinogens</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>May 17</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Quiz due dates:** All quizzes available from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. All exams are worth 10 points each.

Unit 1 Quizzes due February 26 at 11:00 p.m.
Unit 2 Quizzes due April 2 at 11:00 p.m.
Unit 3 Quizzes due April 23 at 11:00 p.m.
Unit 4 Quizzes due May 17 at 11:00 p.m.

**Exam due dates:** All exams available from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. All exams are worth 150 points each.

Exam 1: February 28 - Chapters 1, 2, 3, Research Methods in Behavioral Pharmacology, & Basic Research with Humans
Exam 2: April 4 – Chapters 4, 5, 6, and Classical and Operant Conditioning and Drug Use
Exam 3: April 25 – Chapters 7, 8, & 9
Exam 4: (final) May 19 – Chapters 10, 12, & 13

**Writing Assignments:** Each paper is worth 75 points

The Meth Epidemic: February 21 at 11:00 p.m.
Behavioral Treatments for Drug Addiction: March 21 at 11:00 p.m.
Heroin/Fentanyl: April 21 at 11:00 p.m.
Cannabis Debate: May 13 at 11:00 p.m.
There will be a variety of writing assignments that pertain to films, documentaries, and readings related to our course material. These will be discussed in more detail on Canvas. All papers should be in APA 7th Edition format, including a title page and in-text citations and references when appropriate (some papers will be reflection/response opinion papers). Papers will be submitted to turnitin.com for originality analysis.